

MOCK CLAT 10016 (BASIC)
ANSWER & EXPLANATIONS**English Language**1. **Answer: B**

Reference Lines: "It is only in the past few decades that the mainstream has begun to engage seriously with the work of women and non-Western thinkers."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) This option mischaracterizes the passage's perspective by framing the inclusion of diverse voices as a political manoeuvre rather than an academic and ethical necessity. The passage underscores the importance of diversifying the philosophical canon as a means to enrich the discipline and rectify its historical exclusivities, not to politicize it. This understanding is contrary to the implication of option A, which overlooks the broader intellectual and ethical motivations behind these efforts. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This option reflects the passage's viewpoint accurately. It recognizes the inclusion of diverse voices in philosophy as an essential step towards challenging the discipline's entrenched biases and limitations. By embracing a wider range of perspectives, philosophy can evolve to better fulfill its mission of exploring fundamental human questions and truths. The passage implicitly supports this view by critiquing the discipline's historical resistance to change and highlighting recent efforts to broaden its scope. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) The suggestion that including diverse voices is merely an optional trend undermines the passage's argument that such inclusion is critical to the discipline's relevance and growth. The passage argues for a fundamental re-evaluation of what constitutes philosophical inquiry, emphasizing that ignoring diverse voices limits the field's scope and depth. This option fails to capture the urgency and necessity of diversifying the canon as articulated in the passage, presenting it instead as a potential distraction. This misrepresents the passage's stance, making this option incorrect. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Describing the effort to include more diverse voices as a purely symbolic gesture overlooks the substantive changes and challenges the passage outlines. The passage suggests that engaging seriously with the works of women and non-Western thinkers represents a significant shift in the field's priorities and methodologies, not merely a superficial or tokenistic nod towards inclusivity. This option fails to grasp the depth and significance of these efforts as portrayed in the passage, rendering it incorrect. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

2. **Answer: D**

Reference Lines: "philosophy has been slower to change than many of its sister disciplines in the humanities: 'It may be a surprise to many ... but philosophy is mostly resistant toward including diverse voices.'"

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) This option incorrectly represents the passage's critique as praise. The passage clearly indicates that philosophy has lagged behind other humanities in inclusivity, directly contradicting the idea of philosophy making strides towards inclusivity. Hence, this is not the correct answer.

b) By suggesting philosophy's meritocracy fosters inclusivity, this option overlooks the passage's critical stance on the discipline's exclusivity and resistance to diverse voices. The passage does not support the notion that the focus on individual genius has helped break down barriers to diversity. Hence, this is not the correct answer.

c) This option inaccurately minimizes the critique presented in the passage, suggesting a misunderstanding of the author's argument. The passage explicitly addresses philosophy's resistance to inclusivity, making it clear that concerns over exclusivity are not exaggerated but rather significant and real. Hence, this is not the correct answer.

d) Correctly identifies the passage's critical view of philosophy's approach to inclusivity. It highlights the author's disappointment with the discipline's slow pace in embracing diversity, especially when compared to other humanities disciplines. This option accurately reflects the passage's emphasis on philosophy's exclusivity issue. Hence, this is the correct answer.

3. **Answer:** D

Reference Lines: "It is only in the past few decades that the mainstream has begun to engage seriously with the work of women and non-Western thinkers."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) Presents an overly optimistic view that is not supported by the passage. The passage indicates ongoing challenges in diversifying the canon, contrasting significantly with the notion of widespread acceptance and successful diversification. Hence, this is not the correct answer.

b) Misinterprets the passage's nuanced discussion on canon expansion. The text does not suggest a complete overhaul of the philosophical canon but rather emphasizes the importance of including more diverse voices. The idea of replacement oversimplifies the complexities involved. Hence, this is not the correct answer.

c) Contradicts the main theme of the passage, which supports the inclusion of diverse voices. The passage does not argue for a return to traditional tenets at the expense of diversification but critiques the current exclusivity and highlights the need for expansion. Hence, this is not the correct answer.

d) Accurately reflects the passage's content, focusing on the difficulties of expanding the canon to include diverse perspectives. It acknowledges the resistance and slow progress in these efforts, aligning with the passage's detailed examination of the challenges faced in making philosophy more inclusive. Hence, this is the correct answer.

4. **Answer:** D

Reference Lines: "Academics zero in on narrower and narrower topics in order to establish unique niches and, in the process, what was once a discipline that sought answers to humanity's most fundamental questions becomes a jargon-riddled puzzle for a narrow group of insiders."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) This option incorrectly ascribes a positive impact to professionalization that the passage does not support. The text critiques the narrowing of focus within philosophy due to professionalization, rather than lauding its improvements to the discipline's quality or respect. Hence, this is not the correct answer.

b) Offers a perspective that contradicts the passage's critical tone regarding professionalization. The passage suggests that professionalization has contributed to exclusivity and specialization, not the democratization or broadening of philosophy. Hence, this is not the correct answer.

c) Understates the significant impact of professionalization described in the passage. By suggesting that professionalization has not changed the core of philosophy, this option overlooks the critique of how professionalization has led to a focus on specialized, niche areas. Hence, this is not the correct answer.

d) Accurately captures the passage's critique of professionalization's impact on philosophy. It highlights how the trend towards professionalization and specialization has narrowed the field's focus, moving away from broad, inclusive discussions. This option reflects the passage's concern about the consequences of professionalization on philosophical discourse. Hence, this is the correct answer.

5. **Answer:** B

Reference Lines: "The demons of academic philosophy come in familiar guises: exclusivity, hegemony and investment in the myth of individual genius."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) This option inaccurately represents the passage's discussion on the diversification of the philosophical canon. The text does not attribute the challenge to a lack of interest in non-traditional subjects among contemporary philosophers. Instead, it highlights systemic issues within the discipline itself, such as its exclusivity and narrow focus. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Correctly synthesizing the passage's argument, this option identifies the historical focus on individual genius and exclusivity as significant barriers to diversifying the philosophical canon. The passage critiques the discipline's resistance to including diverse voices, pointing out that this resistance is rooted in longstanding values and practices. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) While the passage mentions the specialization and narrowing of topics within academic philosophy, it does not suggest that the volume of works to be re-evaluated is the primary challenge in diversifying the canon. The focus is more on the ideological and structural barriers rather than the sheer quantity of existing philosophical literature. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) The passage discusses the need to look beyond traditional styles and structures to find diverse philosophical voices, but it does not present strict structural requirements as the main hindrance to canon diversification. Instead, it suggests that expanding the canon involves challenging these very notions of what constitutes a philosophical text. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

6. **Answer: C**

Reference Lines: "It is only in the past few decades that the mainstream has begun to engage seriously with the work of women and non-Western thinkers."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) This option misrepresents the passage's discussion on academic philosophy's engagement with diverse voices. While the passage critiques the historical exclusion of non-Eurosphere works, it does not imply that the recent trend among professional philosophers is to focus exclusively on such works. Instead, it mentions efforts to expand the canon. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Contrary to this option, the passage clearly indicates that academic philosophy has begun to change, particularly in its engagement with diverse voices. It acknowledges the historical resistance to change within the discipline but points out recent efforts to diversify the philosophical canon, indicating an evolving nature of engagement. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) This option accurately reflects the passage's depiction of a significant shift in academic philosophy. It highlights the recent efforts to include more diverse voices, such as those of women and non-Western thinkers, as part of a broader move towards canon expansion. This shift is presented as a positive development, illustrating the discipline's evolving approach to inclusivity. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

d) The passage does mention an increased interest in texts previously classified as theological, but it does not suggest that this interest represents a resurgence of purely theological texts as central to the philosophical canon. Instead, it indicates a broader effort to re-examine such texts through a philosophical lens, as part of the canon's expansion. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

7. **Answer: C**

Reference Lines: "These kinds of events were called battles, then later—sometimes—massacres, in America's longest war."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) This option incorrectly characterizes the conflicts as necessary for establishing order, ignoring the passage's emphasis on the brutal and unjust nature of these events. The passage critically portrays the so-called military engagements as acts of violence against American Indians, not as efforts to establish governance. Hence, this option is not the correct answer.

b) This interpretation misrepresents the passage, which does not suggest American Indians were overwhelmingly victorious but rather focuses on their suffering and victimization. The text details the massacres and brutal treatment of American Indians, without portraying these conflicts as victories for them. Hence, this option is not the correct answer.

c) Correctly interprets the passage, which emphasizes the brutality and inhumanity of the American Indian conflicts, referring to them as massacres rather than legitimate battles. This option captures the essence of the passage's portrayal of these events as systematic acts of violence meant to oppress and eliminate American Indians. Hence, this option is the correct answer.

d) Misinterprets the passage by suggesting an even match and mutual respect, which contradicts the detailed accounts of massacres and violence against American Indians. The passage highlights the disproportionality of the conflicts and the lack of respect shown towards American Indian lives. Hence, this option is not the correct answer.

8. **Answer:** B

Reference Lines: "Kill the Indian, Save the Man."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) This option presents a misleadingly positive trajectory that the passage does not support. Instead of documenting improvements, the passage highlights ongoing and systemic efforts to undermine and destroy American Indian cultures and lives. Thus, this interpretation is inaccurate and not the correct answer.

b) Accurately reflects the passage's depiction of a deliberate and systematic campaign against American Indian cultures and peoples. Through descriptions of warfare, forced assimilation, and boarding schools, the passage conveys a central idea of cultural eradication and physical violence. Therefore, this interpretation aligns with the passage's content and is the correct answer.

c) Incorrectly minimizes the scale and impact of the conflicts described in the passage. The text details significant and devastating events that had profound effects on American Indian communities, indicating that these were neither minor nor infrequent but central to the historical narrative. Thus, this option is not the correct answer.

d) While the passage does imply some level of resilience among American Indians, it primarily focuses on the adversities they faced rather than portraying a narrative of triumph. The emphasis is on the challenges and injustices encountered, making this option a misinterpretation of the central idea. Hence, this option is not the correct answer.

9. **Answer:** B

Reference Lines: "Kill the Indian, Save the Man."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) This option inaccurately portrays the policies as benign and cooperative, which starkly contrasts with the passage's description of violent and coercive measures aimed at American Indians. The narrative focuses on the eradication of American Indian cultures, not on equitable sharing or cohabitation. Therefore, this interpretation does not align with the passage and is not the correct answer.

b) Correctly identifies the aggressive and assimilative nature of the policies described in the passage. The use of phrases like "Kill the Indian, Save the Man" and the detailed accounts of massacres, forced removals, and boarding schools underscore a clear objective to erase American Indian identities and cultures. This option captures the passage's depiction of American policies as violent and oppressive, making it the correct answer.

c) Misrepresents the passage by suggesting a voluntary and peaceful encouragement of lifestyle changes among American Indians. The text documents forced assimilation and violence, indicating that coercion, not voluntary adoption, was the method employed by American policies. Thus, this interpretation is incorrect and not the correct answer.

d) Incorrectly suggests that the policies were characterized by respect and legalism towards American Indian rights. The passage, however, outlines a history of deceit, violence, and the undermining of American Indian sovereignties, indicating that peaceful coexistence was not the aim of these strategies. Therefore, this option does not accurately reflect the passage's content and is not the correct answer.

10. **Answer:** B

Reference Lines: "because the merciless savage inhabitants of these American lands did not make children but nits, and nits make lice, or so it was said by the man who meant to make a massacre feel like killing bugs at Sand Creek..."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanations: a) This option misinterprets the phrase entirely, ignoring its historical and textual context of dehumanization. Instead of celebrating life or regeneration, the phrase was historically used to justify the extermination of American Indians by comparing them to insects. This justification made the act of killing them seem as inconsequential and morally acceptable as exterminating pests, not a celebration of life. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This option accurately captures the metaphor's dark and dehumanizing intention. By likening American Indians to lice, the phrase effectively dehumanizes them, making the massacres at Sand Creek and Washita River seem like acts of pest control rather than the brutal killings of human beings. This chilling use of language reveals a calculated attempt to justify and normalize the extermination of a people under the guise of warfare and pest elimination. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) While resilience and survival are indeed aspects of the American Indian experience, this particular phrase does not serve to highlight these qualities. Instead, it was used to devalue and justify the taking of American Indian lives by equating them with vermin. The metaphor is a tool of oppression, not a testament to resilience. The passage does not use this metaphor to celebrate survival but to criticize the inhumanity of the oppressors. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) This option incorrectly suggests that the phrase indicates a simple misunderstanding between cultures, which diminishes the intentional cruelty and strategy behind the historical treatment of American Indians. The phrase was not a result of miscommunication but a deliberate rhetorical device used to dehumanize American Indians and rationalize their mass murder. It reflects a clear understanding and intention by the perpetrators rather than a misunderstanding. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

11. **Answer: C**

Reference Lines: "seventy-one Indian men and one Indian woman were taken as prisoners of war in Oklahoma and put on a train to St. Augustine, Florida, where they were jailed in a star-shaped prison-castle..."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanations: a) This interpretation fails to align with the passage's context, which presents the prison not as a place of hope but as one of oppression and loss for American Indians. The narrative does not imbue the prison with any positive qualities; instead, it highlights the structure as part of the colonial machinery of oppression, used to detain and control American Indians far from their homes. The fort's historical role and the conditions of imprisonment contradict any notion of it being a sanctuary. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) While acknowledging the resilience of American Indian cultures is important, this option misapplies that resilience to the symbol of the prison itself. The narrative does not attribute the prison with representing American Indian strength; rather, it highlights the fort as a tool of their subjugation. The fort's symbolism is tied to the colonial and oppressive actions taken against American Indians, not their cultural endurance. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) This option most accurately reflects the symbolic meaning attributed to the prison within the passage. It stands as a stark representation of the loss of freedom and autonomy that American Indians faced, emphasizing the colonial oppression under which they were unjustly imprisoned. The fort, described in its historical and physical details, serves as a reminder of the strategies used to control and oppress American Indians, making it a symbol of their imprisonment and the broader injustices they endured. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

d) This interpretation is not supported by the passage, as it suggests a positive outcome of assimilation and peace that the narrative does not convey. Instead, the prison symbolizes the forced and violent process of assimilation and the denial of American Indian freedoms, not a peaceful integration into settler society. The passage focuses on the coercive nature of American Indian treatment rather than depicting any successful or mutual cultural exchange. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

12. **Answer: B**

Reference Lines: "Kill the Indian, Save the Man." ... "they came for Indian children, forcing them into boarding schools..."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanations: a) This interpretation overlooks the coercive and harmful nature of the campaign as depicted in the passage. While it might suggest an intent to "improve" the lives of American Indian children by assimilating them into settler society, the narrative makes clear that this was achieved through violent means, including forced removal from families, abusive treatment in boarding schools, and a systematic

attempt to erase their cultural identities. The campaign's underlying intent was not benevolent but was rooted in a colonial mindset that sought to eliminate indigenous cultures. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Correctly identifies the campaign's true nature and impact as described in the passage. The slogan "Kill the Indian, Save the Man" encapsulates the brutal philosophy behind the boarding school system and other assimilation policies, which aimed to strip American Indian children of their cultural identities under the guise of education and salvation. The narrative details the severe abuses and cultural genocide perpetrated against these children, highlighting the campaign's role in a broader strategy of eradicating American Indian cultures and identities. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) Misinterprets the slogan's role in the narrative. While American Indian resistance and empowerment are important themes in their history, this particular slogan was not a cry for resistance but a justification for cultural assimilation policies. The passage describes these policies as forms of violence and oppression, not sources of empowerment. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Incorrectly suggests that the campaign facilitated a positive and respectful cultural exchange. The passage, however, outlines a one-sided effort to erase American Indian identities, with no evidence of mutual respect or understanding. The forced assimilation and education practices were acts of colonial violence, not examples of successful cultural integration. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

13. **Answer: B**

Reference Lines: "The government has sought to paint this as a signal of rising incomes, narrowing inequality, and a sharp slippage in poverty levels."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanations: a) This option inaccurately suggests the government's skepticism regarding the data's reliability. The passage, however, indicates that the government has accepted and promoted the findings positively, seeing them as indicative of economic progress, not questioning their accuracy. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This captures the essence of the government's response to the survey findings. By highlighting the perceived improvements in economic indicators such as income, inequality, and poverty, the government has chosen to interpret the data in a manner that suggests positive economic health. This interpretation aligns with the passage's depiction of the government's optimistic portrayal of the survey results. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) While skepticism or reluctance could be inferred from the context of past data suppression, the passage explicitly mentions the government's positive spin on the recent survey, not reluctance or concealment. Therefore, this option, though plausible in a broader context, does not accurately capture the government's reaction as described in this specific instance. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Suggesting neutrality misrepresents the government's active promotion of the survey's findings as positive. The passage does not indicate a wait-and-see approach but rather a proactive endorsement of the data as evidence of economic improvement. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

14. **Answer: C**

Reference Lines: "For, it may likely magnify the exuberance seen in consumption after two years of pandemic-induced curbs and income losses — what economists call the release of pent-up demand."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanations: a) Contrary to this option, the passage suggests that the pandemic did influence consumption patterns, notably through a surge in spending attributed to the release of pent-up demand once restrictions were lifted. This option fails to capture the nuanced impact of the pandemic as described. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) While economic hardship was indeed a consequence of the pandemic, the passage specifically highlights the subsequent increase in consumption, attributed to pent-up demand, rather than focusing on a continuous decline. This option overlooks the rebound effect mentioned. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) Accurately reflects the passage's implication that the observed increase in household consumption in the latest survey may be partly due to the unleashing of pent-up demand following pandemic restrictions. This analysis acknowledges the pandemic's complex impact on consumption patterns, aligning with the passage's nuanced discussion. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

d) Introduces an unsupported inference about sustainable consumption practices. While the pandemic may have altered some behaviours, the passage specifically addresses the economic aspect of pent-up demand influencing consumption figures, not a broader shift towards sustainability. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

15. **Answer: C**

Reference Lines: "That the proportion of monthly spends on food has slipped below 50% in rural homes (to 46.4%), and under 40% in urban homes, with cereals seeing the sharpest drop, is remarkable..."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanations: a) This option overlooks the passage's specific mention of a decrease in the proportion of spending on food, which indicates a change in consumption patterns rather than stability. The passage highlights a remarkable shift in how much of their budget households allocate to food, suggesting a re-evaluation of spending priorities or the impact of economic growth. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Misrepresents the passage, which notes a decrease in the proportion of food expenditure, not an increase. While improved access to nutritional options could be one reason for changing spending patterns, the passage focuses on the reduction in food's share of total expenses, highlighting other factors at play. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) Correctly identifies the passage's observation of a decline in the proportion of household income spent on food. This change suggests a significant shift in consumption habits, possibly due to increased income levels, changing dietary preferences, or the influence of inflation on spending priorities. The passage points to this trend as a noteworthy development in household expenditure patterns. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

d) Incorrectly implies that the reduction in food spending is directly due to government interventions and welfare schemes. While the passage mentions the addition of imputed values from welfare schemes, it does not attribute the overall decrease in food expenditure solely to these interventions. The focus is on the broader trend of changing expenditure patterns, not just the effect of government policies. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

16. **Answer: B**

Reference Lines: "But this only implies a 3.5% compounded annual growth in rural spends over 11 years, with a 3% growth for urban households — well below the inflation and GDP growth rates in this period."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanations: a) This option inaccurately elevates the positive aspects of the findings without acknowledging the underlying complexities the passage highlights. The government's portrayal contrasts with the analysis that points to modest consumption growth rates, which are not sufficient to indicate a sharp decline in poverty levels. The passage critically evaluates the growth in light of economic indicators, suggesting that the government's interpretation might be overly simplistic. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Accurately captures the passage's essence by contrasting the government's positive spin with the actual data indicating modest consumption growth. The passage suggests that while there has been an increase in household consumption, the growth rates when adjusted for inflation and compared with GDP growth do not paint as rosy a picture as the government suggests. This nuanced understanding is critical for a comprehensive economic analysis. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) Misrepresents the passage's critique. While the passage mentions the government's previous decisions to discard survey results, it does not question the reliability of the current Survey's findings. Instead, it focuses on the interpretation of the data, suggesting that the findings require a nuanced analysis rather than outright dismissal. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Incorrectly suggests that the rise in household expenditure is solely due to government welfare schemes. While the passage acknowledges the inclusion of imputed values from such schemes, it does not attribute the overall increase in expenditure exclusively to this factor. The decrease in food expenditure proportion is part of broader consumption pattern changes, not just the impact of welfare schemes. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

17. **Answer: B**

Reference Lines: "The government has sought to paint this as a signal of rising incomes, narrowing inequality, and a sharp slippage in poverty levels."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanations: a) Incorrectly portrays the passage as making a direct accusation of data falsification against the government. The passage critiques the government's interpretation of the data rather than accusing it of manipulating the data. The focus is on the optimistic portrayal and its potential dissonance with the underlying economic realities, not on intentional misinformation. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Correctly identifies the passage's critique, focusing on the discrepancy between the government's optimistic interpretation and the actual modest nature of the consumption growth. The passage suggests that the government's portrayal might overlook the complexities and challenges that the modest growth rates reveal, emphasizing the need for a deeper, more nuanced understanding of the economic situation. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) Misinterprets the passage's tone and message. The passage does not depict the government's interpretation as overly pessimistic but rather as possibly too optimistic, given the modest growth in household consumption. It suggests a critical re-evaluation of the economic indicators rather than an acknowledgment of significant achievements. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Incorrectly implies a lack of governmental interpretation. The passage specifically addresses the government's optimistic interpretation of the Survey's results, indicating that the government has indeed provided a perspective on the data. The critique is about the nature of this interpretation, not its absence. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

18. **Answer: C**

Reference Lines: "A clearer picture, devoid of pent-up demand and inflation flip-flop effects, is expected from the fresh Survey that concludes this July."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanations: a) Misinterprets the passage's cautionary stance on immediate action. The passage suggests that while the current Survey's findings provide valuable insights, they may be influenced by transient factors such as pent-up demand and inflation. It advocates for patience and a more comprehensive analysis with additional data, indicating that recalibrations should be based on a fuller understanding of the economic landscape. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Incorrectly suggests that the findings are irrelevant. The passage acknowledges the importance of the Survey's data but calls for a cautious interpretation. It does not deem the findings irrelevant but rather indicates that their full implications for economic policy and analysis should be considered in the context of additional, forthcoming data. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) Accurately reflects the passage's implication that future economic analyses, including recalibrations of key economic metrics, should wait for the results of the next Survey. This approach is recommended to ensure analyses are not skewed by the transient effects of recent economic events and can provide a more accurate picture of the economic situation post-pandemic. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

d) Incorrectly prioritizes welfare schemes based on the passage. While welfare schemes are mentioned as part of the household consumption analysis, the passage does not suggest they should become the primary focus of all economic policies and recalculations. The call is for a nuanced analysis of all factors affecting household consumption and economic trends. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

19. **Answer:** B

Reference Lines: "But this only implies a 3.5% compounded annual growth in rural spends over 11 years, with a 3% growth for urban households — well below the inflation and GDP growth rates in this period."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanations: a) This option inaccurately oversimplifies the passage's nuanced discussion, suggesting a more positive economic scenario than what the data might actually support. The government's portrayal contrasts with the passage's critical analysis, pointing to modest consumption growth rates. This discrepancy indicates that the economic well-being improvements might not be as significant as implied. Therefore, this option does not accurately capture the passage's content. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This option aligns closely with the passage's critical perspective, highlighting the disparity between the government's optimistic interpretation and the actual data. The modest growth rates in household consumption, especially when considered against broader economic indicators like inflation and GDP growth, present a more subdued picture of economic progress. This nuanced understanding suggests that the reality of economic conditions is more complex than a superficial analysis might reveal. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) While the passage mentions the government's previous decision to discard survey results, it does not claim the current findings are unreliable. Instead, it critiques the interpretation of these findings, suggesting that the data requires a nuanced analysis rather than outright dismissal. The focus is on understanding the implications of the data within a broader economic context. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) This option simplifies the impact of government welfare schemes on household expenditure. While the passage acknowledges the inclusion of imputed values from such schemes, it does not attribute the overall increase in expenditure exclusively to this factor. The analysis suggests a broader range of factors influencing consumption patterns, making this option a misinterpretation of the passage. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

20. **Answer:** B

Reference Lines: "The government has sought to paint this as a signal of rising incomes, narrowing inequality, and a sharp slippage in poverty levels."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanations: a) Mischaracterizes the passage's critique as an accusation of data manipulation. The passage questions the optimistic framing of the data, focusing on interpretation discrepancies rather than suggesting intentional misinformation. The critique addresses the difference between the government's portrayal and the underlying economic realities, not the data's integrity. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Accurately reflects the passage's critique, focusing on the gap between the government's positive portrayal and the modest consumption growth data. It emphasizes the importance of acknowledging the complexities within the economic indicators suggested by the Survey, suggesting that the government's portrayal might overlook critical economic challenges. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) Misinterprets the passage's tone, suggesting a critique of pessimism where none exists. The passage actually critiques the government's overly optimistic interpretation, indicating a need for a more balanced view that considers all aspects of the economic data. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Incorrectly implies a lack of governmental interpretation. The passage explicitly addresses the government's interpretation, critiquing its optimistic nature rather than its absence. The critique is about the nature of the interpretation provided, not a lack thereof. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

21. **Answer:** C

Reference Lines: "A clearer picture, devoid of pent-up demand and inflation flip-flop effects, is expected from the fresh Survey that concludes this July."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanations: a) Suggests a premature action that the passage cautions against. It highlights the influence of recent economic events on the data and advocates for additional analysis to ensure

recalibrations are based on comprehensive and accurate information. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Overlooks the value of the Survey's data. While calling for cautious interpretation, the passage does not deem the findings irrelevant but suggests their importance in understanding economic conditions alongside forthcoming data. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) Aligns with the passage's recommendation for a cautious approach to economic analysis. It suggests waiting for the next Survey's results to ensure a more accurate assessment free from the transient influences of pent-up demand and recent inflation, highlighting the need for comprehensive data before making significant economic recalibrations. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

d) Misinterprets the focus of economic policy adjustments. While welfare schemes are mentioned, the passage does not advocate for them as the sole focus but rather suggests a broader analysis of economic conditions, not a singular focus on welfare interventions. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

22. **Answer: B**

Reference Lines: "My birding hobby grew out of this predilection. Specifically, out of my penchant for writing down the birds I found in the paintings by the Old Masters."

Difficulty Level: Easy

Explanation: a) Initially, the narrator mentions being afraid of birds during childhood but does not directly link this fear to their eventual interest in birding. The transition to birding was not described as overcoming this fear but rather developing from a different personal interest. Therefore, this option does not accurately capture the motivation described in the passage. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This option directly correlates with the narrator's own explanation for their interest in birding. The narrative makes it clear that the hobby was an extension of the narrator's inclination towards list-making, particularly within the context of art appreciation. This unique blend of interests naturally evolved into birding, making it the primary motivation as explicitly stated in the passage. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) While the narrator does mention their academic background, the passage does not suggest that their birding hobby was a result of an academic interest in ornithology. Instead, the hobby is depicted as growing from a personal habit unrelated to their studies. The academic context is mentioned but not as a direct influence on their birding. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Social interactions or the influence of a community of bird enthusiasts are not mentioned as factors in the narrator's development of their birding hobby. The narrative focuses on personal motivations and interests rather than external social influences. Therefore, this option does not align with the motivations described in the passage. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

23. **Answer: C**

Reference Lines: "Bringing my opera glasses to the Museo del Prado in Madrid, I delighted in sitting across the room and counting the birds in Bosch's painting..."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) The passage does not present a direct contrast between the emotional impacts of different art forms but rather illustrates a consistent source of inspiration found in art for the narrator. The recounting of their experiences serves to highlight the role of art in igniting their interest in birding, not to compare emotional responses. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) The narrative does not suggest that the narrator's interest in art diminished as their birding hobby developed. On the contrary, their birding hobby appears to have been enhanced by their appreciation for art, indicating that the two interests are complementary rather than mutually exclusive. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) This option accurately captures the essence of the passage, showing how the narrator's detailed observations of birds in paintings at notable museums were instrumental in developing their birding hobby. The experiences at these museums are pivotal moments that link the narrator's appreciation for art with their emerging interest in birding, underscoring the inspirational role of art in this process. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

d) There is no indication in the passage that the narrator used birding to directly support their academic research in philosophy. The connection between birding and their academic pursuits is not mentioned, making this option a misinterpretation of the narrator's motivations and interests. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

24. **Answer:** C

Reference Lines: "I have always loved making lists... My birding hobby grew out of this predilection."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) While the narrator mentions a childhood fear, the emphasis of the passage is not on the transformation of this fear into a hobby but rather on how an unrelated personal interest—list-making and art appreciation—naturally evolved into birding. The theme of transformation from childhood experiences is not the central focus. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) The passage briefly mentions the narrator's academic background but does not explore the impact of these pursuits on their leisure activities, specifically birding. The development of the birding hobby is presented as independent of their academic work, making this option misaligned with the passage's content. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) This option effectively captures the central theme of the passage, illustrating how the narrator's hobby developed in unexpected ways from their initial interests. The narrative highlights the serendipitous journey from making lists and appreciating art to becoming engrossed in birding, showcasing the unpredictable nature of personal growth and interest development. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

d) Although overcoming a childhood fear is mentioned, it is not framed as a necessity for discovering true passions. The hobby's origin is attributed to the narrator's penchant for lists and art, not overcoming fear. The passage suggests interest development is more about exploring and expanding existing passions rather than overcoming fears. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

Current Affairs and General Knowledge

25. **Answer:** D

Explanation: Parties agreed to adopt listing proposals for 14 migratory species, including the Eurasian lynx, Peruvian pelican, Pallas's cat, guanaco, Lahille's bottlenose dolphin, harbour porpoise, Magellanic plover, bearded vulture, Blackchin guitarfish, Bull ray, Lusitanian cownose ray, Gilded catfish, and Laulao catfish.

These listings aim to enhance protection and conservation efforts for these species.

26. **Answer:** D

Explanation: It is an intergovernmental treaty under the UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme)-popularly known as Bonn Convention.

It was signed in 1979 and in force since 1983.

As of 1st March 2022, the CMS has 133 Parties.

India has also been a party to CMS since 1983.

27. **Answer:** C

Explanation: Conservation of marine turtles- by launching its Marine Turtle Policy and Marine Stranding Management Policy, by 2020,

Reduction of pollution from micro-plastic and single-use plastic,

Transboundary protected areas for conservation of species like Tigers, Asian elephants, Snow Leopard, the Asiatic Lion, the one-horned rhinoceros, and the Great Indian Bustard, and

Sustainable infrastructure development like Linear Infrastructure Policy Guidelines to tailor development in ecologically fragile areas.

Project Snow Leopard (PSL): PSL was launched in 2009 to promote an inclusive and participatory approach to conserve snow leopards and their habitat.

Dugong Conservation Reserve: India has established its first Dugong conservation reserve in Tamil Nadu.

28. **Answer:** D

Explanation: Focused protection measures involving the local communities have been taken up in the State of Nagaland for protection of Amur Falcons that migrate to Northeast India on their route to Southern Africa.

India has taken several steps to conserve vultures like imposing ban on veterinary use of diclofenac, establishment of Vulture breeding centres etc.

Wildlife Crime Control Bureau has been established for control of illegal trade in wildlife and its parts and products.

29. **Answer:** D

Explanation: The Fourteenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP) to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS 14) has been concluded in Samarkand, Uzbekistan. The proposals emphasised the importance of cooperation between range states to address threats to migratory species, conduct research, and implement conservation activities.

Range states refer to countries or territories that are within the geographical range where a particular species occurs naturally. These countries or territories are directly involved in the management, conservation, and protection of the species and its habitat.

Efforts were focused on maintaining existing populations, improving connectivity, safeguarding habitats, and restoring populations.

30. **Answer:** B

Explanation: India has historically enjoyed relatively good ties with Afghanistan, which go back to the Treaty of Friendship, 1950.

As a contiguous neighbour, India has both legitimate economic and security interests in Afghanistan.

31. **Answer:** C

Explanation: The Indian Army's Border Roads Organisation constructed a major road in 2009 in the remote Afghan province of Nimroz, connecting Delaram to Zaranj.

This has proved a viable alternative route for the duty-free movement of goods through the Chabahar port in Iran to Afghanistan.

32. **Answer:** D

Explanation: Through nearly 500 projects spanning all 34 provinces, India has invested over USD 3 billion in critical areas such as power, water supply, road connectivity, healthcare, education, agriculture, and capacity building.

The Indian Army's Border Roads Organisation constructed a major road in 2009 in the remote Afghan province of Nimroz, connecting Delaram to Zaranj.

This has proved a viable alternative route for the duty-free movement of goods through the Chabahar port in Iran to Afghanistan.

Tariff concessions under South Asian Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA) continue to be provided to Afghan traders.

Salma Dam, Afghan-India Friendship Dam (AIFD) is a hydroelectric and irrigation dam project located on the Hari River in Herat Province of western Afghanistan.

In 2006, India made a commitment to funding the project for its completion

33. **Answer:** C

Explanation: The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), is an autonomous organization of the Government of India, involved in India's external cultural relations (cultural diplomacy), through cultural exchange with other countries and their peoples.

It was founded in 1950 by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, independent India's first Education Minister.

ICCR has been assigned the responsibility of facilitating the celebration of the International Day of Yoga by Indian Missions/Posts abroad since 2015.

34. **Answer: C**

Explanation: Recently, the 6th Regional Dialogue of Secretaries of Security Councils/National Security Advisers (NSA) on Afghanistan was held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

India reiterated its collective approach to combating terrorism as stated in the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR 2593). The Regional Security Dialogue on Afghanistan is a series of high-level meetings involving National Security Advisers (NSA) or senior security officials from countries in the region, including Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran, China, Russia, India, and other Central Asian states.

These dialogues are platforms for discussing and coordinating regional approaches to address security challenges and promote stability in Afghanistan and the broader region.

Regional Security Dialogue on Afghanistan follows the objective of UNSCR 2593.

The resolution, passed by the 15-member organ (UNSC), calls for the prevention of Afghan territory from being used to pose threats or launch attacks against any nation.

The adoption of the resolution is a strong signal from the Security Council and the international community on its expectations in respect of Afghanistan.

35. **Answer: D**

Explanation: In 2014, a Narayan Rane-led committee recommended 16% reservation for Marathas ahead of elections, later challenged and stayed by the Bombay High Court. The Maharashtra State Reservation for Socially and Educationally Backward Classes Bill 2024, drafted based on a Maharashtra State Backward Class Commission report.

This report identified the Marathas as socially and educationally backward, justifying the need for reservation.

The Bill specifies the Maratha community as a Socially and Educationally Backward Class under Article 342A (3) of the Indian Constitution. It provides reservation for this class under Articles 15(4), 15(5), and 16(4) of the Constitution.

36. **Answer: B**

Explanation: In 2018, the Maharashtra government enacted the Socially and Educationally Backward Class (SEBC) Act based on the Gaikwad Commission's findings, granting 16% reservation.

The Bombay High Court reduced this to 12% in education and 13% in jobs.

Subsequently, the Supreme Court struck down the quota entirely in May 2021, citing insufficient empirical data to justify exceeding the 50% quota ceiling.

In the Indira Sawhney judgment 1992, SC had categorically said 50% shall be the rule, only in certain exceptional and extraordinary situations for bringing far-flung and remote areas' populations into mainstream said 50% rule can be relaxed.

37. **Answer: A**

Explanation: Jaishri Laxmanrao Patil v Chief Minister, Maharashtra

The Supreme Court struck down Maharashtra's Socially and Educationally Backward Classes Act, 2018, which grants reservations to the Maratha community for violating the 50% limit on reservations and the 102nd Amendment of the Constitution.

38. **Answer: D**

Explanation: The Maharashtra State Backward Class Commission, led by Justice (retired) Sunil B Shukre, was established in December 2023 to reassess the Maratha reservation issue.

The Shukre commission notes that the population of Marathas in the state is 28%, while 84% of them are not advanced, adding that such a large backward community cannot be added into the OBC bracket.

The Commission cites extreme poverty, agricultural income decline, and land holding partitions as reasons for the Maratha community's plight. Additionally, it highlights that 94% of farmer suicides in the state are from the Maratha community.

The Commission notes inadequate representation in public services, attributing it to the community's backwardness.

It recommends separate reservations to increase Maratha representation in government jobs and developed sectors.

39. **Answer:** D

Explanation: The Maharashtra Assembly recently passed the Maharashtra State Reservation for Socially and Educationally Backward Classes Bill 2024, setting aside 10% reservation for the Maratha community in jobs and education under socially and educationally backward categories.

40. **Answer:** A

Explanation: Located on a 27-acre site near Al Rahba off the Dubai-Abu Dhabi Sheikh Zayed Highway, the temple was constructed at a cost of approximately Rs 700 crore.

41. **Answer:** C

Explanation: Located on a 27-acre site near Al Rahba off the Dubai-Abu Dhabi Sheikh Zayed Highway, the temple was constructed at a cost of approximately Rs 700 crore. It stands as a testament to ancient architectural principles derived from Hindu scriptures, the Shilpa and Sthapathya Shastras, which guide mandir design and construction. The temple's architecture harmonizes traditional methods with modern scientific techniques, incorporating over 300 high-tech sensors to monitor temperature, pressure, and seismic activity. This innovative approach allows for ongoing research and ensures the temple's safety and sustainability.

42. **Answer:** B

Explanation: Constructed in the Nagara style of architecture, similar to the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, the temple required 18 lakh bricks, seven lakh man-hours, and 1.8 lakh cubic metres of Rajasthan-sourced sandstone. The intricate carvings and the marble used in the interiors, mined from Italy and carved in India, showcase the global effort and craftsmanship invested in the temple's creation.

43. **Answer:** C

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44. **Answer:** C

Explanation: The magnificent 108 foot tall pink sandstone temple, spread across 27 acres, embodies the spirit of inclusion with its seven 'Shikhars', representing each Emirate. The pathway leading to the temple is adorned with six trees imported from the Czech Republic. Along this path, three water bodies have been meticulously crafted, symbolically representing the sacred rivers of ancient India - Ganga, Yamuna, and Saraswati.

45. **Answer:** A

Explanation: Namibia and Kenya have been placed on the gray list following the latest FATF review. As of today, it is a 39-member body with 37 countries and two regional organizations: the European Commission, and the Gulf Cooperation Council. Indonesia is the only observer country of FATF. India joined with 'observer' status in 2006 and became a full member of FATF in 2010. India is also a member of its regional partners, the Asia Pacific Group (APG) and the Eurasian Group (EAG). The Black List includes Non-Cooperative Countries or Territories (NCCTs) that support terror funding and money laundering activities. As of now, Iran, North Korea and Myanmar are the three black listed countries.

46. **Answer: C**

Explanation: FATF's Stand: The FATF lauded "Pakistan's significant progress" saying that the country had completed two action plans comprising a 34-point tasklist in the period since 2018.

Pakistan has been removed from the list after four years. It was first put on the list in 2008, removed in 2009 and before adding it again in 2018, it remained under increased monitoring from 2012 to 2015.

India's Response: India has protested Pakistan's lack of action against cross-border terror groups responsible for attacks on India, however, it agreed to the decision to take Pakistan off the list, as the latter had submitted "documentary evidence" of its actions against designated terrorists.

India believes that Pakistan must continue to take "credible, verifiable, irreversible and sustainable" action against terror groups emanating from territories under its control.

47. **Answer: D**

Explanation: FATF is the global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog. It also aims to counter the financing of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

It was set up in 1989 out of a G-7 meeting of developed nations in Paris.

Its Secretariat is located at the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) headquarters in Paris.

48. **Answer: C**

Explanation: Despite being grey-listed, the UAE continued to attract the globe's wealthy and it is an increasingly popular destination for cryptocurrency firms and Russians in the wake of war with Ukraine.

Dubai's luxury property market trailed only New York, Los Angeles and London in 2022, according to property consultant Knight Frank, while the UAE last year overtook Belgium to become the world's trading hub for rough diamonds.

49. **Answer: D**

Explanation: The LAC serves as the boundary separating Indian-controlled territory from Chinese-controlled territory.

India asserts the length of the LAC to be 3,488 km, whereas China contends it to be approximately 2,000 km.

This demarcation is categorized into three sectors:

Eastern sector encompassing Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim.

Middle sector spanning Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh.

Western sector located in Ladakh.

50. **Answer: C**

Explanation: The Vibrant Villages program aims to modernise 663 border villages, with 17 selected for development along the China-India border in regions like Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, and Arunachal Pradesh.

51. **Answer: A**

Explanation: India initially rejected the concept of the LAC in 1959 and 1962, citing concerns over its vague definition and potential exploitation by China to alter ground realities through military force.

India's shift in the LAC approach started in the mid-1980s due to increased border encounters, prompting a review of patrolling boundaries.

India formally accepted the concept of the LAC in 1993 and the two sides signed the Agreement to Maintain Peace and Tranquility at the LAC. India and China have only exchanged maps for the middle sector of the LAC. Maps were "shared" for the Western sector but never formally exchanged, and the process of clarifying the LAC has effectively stalled since 2002.

The most serious recent episodes of conflict were in Galwan Valley in Ladakh in 2020 and in Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh in 2022. Observers on both sides of the LAC agree that the number of serious military confrontations has increased since 2013.

52. **Answer:** A

Explanation: In recent developments along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) between India and China, Chinese nationals have begun occupying previously vacant "Xiaokang" border defence villages.

These villages, constructed by China in 2019, have raised concerns for the Indian Army, particularly regarding their occupants' nature and strategic implications. The Xiaokang or "well-off villages" border defence villages are a part of China's strategic infrastructure development initiative along its borders, particularly along the LAC with India.

Notable areas of occupation include villages across from Lohit Valley and the Tawang sector of Arunachal Pradesh. They are built in regions where territorial claims are contested or where there is a perceived need to reinforce sovereignty.

Legal Reasoning

53. **Answer:** B

Reference line: "Additionally, individuals who convert or reconvert to Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, or Sikhism are also covered, highlighting the Act's recognition of personal spiritual journeys and their legal implications on inheritance rights."

Difficulty level: Moderate

Explanation: a) This option misinterprets the inclusive nature of the Hindu Succession Act, which was designed to accommodate the evolving nature of Hindu society, including the incorporation of Buddhists, Jains, Sikhs, and those who convert to these faiths within its ambit. The Act's purpose was to ensure a uniform and comprehensive system for inheritance, reflecting the shared cultural and religious heritage among these communities, thereby making Rajeev's conversion to Buddhism irrelevant to his inheritance rights. This understanding is crucial, as it underscores the Act's aim to modernize and unify Hindu legal practices in a way that respects the diversity within its scope. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This option correctly identifies the essence of the Hindu Succession Act, which is to provide a uniform framework for inheritance that does not discriminate against individuals based on their conversion to religions that are recognized under the Act. The inclusion of Buddhists, alongside Jains and Sikhs, underlines the Act's broad definition of who is considered a Hindu for the purposes of inheritance. This reflects a significant evolution from traditional Hindu law, which was more rigid in its definitions, to a more inclusive approach that acknowledges the complex and diverse nature of Indian religious practices. The recognition of conversion as a factor that does not impact inheritance rights is a testament to the progressive intent of the Act, ensuring that individuals like Rajeev are not penalized for their personal spiritual journeys. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) This option overlooks the Act's provisions that explicitly extend inheritance rights to those who convert to Buddhism, Jainism, or Sikhism from Hinduism, highlighting a significant departure from more traditional interpretations of Hindu law. By asserting that only those born into Hinduism can inherit, this option fails to recognize the Act's efforts to adapt to the realities of contemporary Hindu society, where conversions among these faiths do not negate a person's standing in matters of inheritance. The Act's inclusive approach serves to bridge the divides between these communities, recognizing them as part of a broader Hindu cultural and religious heritage, thus making the birth religion a non-issue in the context of inheritance. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) This option erroneously suggests that reconversion is a prerequisite for inheritance under the Hindu Succession Act, which contradicts the Act's clear stance on the non-discriminatory treatment of individuals who have converted to Buddhism, Jainism, or Sikhism. This misunderstands the Act's progressive stance on inheritance rights, which aims to reflect the fluid nature of religious identity within the societal context it serves. The requirement for reconversion would undermine the Act's objective to provide a uniform and egalitarian framework for inheritance, disregarding the individual's right to freedom of religion and the legal acknowledgment of their inheritance rights irrespective of their spiritual choices. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

54. **Answer:** B

Reference line: "Section 5 delineates the properties exempt from the Act's provisions. Notably, properties governed by the Indian Succession Act, 1925, due to the Special Marriage Act, 1954, fall outside its purview."

Difficulty level: Moderate

Explanation: a) This option fails to account for the specific legal provisions that govern the succession of properties acquired under the Special Marriage Act, 1954. By suggesting that the Hindu Succession Act applies simply because Anjali was a Hindu, it overlooks the nuanced legal landscape that arises from marriages registered under the Special Marriage Act. This Act was designed to facilitate marriages between individuals of different faiths, providing for a secular framework for marriage and, by extension, the succession of property acquired within such marriages. The Hindu Succession Act, while comprehensive, explicitly excludes properties that fall under the domain of the Indian Succession Act, 1925, due to the Special Marriage Act, thereby creating a separate legal pathway for the succession of such properties. This distinction is crucial for understanding the intersection of personal laws and secular laws in India, reflecting the country's commitment to accommodating its diverse population's varied religious and cultural practices. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This option accurately captures the essence of the legal framework governing the succession of property for marriages registered under the Special Marriage Act, 1954. It recognizes the clear demarcation between properties governed by the Hindu Succession Act and those that fall under the Indian Succession Act, 1925, due to the Special Marriage Act. This distinction is significant, as it reflects the legislative intent to provide a secular succession mechanism for individuals who enter into interfaith marriages, thereby ensuring that their property succession is not bound by the religious laws that would otherwise apply. The exemption of such properties from the Hindu Succession Act's provisions is a testament to India's legal system's adaptability and its efforts to respect and protect the rights of its diverse citizenry. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) This option misinterprets the legal implications of the Special Marriage Act, 1954, on the succession of property. By suggesting that only Hindu relatives are eligible to inherit under the Hindu Succession Act, it overlooks the specific exclusion of properties governed by the Indian Succession Act, 1925, as a result of the Special Marriage Act. This exclusion signifies a departure from the application of religious-based succession laws in favor of a more secular approach that recognizes the unique circumstances of interfaith marriages. The assertion disregards the legal framework designed to ensure that succession in such cases is governed by a law that transcends religious affiliations, thereby misrepresenting the legal protections afforded to individuals who marry under the Special Marriage Act. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) This option oversimplifies the legal process governing the succession of property acquired under the Special Marriage Act, 1954. While the idea of equal division among heirs may seem equitable, it fails to recognize the specific legal statutes that apply to such properties. The Indian Succession Act, 1925, provides for a different set of rules that may or may not result in an equal division, depending on the circumstances of the case. This option does not accurately reflect the legal nuances involved in the succession of properties governed by the Special Marriage Act, ignoring the tailored approach that the law provides to address the unique needs of interfaith couples and their heirs. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

55. **Answer:** B

Reference line: "It covers legitimate or illegitimate children born to parents who are Hindus, Buddhists, Jains, or Sikhs, ensuring that the child's lineage or marital legitimacy does not impede their inheritance rights."

Difficulty level: Easy

Explanation: a) This option incorrectly assumes that the Hindu Succession Act imposes restrictions on inheritance rights based on the religious upbringing of the heir. It overlooks the inclusive nature of the Act, which is designed to accommodate the complexities of modern Hindu families, including those with members who may practice different religions. The Act's provisions are aimed at ensuring that inheritance

rights are not denied based on religious distinctions, reflecting a broader understanding of family dynamics and the importance of maintaining equitable inheritance practices. This approach is indicative of the Act's intent to modernize Hindu law by making it more adaptable and inclusive, ensuring that individuals like Arjun are not unjustly excluded from their rightful inheritance due to their religious upbringing. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This option correctly identifies the legal principle that the Hindu Succession Act's applicability is determined by the parent's religion, not the child's religious upbringing. This underscores the Act's broader aim to ensure that inheritance rights are based on familial relationships rather than religious conformity. The inclusion of children, irrespective of their religious upbringing, in the Act's provisions demonstrates a progressive stance towards the recognition of diverse family structures within the Hindu community and beyond. This legal framework acknowledges the complexity of individual identity within familial and societal contexts, ensuring that the law reflects the realities of contemporary life while safeguarding the rights and interests of all family members. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) This option misrepresents the Act's provisions by suggesting that eligibility for inheritance under the Hindu Succession Act is contingent upon being raised within the Hindu faith. This interpretation fails to acknowledge the Act's inclusive approach, which aims to bridge the gap between traditional legal practices and the contemporary societal landscape. By ensuring that children of Hindu parents are eligible for inheritance, regardless of their religious upbringing, the Act recognizes the evolving nature of familial and religious identities. This provision reflects a commitment to upholding the principles of equality and nondiscrimination in matters of inheritance, ensuring that the law remains relevant and responsive to the needs of a diverse and dynamic society. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) While this option touches on the correct notion that biological connections are a key factor in determining inheritance rights under the Hindu Succession Act, it simplifies the nuanced considerations that the Act encompasses. The Act's approach to inheritance is not solely based on biological connections but also includes considerations of the parent's religious affiliations to ensure that children are not disadvantaged in matters of inheritance due to their or their parents' religious choices. This nuanced approach allows for a more equitable distribution of inheritance, recognizing the importance of biological connections while also accommodating the diverse religious landscapes of Indian families. However, the correct interpretation, as outlined in Option (b), specifically addresses the issue at hand by affirming that a child's eligibility for inheritance is not negated by their religious upbringing, thus providing a more accurate reflection of the Act's provisions. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

56. **Answer:** A

Reference line: "It extends eligibility to children with one parent belonging to these religions, provided they are raised within the respective religious community."

Difficulty level: Moderate

Explanation: a) This option correctly assumes that being raised in a non-Hindu faith automatically disqualifies an individual from inheriting under the Hindu Succession Act. The Act itself explicitly disqualify individuals based on the faith they were raised in, especially when one of the parents is a Hindu. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

b) This option suggests that conversion to Hinduism is a prerequisite for eligibility to inherit under the Hindu Succession Act. This is not accurate, as the Act does not mandate conversion as a condition for inheritance rights. The key factor in inheritance rights under the Act is the parental lineage and not the current religious affiliation or the religion in which one was raised. Therefore, suggesting that Riya needs to convert to Hinduism to claim her inheritance misrepresents the Act's provisions. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) This option inaccurately implies that the Act categorically denies inheritance rights to those raised in a non-Hindu faith. The Hindu Succession Act is designed to be inclusive, extending inheritance rights to children of Hindu parents, irrespective of the religious context in which they were raised. This approach acknowledges the diversity within families and seeks to ensure that inheritance rights are not unduly restricted by the religious identity of the child. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) This option incorrectly interprets the Act's stance on inheritance rights, affirming that a child's eligibility to inherit from a Hindu parent is negated by their upbringing in a non-Hindu faith. This reflects the Act's objective to ensure that inheritance rights are based on familial relationships. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

57. **Answer: B**

Reference line: "However, it exempts Scheduled Tribes recognized under Article 366 of the Indian Constitution, unless specified otherwise by the Central Government, acknowledging the unique social and cultural practices of these communities."

Difficulty level: Moderate

Explanation: a) This option misinterprets the Act's provisions regarding Scheduled Tribes. The Hindu Succession Act explicitly exempts members of Scheduled Tribes, recognizing the unique social and cultural practices of these communities, unless the Central Government specifies otherwise. This exemption is designed to respect and preserve the distinct legal frameworks that govern tribal societies, including those related to inheritance. Hence, suggesting that the Act applies without considering the exemption for Scheduled Tribes overlooks this crucial aspect. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This option correctly identifies that Akash's inheritance is governed by tribal laws rather than the Hindu Succession Act due to his status as a member of a Scheduled Tribe. This reflects the Act's intent to accommodate the diverse legal and social realities of India's various communities, acknowledging that the one-size-fits-all approach of the Hindu Succession Act may not be appropriate for tribal societies with their own unique inheritance practices. This provision ensures that tribal communities can maintain their traditional laws and customs regarding inheritance, highlighting the Act's flexibility and sensitivity to cultural diversity. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) While this option correctly notes the exemption of Scheduled Tribes from the Hindu Succession Act, it incorrectly suggests that this exemption is absolute and unconditional. The Act allows for the possibility of the Central Government specifying otherwise, indicating that there could be exceptions to this general rule. This nuanced approach allows for the adaptation of the law to the specific needs and circumstances of different tribal communities, ensuring that legal provisions are both respectful of cultural heritage and responsive to contemporary needs. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) This option incorrectly focuses on the cousin's tribal membership status as the basis for challenging Akash's inheritance. The critical factor in determining the applicability of the Hindu Succession Act in this scenario is not the challenger's status but the inheritor's membership in a Scheduled Tribe and the location of the property in question. The Act's provisions regarding Scheduled Tribes aim to protect the inheritance rights within these communities according to their customs, rather than imposing external legal frameworks. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

58. **Answer: C**

Reference line: "If the offender is deprived of the power of self-control due to sudden and grave provocation, and his act causes the death of the person who provoked or death of any other person by accident or mistake."

Difficulty level: Moderate

Explanation: a) This option suggests Karan is guilty of murder, implying premeditation or an intention to kill. In the scenario described, while Karan's actions led to Aarav's death, the context shows it was a reactionary measure to what he perceived as a provocation, not a premeditated act to cause death. The legal distinction between murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder hinges on the intent and circumstances surrounding the act. Since Karan reacted impulsively to a sudden provocation, the criteria for murder, which necessitates a higher degree of malice or intent, are not met. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This option absolves Karan of any criminal liability, framing the incident as an accident. While Aarav's holding hand of Karan's wife and the subsequent fight could be construed as accidental, the law considers the chain of events initiated by Karan's violent response. The principle of liability extends beyond the accidental nature of the initial act to consider the voluntary actions taken in response. Given that Karan's

punch was a direct response to being stepped on, even though the fatal outcome was not intended, his actions cannot be entirely dismissed as accidental in the legal sense. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) This option correctly identifies Karan's actions as culpable homicide not amounting to murder due to sudden and grave provocation. The legal framework differentiates between actions taken in a moment of lost self-control due to unexpected provocation and those carried out with premeditation or malice aforethought. In this scenario, Karan's immediate reaction to Aarav's holding hand of his wife in a crowded place, perceived as a grave insult, led to a series of unintended consequences. The law recognizes that such provocation can temporarily deprive an individual of self-control, mitigating the charge to culpable homicide not amounting to murder, as the act was neither premeditated nor carried out with a direct intention to kill. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

d) This option misapplies the concept of self-defense to the scenario. Self-defense is legally justified when an individual's response is proportionate to the threat faced. In this case, Karan's reaction to a non-threatening action, although perceived as provocative, does not align with the principles of self-defense, which require an imminent threat to personal safety. Karan's response was excessive relative to the provocation, and there was no imminent danger to his life or well-being that justified his actions as self-defense. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

59. **Answer: B**

Reference line: "The act is done by a public servant who is acting to promote public justice."

Difficulty level: Moderate

Explanation: a) This option suggests that Rahul's actions constitute murder, implying a deliberate intention to kill. However, in the context provided, Rahul acted under extreme circumstances where his life and mission were at imminent risk. The legal framework recognizes the unique position of public servants, especially undercover officers, who may find themselves in situations where they must make split-second decisions for their safety and the success of their mission. The intention behind Rahul's actions was not premeditated murder but a reaction to an immediate threat. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) According to the principle highlighted in the passage, acts committed by public servants in the line of duty, especially those aimed at promoting public justice, can be exempt from legal liability under certain circumstances. Rahul's primary goal was to gather evidence against a criminal organization, a task that undoubtedly serves the public interest. The death of the gang member, although tragic, occurred in a context that required Rahul to act decisively to protect not only his life but also the integrity of the investigation. Thus, his actions are justifiable within the scope of his duties as a public servant. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) This option posits that Rahul's actions could be seen as culpable homicide not amounting to murder, suggesting that while there was no intent to kill, his response was excessively forceful given the situation. While the law does make distinctions for actions taken in excess, it also considers the context of those actions, particularly for public servants in dangerous roles. Rahul's decision, made in an undercover capacity and under immediate threat, falls within a gray area where the legal system may offer certain protections to officers performing their duties. Therefore, this option does not accurately reflect the nuances of his legal situation. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Labeling Rahul's actions as manslaughter applies a legal concept that generally refers to unintentional killing without lawful justification. However, the scenario specifically frames Rahul's actions within his responsibilities as a public servant and the extraordinary circumstances he faced. The concept of manslaughter does not fully capture the legal and ethical considerations at play when a law enforcement officer, particularly an undercover one, is forced to act in a life-threatening situation. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

60. **Answer: C**

Reference line: "Where the act is committed to defend them from further harm. If the accused intentionally exceeds his right to private defence, then he is liable to murder. If it is unintentional, then the accused will be liable to culpable homicide not amounting to murder."

Difficulty level: Moderate

Explanation: a) This option considers Vishal's use of force as intentional, leading to a conclusion of murder. However, the scenario specifies that Vishal acted in a moment of perceived threat to his and possibly his neighbour's safety. The intent behind Vishal's actions was not premeditated murder but an attempt to protect property and personal well-being. In legal terms, murder requires a specific intent to kill or cause grievous harm that is likely to result in death. The critical factor here is the excessiveness of the force used in the context of self-defense, not an inherent desire or plan to kill, distinguishing the act from murder. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This option suggests that Vishal's actions are entirely justified under the principle of self-defense. While self-defense is a legitimate legal defense, it is contingent upon the proportionality of the response to the perceived threat. The law recognizes the right to protect oneself and one's property but also imposes limits on the degree of force that can be used legally. Vishal's actions, while initially in self-defense, crossed the threshold of necessary force when he unintentionally caused the death of an intruder. The excessiveness of the force used, especially leading to a fatal outcome, moves the act beyond justified self-defense. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) Vishal's situation fits the criteria for culpable homicide not amounting to murder due to the excessiveness of his response under the guise of self-defense. The scenario highlights a key aspect of legal consideration: the distinction between the right to defend and the extent of force permissible under that right. When an individual, acting under the perception of self-defense, exceeds the reasonable bounds of force, resulting in death, the act is mitigated from murder to culpable homicide not amounting to murder. This legal nuance acknowledges the lack of premeditated intent to kill while recognizing the wrongful excessiveness of the response. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

d) This option labels Vishal's actions as manslaughter, a term that, while used in many jurisdictions to denote unintentional killing, does not precisely align with the Indian Penal Code's (IPC) distinctions between murder and culpable homicide not amounting to murder. The IPC focuses on the intent behind the act and the circumstances under which it was committed. Vishal's lack of premeditation and the context of self-defense, coupled with the unintentional fatal outcome due to excessive force, aligns more closely with the principles defining culpable homicide not amounting to murder. The scenario underscores the unintentional nature of the death, which, while not absolving Vishal of liability, reduces the severity of the charge from what might be considered manslaughter in other legal systems. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

61. **Answer:** B

Reference line: "If the act is committed with the consent of the victim. The consent should be unconditional, unequivocal, and without any sort of reservation."

Difficulty level: Moderate

Explanation: a) This option considers the administration of a lethal dose as murder. However, the unique factor in this scenario is Maya's informed and explicit consent to the act, acknowledging her terminal condition and desire to end her suffering. The principle of consent, particularly in cases involving terminal illness and the patient's autonomy over their end-of-life decisions, introduces complex ethical and legal considerations. While intentionally causing death typically falls under murder, the presence of clear, informed consent challenges the applicability of murder charges, emphasizing the necessity to consider consent's legal weight. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) The principle highlighted in the passage and applied to this scenario underscores the significance of consent in determining legal liability. Maya's informed and explicit consent to the administration of a lethal dose, given her understanding of its consequences, aligns with the conditions where consent can mitigate or eliminate criminal liability. This case presents a profound ethical dilemma, where the consent of the individual, particularly in the context of terminal illness, plays a pivotal role in assessing the actions taken by healthcare professionals. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) While the concept of culpable homicide not amounting to murder considers circumstances that mitigate the severity of the offense, the application of this principle in the context of informed consent for end-of-life decisions introduces a nuanced distinction. The scenario explicitly states that Maya's consent was informed, unequivocal, and without reservation, which, according to the principle provided, would not

typically result in legal liability for the act. Thus, framing Dr. Raj's actions as culpable homicide not amounting to murder does not fully capture the legal and ethical considerations at play when consent is given under these specific conditions. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Labeling the act as manslaughter implies unintentional killing without lawful justification but with mitigating circumstances. The scenario, however, centers on the explicit and informed consent by Maya for an act she fully understands, placing it outside the typical bounds of manslaughter. The consent given by Maya introduces a critical variable that challenges the straightforward application of manslaughter, highlighting the complex interplay between legal principles and ethical considerations in cases of terminal illness and end-of-life decisions. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

62. **Answer: C**

Reference line: "The sudden fight is when the fight is unexpected or premeditated. Both the parties don't have any intention to kill or cause the death of another."

Difficulty level: Moderate

Explanation: a) This option suggests that Amit's action constitutes murder, which requires a direct intention to kill or cause grievous harm likely to result in death. The scenario describes a sudden fight that escalated from a cricket match dispute, indicating that Amit's fatal blow was not premeditated but a result of the immediate conflict. Murder charges typically require proof of intent or malice aforethought, which is not clearly present in this spontaneous altercation. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) While the fight was indeed sudden and not premeditated, suggesting that there was no initial intention to engage in violence, legal accountability for the outcome of such altercations still applies. The law recognizes the seriousness of actions taken in the heat of the moment, especially when they result in harm or death. Therefore, claiming complete absolution from any offense because the fight was unplanned does not align with legal principles that hold individuals responsible for the consequences of their actions, regardless of premeditation. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) The principle of sudden fight without intention to kill fits Amit's situation. The fight broke out spontaneously over a sporting dispute, indicating that neither party had a pre-existing intent to cause harm or death. This principle acknowledges that conflicts can escalate rapidly and lead to tragic outcomes, even without the parties' intention to cause such severe consequences. Amit's actions, while reckless and resulting in Vikas's death, fall under the ambit of culpable homicide not amounting to murder due to the lack of premeditated intent to kill, aligning with the legal distinction made for sudden altercations. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

d) The term "manslaughter" is often used in jurisdictions outside of the Indian legal system to describe killings that occur without malice or premeditation. While the description of Amit's actions aligns with the broader understanding of manslaughter, within the context of the Indian Penal Code, the specific circumstances of a sudden fight leading to death without the intention to kill are more accurately categorized as culpable homicide not amounting to murder. This distinction is crucial for understanding the legal implications of Amit's actions within the specified legal framework. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

63. **Answer: C**

Reference Line: "If the defendant can prove that the defamatory statement is true, the claim of defamation is nullified."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: (a) While freedom of expression is an essential right protected under many legal systems, it does not provide an absolute shield against defamation claims. The right to freedom of expression must be balanced with individuals' rights to protect their reputation from unjustified harm. In defamation law, merely claiming freedom of expression does not suffice if the published material is false and damaging. In Alice's case, relying solely on freedom of expression without addressing the truthfulness of her allegations would not be a strong defense. The essence of defamation law is to prevent harm to someone's reputation through the dissemination of false information. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) The defense of fair and bonafide comment is typically reserved for opinions, critiques, and reviews, particularly on matters of public interest. While Alice's article does cover a matter of public interest, the defense requires that the comment be based on true facts and made without malice. This defense emphasizes the right to express opinions rather than assert facts. However, Alice's situation involves the publication of specific allegations that are presented as factual claims, not opinions. The distinction between fact and opinion is crucial in defamation cases, as the legal protections for opinions are stronger under this defense. Therefore, proving the truth of the factual content in her article offers a more direct and robust defense than arguing the article was merely an opinion. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) This option aligns perfectly with the principle that truth is an absolute defense against defamation. If Alice can substantiate her claims with evidence, proving that the allegations of corruption and misuse of public funds by Mr. Green are true, the defamation lawsuit against her cannot proceed. The rationale behind this principle is that defamation law is not intended to hinder the exposure of wrongdoing or to silence discussions on matters of public interest. Instead, its purpose is to protect individuals from falsehoods that could harm their reputation. By proving the truth of her statements, Alice directly counters the basis of the defamation claim, as the law does not consider it defamatory to disseminate true information, regardless of the potential harm to the subject's reputation. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

(d) The defense of accidental publication suggests that the defendant did not intend for the information to be published or was unaware of its defamatory nature. This defense is largely irrelevant in cases where the publication was deliberate and the content was intended for public dissemination, as with Alice's article. Moreover, this defense does not address the veracity of the published statements, which is the central issue in defamation claims. Defamation law focuses on the balance between protecting reputation and the freedom to communicate truthfully about matters of public concern. Accidental publication as a defense would not apply in a situation where a journalist intentionally investigates and reports on issues of public interest. Therefore, this defense would not offer Alice any protection in the context of her deliberate and investigative journalism. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

64. **Answer: B**

Reference Line: "Freedom of expression includes the right to voice opinions on public activities, including those of public figures such as politicians, celebrities, and other individuals in the public eye."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: (a) This option acknowledges that Dr. Halsey's critique is grounded in her professional expertise and scientific evidence. While good faith based on empirical evidence is crucial, especially in debates on public policy, it does not directly invoke a legal defense against defamation. Defamation law seeks to balance the protection of reputation with the importance of free speech, especially in discussions on matters affecting the public. The emphasis on good faith and scientific basis is morally and ethically sound but does not specifically leverage the legal protections afforded to speech on public interest issues. Therefore, while Dr. Halsey's good faith and reliance on scientific evidence strengthen her position morally and ethically, they do not constitute a specific legal defense under defamation law. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

(b) This option is the most applicable to Dr. Halsey's situation. The principle of freedom of expression, particularly on matters of public interest, is a cornerstone of democratic societies. It protects individuals' rights to engage in open and critical discussions about government policies, especially when such policies have significant implications for public welfare and the environment. In Dr. Halsey's case, her critique of the government's environmental policy falls squarely within the realm of public interest debate. By expressing her professional judgment on a matter of significant public concern, Dr. Halsey's statements are safeguarded by the right to freedom of expression. This defense acknowledges the essential role that free speech plays in informing public discourse and holding government actions accountable to scrutiny and debate. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

(c) While demonstrating that comments are based on true facts can be a defense in some defamation cases, this option somewhat mischaracterizes the nature of Dr. Halsey's statements. Her critique, framed

as a professional opinion regarding the adequacy of government policies, does not easily lend itself to verification in the same manner as factual assertions. The distinction between fact and opinion is significant in defamation law; opinions, especially those expressed by experts in their field on matters of public policy, enjoy a higher degree of protection under the principle of freedom of expression. Thus, while the truthfulness of underlying facts can be important, the critical element here is the right to express opinions on policy matters, making the specific invocation of true facts less directly relevant. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) The concept of accidental publication implies a lack of intent or awareness regarding the dissemination of potentially defamatory material. This defense is not relevant in Dr. Halsey's context, as her participation in the televised debate was intentional, and her statements were made as part of a deliberate engagement in public discourse. Additionally, this defense does not address the core issue of freedom of expression and the right to critique government policies. The legal framework for defamation is designed to protect individuals from false and damaging statements, not to inhibit informed and intentional discussion on matters of public importance. Dr. Halsey's active choice to participate in the debate and express her views negates the applicability of this defense in her situation. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

65. **Answer:** A

Reference Line: "The criteria for this defense include the necessity for the comment to be on a matter of public interest, based on true facts, and recognizable as a comment rather than a statement of fact."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: (a) This option directly applies to Emily's situation. Her review is a classic example of a fair and bonafide comment, as it is based on her personal experience with the product and is a genuine expression of her opinion. The review addresses matters of consumer interest, such as product quality and truthfulness in advertising, which are undoubtedly in the public interest. By providing a critique based on true facts (the actual performance of the smartphone), Emily's review fulfills the criteria for this defense. The essence of the fair and bonafide comment defense is to protect the expression of opinions that contribute to public discourse, especially when those opinions are grounded in factual experiences. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) This option misunderstands the balance between defamation law and the right to critique. Defamation law does not seek to protect entities from all forms of criticism, especially when the criticism is based on factual experiences and expressed as an opinion on matters of public concern. The purpose of defamation law is to balance the protection of reputation with the importance of free speech, particularly speech that informs the public about consumer products. Therefore, the potential harm to the manufacturer's reputation from a truthful review does not negate the protection offered to such speech. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) While freedom of expression is a broad principle that protects various forms of speech, the specific context of a product review makes the principle of fair and bonafide comment a more precise and applicable defense. Although general protections under freedom of expression do cover Emily's review, the specific protections for opinions on matters of public interest, such as the quality and performance of consumer products, are more directly addressed under the fair and bonafide comment defense. This defense explicitly acknowledges the role of consumer reviews in informing public choice and promoting transparency in the marketplace. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Although a manufacturer's consent to have their product reviewed might suggest an openness to receiving feedback, this consent does not inherently include a legal defense against defamation claims. The core issue in defamation defenses is not the consent to review but the nature of the speech itself—whether it is protected as an opinion, whether it is made in good faith, and whether it addresses matters of public interest. This option does not address the legal criteria for defending against a defamation claim in the context of a product review. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

66. **Answer:** A

Reference Line: "Censure passed in good faith by someone with lawful authority over the person being censured is also not considered defamation."

Difficulty Level: Easy

Explanation: (a) This option precisely captures the nature of Professor Thompson's defense. In an academic setting, professors have a duty and lawful authority to evaluate the work of their students critically. Professor Thompson's feedback, given during a departmental meeting and aimed at improving Jane's academic work, is a classic example of censure passed in good faith within the bounds of his professional duties. The defense recognizes the importance of academic freedom and the necessity of candid evaluation for educational development. This legal principle protects the integrity of academic assessments, allowing educators to provide necessary critique without fear of defamation claims, as long as the critique is made in good faith and relates directly to their professional responsibilities. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) While academic discourse and evaluations do contribute to the broader public interest in maintaining high educational standards, this option does not directly apply to the specific legal defense against a defamation claim in the context described. The essence of the situation is not about public interest in the abstract but about the specific relationship and authority structure between a professor and a student. Academic evaluations, while important, are primarily internal matters rather than public interest issues in the context of defamation law. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) Jane's consent to have her thesis evaluated is inherent in her participation in the academic program, but this consent is not the central issue in defending against a defamation claim in this context. The focus of the legal defense is on the nature of the feedback and the authority of the professor, rather than on the student's consent to the evaluation process. This option does not address the legal grounds for defamation defense related to the professional and educational responsibilities of faculty members. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) While it is true that academic evaluations involve a degree of subjectivity, this option does not address the legal framework for defamation defense. The subjectivity of academic assessments does not, in itself, protect against defamation claims. The critical factor is whether the evaluation is conducted in good faith and within the scope of professional duties, not the inherent subjectivity of the evaluation. This option misses the legal rationale that specifically protects such evaluations when made by individuals with lawful authority in an educational context. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

67. **Answer:** A

Reference Line: "An accusation made in good faith to an authorized person is not defamation."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: (a) This option directly applies to Maria's situation. When an employee reports potentially discriminatory behavior to HR, the action is considered an accusation made in good faith to an authority within the company responsible for addressing such issues. This defense is specifically designed to protect individuals who raise concerns or complaints about misconduct, allowing them to speak up without fear of defamation claims, as long as their accusations are made in good faith and to the appropriate channels. The principle acknowledges the importance of ensuring a safe and fair workplace environment, enabling employees to report wrongdoing or unethical behavior to those tasked with investigating and resolving such matters. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

(b) While issues of discrimination may indeed involve matters of public interest, especially regarding workplace rights and ethics, this option does not capture the specific legal defense against defamation in the context of an internal company report. The defense of an accusation made in good faith to an authorized person is more directly relevant, as it specifically addresses the process and intent behind reporting misconduct within an organization. This option broadens the context to public interest without addressing the particular legal protection afforded to good faith internal reports. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

(c) The supervisor's role or position within the company does not inherently negate claims of defamation against him. The central issue in defamation defenses in this context is not the job title or consent to managerial responsibilities but the nature of the accusations and the process by which they are reported. This option does not address the legal basis for defending against defamation claims related to reporting misconduct or discriminatory behavior in the workplace. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

(d) Discrimination complaints, while involving subjective experiences, are taken seriously in legal and organizational contexts. The subjectivity of the complaint does not diminish the legal protections for reporting such issues in good faith. This option fails to recognize the specific legal defense that protects employees who report discrimination or misconduct to designated authorities within their organization, focusing instead on the nature of the complaint rather than the protection afforded to the reporting process. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

68. **Answer:** A

Reference: "A material breach of contract occurs when there's a significant failure to perform under the contract's terms, leading to a substantial deviation from the expected benefits of the agreement."

Difficulty level: Moderate

Explanation: Option (a) is correct because the significant alterations to the agreed-upon services for the wedding constitute a substantial deviation from the expected benefits of the agreement, characterizing a material breach. Sunil is thus entitled to terminate the contract as the essence of what was contracted (a grand wedding celebration) is undermined by Priya Events' actions. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

Option (b) is incorrect because the willingness of Priya Events to still organize the wedding does not mitigate the fact that the essential terms of the contract are not being honored. The significant downgrading of services affects the very essence of the contract, which justifies termination on the grounds of material breach. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) is incorrect as the question clearly states that the changes would drastically reduce the quality and ambiance of the wedding, indicating a significant impact rather than a negligible one. The principle focuses on the significant deviation from the expected benefits, not on the guests' perception. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) is incorrect because unforeseen costs do not justify a unilateral decision to alter critical aspects of the contract without mutual agreement, especially when such changes constitute a material breach by substantially deviating from the contract's original terms. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

69. **Answer:** A

Reference: "This type of breach is so severe that it undermines the contract's very essence, allowing the non-breaching party to terminate the agreement and seek damages."

Difficulty level: Moderate

Explanation: Option (a) is correct because TechnoInnovate's inability to deliver the financial management system with the agreed-upon specifications directly undermines the essence of the contract. This constitutes a material breach, as the expected benefits of the contract are significantly compromised, thus justifying GlobalFinance's right to terminate the contract and seek damages. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

Option (b) is incorrect because the effort made by TechnoInnovate does not excuse the failure to fulfill the contract's fundamental terms. A material breach focuses on the breach's impact on the expected benefits, not on the efforts or intentions of the breaching party. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) is incorrect as the ability of GlobalFinance to find an alternative provider does not influence whether TechnoInnovate's actions constitute a material breach. The breach is determined by the deviation from the agreed-upon terms and the undermining of the contract's purpose. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) is incorrect because unforeseen technical challenges do not absolve TechnoInnovate of its contractual obligations. The contract's essence is delivering a system with specific functionalities, and failure to do so constitutes a material breach, regardless of the challenges encountered. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

70. **Answer:** B

Reference: "A non-material breach involves minor contract elements that don't affect the contract's core terms, often resulting in negligible impact on the agreement's overall execution."

Difficulty level: Easy

Explanation: Option (a) is not correct because the shortfall of 500 words in a manuscript of nearly 80,000 words is a minor deviation that does not affect the contract's core terms or its overall execution. The essence and purpose of the contract—to deliver a manuscript for publication—remain intact. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) is correct because a minor shortfall in the word count, such as 500 words in a manuscript intended to be 80,000 words long, typically does not fundamentally change the essence or the execution of the contract. This situation exemplifies a non-material breach, where the impact on the agreement's overall fulfillment is negligible. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

Option (c) is not correct because proving that a 500-word shortfall significantly impacts the manuscript's quality or marketability is challenging and likely irrelevant to the contract's fundamental fulfillment. The principle of a non-material breach pertains to minor deviations that do not affect the core terms of the contract. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) is not correct because while timely delivery is important, the question of whether a minor shortfall in word count constitutes a material or non-material breach depends on its impact on the contract's overall execution, not on which aspect of the contract is deemed more critical. The principle specifies that non-material breaches have negligible impact, making the slight shortfall a non-material issue. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

71. **Answer:** A

Reference: "The non-breaching party is typically excused from further performance and may terminate the contract immediately upon detection of the breach."

Difficulty level: Moderate

Explanation: Option (a) is correct as the significant reduction in marketing efforts directly undermines the essence of the contract between Ella and PrestigeBooks. The agreed marketing campaign was a core term of the contract, essential for ensuring the book's success, and its substantial reduction can justify Ella's decision to terminate the contract. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

Option (b) is not correct because partially fulfilling a contractual obligation, especially when it deviates significantly from the agreed terms, does not prevent the other party from considering it a breach that affects the contract's fundamental aspects. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option (c) is not correct because the direct impact on sales, while relevant, is not necessary to justify contract termination. The breach's significance lies in the failure to perform agreed fundamental aspects of the contract, not necessarily in quantifying the outcome of such failure. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) is not correct because budget cuts, while a practical concern, do not provide a legal basis for unilaterally altering significant contract terms without the consent of both parties, especially when such changes affect the contract's core terms. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

72. **Answer:** B

Reference Line: "Termination is a critical remedy for a material breach of contract. It allows the non-breaching party to legally end the agreement before the completion of performance, provided there are justifiable grounds such as a breach itself or a prior agreement allowing for such termination."

Difficulty level: Moderate

Explanation: Option (a) is not correct because not all breaches justify immediate termination of the contract. The omission of occasional weeding, while a deviation from the contract, must be assessed in terms of its impact on the contract's overall fulfillment. A material breach requires a significant failure that affects the contract's essence, which is not clearly the case here. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option (b) is correct as the occasional omission of weeding, while a breach, likely does not affect the core purpose of the contract—maintaining the garden's overall health and appearance. This situation is more indicative of a non-material breach, which, while requiring correction, does not justify the contract's immediate termination. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

Option (c) is not correct because the justification for terminating a contract does not solely depend on proving specific damages caused by the breach. The principle of termination due to a material breach considers whether the breach undermines the contract's essence, not just the presence of damages. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option (d) is not correct because it introduces an assumption about the contract's flexibility not provided in the scenario. While contractual flexibility might exist, the principle in question specifically addresses the justification for termination based on the nature of the breach, not the contract's flexibility. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

73. **Answer: B**

Reference line from the passage: "Section 34 lays down the provision for joint liability in cases where different persons share a common intention."

Difficulty level: Easy

Explanation: a) The principle of joint liability under Section 34 transcends the physical act of committing the crime. It emphasizes the shared intention behind the act. Thus, even if Bina did not physically vandalize, her involvement in planning and facilitating the act aligns her with the shared intention, making her equally liable. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Section 34 of the Indian Penal Code establishes that sharing a common intention in committing a criminal act binds all participants with equal liability. Bina's role in the act, though not directly involving vandalism, was crucial to its execution. By keeping watch and providing the means for Amrita to vandalize, Bina demonstrated a shared intention, making her liable under the joint liability provision. This underscores the law's recognition that support roles are as culpable as direct actions when driven by a shared criminal intent. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) Keeping watch during the commission of a crime is a significant contribution that facilitates the crime's execution. This role, especially when premeditated as part of a plan, constitutes participation under Section 34. The law does not differentiate between direct and supportive roles in a crime when there is a shared intention. Thus, Bina's action of keeping watch directly aligns with the shared intent to vandalize, establishing her liability. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) The requirement for prior knowledge of the plan is inherent in the scenario, as Bina's actions clearly indicate she was not only aware of but actively engaged in the criminal plan. Section 34's application hinges on the shared intention at the time of committing the act, not on the explicit prior knowledge, making this option less relevant. The shared intention to commit the vandalism, evidenced by their coordinated actions, suffices to establish joint liability. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

74. **Answer: B**

Reference line from the passage: "The word 'criminal act' refers to more than a single act and encompasses a sequence of acts carried out in rapid succession and intertwined in such a way that they cannot be distinguished from one another."

Difficulty level: Moderate

Explanation: a) The diversity of actions performed by participants in a collective effort, such as a protest, does not exempt them from liability when these actions contribute to a common objective. Section 34 interprets a 'criminal act' as encompassing a series of acts intertwined by a shared intention, making all involved liable regardless of the specific nature of their individual actions. The principle focuses on the collective execution of actions with a unified criminal objective, not the individuality of acts. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) The sequence of acts carried out by the demonstrators—smashing windows, disabling security cameras, and spray painting—constitutes a 'criminal act' under Section 34 due to their intertwined nature and rapid succession, reflecting a shared intention. This provision recognizes that when individuals act together towards a common goal, their combined actions are viewed as a unified criminal enterprise, making each participant liable for the collective action. The principle underscores the concept of joint liability for actions that, while distinct, form part of a cohesive effort towards a criminal objective. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) Section 34's application does not hinge on the actions constituting a single, uninterrupted act but rather on the collective intention and interconnectedness of the actions. The principle acknowledges that a 'criminal act' can involve a series of distinct yet related actions, provided they are driven by a common intention and executed in concert. The scenario described fits this definition, as the protesters' actions, though varied, were part of a unified effort to breach the government building, aligning with the concept of a 'criminal act' under Section 34. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) The identification and proof of each participant's individual action are not prerequisites for liability under Section 34, which emphasizes the collective intention and execution rather than the isolation of individual contributions. The law's focus is on the participation in a shared criminal objective, making all involved parties liable for the outcome of their collective actions, regardless of the ability to pinpoint each person's specific act. This collective liability underscores the principle's aim to hold all participants accountable for their part in the unified criminal act, irrespective of the distinctness of their actions. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

75. **Answer:** B

Reference line from the passage: "The Supreme Court of India observed that Section 34 codifies the common-sense notion that if two or more people do anything together, it is the same as if they did it separately."

Difficulty level: Moderate

Explanation: a) The direct harm caused by the act is not the determinant for the application of Section 34, which focuses on the shared intention and joint execution of an act. The unauthorized occupation of public property for business expansion, irrespective of the direct harm, violates legal norms governing public property use. The absence of direct harm does not diminish the legal basis for action against Rahul and Samir for their joint actions, reflecting the law's emphasis on the shared intention behind the collective enterprise. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) The principle articulated by Section 34 establishes that when individuals act together with a common intention, they are jointly liable for the act, mirroring the notion that collective actions are equivalent to them acting separately. In this scenario, Rahul and Samir's concerted effort to expand their café by illegally using public property embodies joint action with a common purpose. The legal action against them is valid under Section 34, as their joint decision and execution of the plan to occupy the lot render them equally liable, just as if each had undertaken the act on his own. This underscores the law's recognition of joint liability for shared actions towards a common illegal objective, validating the legal action based on their collective endeavor. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) Section 34 does not differentiate roles within a joint action; all participants are liable if they share a common intention, regardless of who physically completed specific tasks. In this case, Rahul and Samir's joint decision and action to use the lot for their café's expansion make them both liable, regardless of the division of physical labor. The principle emphasizes the collective intention and participation in the act, not the allocation of physical roles, making this option incorrect. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) The principle of joint liability under Section 34 does not require equal levels of involvement in the planning process as a condition for liability. What matters is the shared intention and participation in the act. In this scenario, Rahul and Samir's collaborative effort and mutual decision to occupy the lot demonstrate a unified intention to expand their café, establishing their joint liability regardless of any differences in their individual contributions to the decision-making process. The law focuses on the collective action driven by a common intention, rendering the specifics of individual involvement secondary to the shared objective. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

76. **Answer:** A

Reference line from the passage: "It is impossible to discern between the unlawful conduct of individual members of a group who all act in support of a common goal."

Difficulty level: Moderate

Explanation: a) The principle underscores the challenge of identifying individual actions within a collective effort aimed at a shared objective. Given this scenario, the law's inclination towards recognizing collective

intention over individual acts justifies holding all members liable. Their presence and participation in the event that led to the vandalism are enough to attribute responsibility collectively, aligning with the principle that the group's action reflects a unified intent. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

b) Although it may be challenging to pinpoint who performed specific acts within the group, the principle of collective action prevails in this context. The shared goal of protesting against the construction project, which resulted in vandalism, implicates all participants, rendering individual identification unnecessary for liability. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) The principle suggests that distinguishing individual contributions is not essential for establishing liability when a common goal is evident. Therefore, the requirement for video evidence to identify specific actors contradicts the essence of collective liability based on shared objectives. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) The principle and the given scenario emphasize shared intent and collective action rather than individual participation. The legal approach to collective actions, particularly in protests leading to unlawful outcomes, focuses on the group's common goal, making the individual physical participation irrelevant for liability purposes. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

77. **Answer: B**

Reference line from the passage: "If two or more people do anything together, it is the same as if they did it separately."

Difficulty level: Easy

Explanation: a) Acting together in a decision-making process, especially in the context of unlawful actions such as tax evasion, does not exempt individuals from liability. The essence of the principle is that collective decisions and actions are viewed as if each participant acted on their own, thereby reinforcing the notion of individual responsibility within a shared intent. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This option directly reflects the principle's stance that actions taken collectively with a shared objective are treated as individual acts for the purposes of liability. In the case of Raj and Simran, their mutual decision and subsequent actions to evade taxes, despite being a joint effort, subject them to individual liability as if each had decided and acted independently. This approach ensures accountability and deters collusion in unlawful activities. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) The principle explicitly contradicts this notion by treating collective decisions to engage in unlawful actions as equivalent to individual actions. This ensures that all parties involved are held accountable for their part in the collective action, irrespective of the collective nature of the decision-making process. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) While written evidence of a mutual agreement may strengthen the legal case, the principle of individual liability in the context of collective actions does not hinge on such evidence. The act of jointly deciding and acting towards a common unlawful goal itself establishes the basis for individual liability under the law. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

78. **Answer: D**

Reference line from the passage: "The rule of constructive culpability enshrined in Section 34 of the Indian Penal Code kicks in once the criminal conduct and common purpose have been established."

Difficulty level: Moderate

Explanation: a) Direct harm or the nature of individual actions is not the focal point for determining liability under the principle of constructive culpability. Once a common purpose is established, such as blocking the highway, all participants who contribute to achieving this goal, regardless of the direct harm of their individual actions, are subject to liability. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Being the organizers would indeed heighten their roles, but the principle of constructive culpability applies to all participants once the criminal conduct and common purpose are established. It does not require proving organizational status, as liability is based on participation in actions that further the common unlawful goal. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) The application of constructive culpability under Section 34 does not exempt peaceful protests if the actions taken collectively result in unlawful conduct. The principle focuses on the outcome of the collective

actions and their alignment with a common unlawful purpose, making the peaceful nature of the protest irrelevant in the context of public nuisance and obstruction. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) This option aligns with the principle that constructive culpability is applied once there is established criminal conduct tied to a common purpose among participants. Arjun and Maya's actions, though different, collectively contributed to the overarching goal of blocking the highway, which constituted a public nuisance. Their participation in the rally, facilitating the obstruction of the highway, invokes the rule of constructive culpability, making them liable for the collective outcome of their actions. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

79. **Answer: C**

Reference Line: "A person in possession of a property is entitled to its undisturbed enjoyment as per law."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: Option a) This option misunderstands the balance between individual rights and the duty to not cause harm to others, especially in the context of nuisance law. While Rahul has the right to secure his property, this right does not extend to causing significant disturbances or nuisances to his neighbours. The law of nuisance specifically addresses this balance by protecting individuals' rights to enjoy their property without undue interference from others. This case clearly falls under the principles of nuisance, as Rahul's actions directly interfere with his neighbour's right to undisturbed enjoyment of their property. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option b) This option fails to recognize that the law of nuisance does not restrict its application to actions solely within the perpetrator's property boundaries. If actions on one's property cause significant interference with a neighbour's enjoyment of their property, it constitutes a nuisance regardless of property lines. The essence of nuisance law is to mediate between conflicting uses of property in a manner that prevents unreasonable interference with others' rights. Rahul's installation of excessively bright lights that impact his neighbour's ability to enjoy their property falls squarely within the definition of a private nuisance. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option c) This is the correct answer because it aligns with the legal principles governing the tort of nuisance. The scenario described meets the criteria for a private nuisance by showing how Rahul's actions—specifically, the use of excessively bright lights directed towards his neighbor's bedroom—unreasonably interfere with his neighbour's enjoyment of their property. This interference disrupts the neighbour's sleep patterns, a clear example of how private enjoyment of property can be adversely affected by another's actions. The law aims to protect individuals from such disturbances, making this option the most accurate application of the principles discussed. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Option d) This option incorrectly minimizes the impact of the disturbance caused by Rahul's lights. In nuisance law, the significance of the interference is measured not by a universal standard but by its effect on the affected party's ability to enjoy their property. The disturbance described—light pollution invading a neighbour's bedroom and disrupting sleep—is not trivial but a substantial interference with the use and enjoyment of property. The law recognizes such disturbances as actionable nuisances when they exceed normal societal thresholds for tolerance, which this scenario clearly does. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

80. **Answer: C**

Reference Line from the Passage: "If someone else's improper use or enjoyment in his property results in unlawful interference with his enjoyment or use of that property, or of some rights over it, or in connection with it, the tort of nuisance has occurred."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: Option a) This option incorrectly assumes that Vikram's rights to use his property are absolute and unchallengeable, even when his use infringes upon Meera's rights. The legal principle of nuisance recognizes that all property rights are subject to the condition that their exercise does not unreasonably interfere with others' rights. Vikram's nightly band practices, by significantly disturbing Meera's café operations and her enjoyment of her adjacent home, cross the line from reasonable use to

actionable nuisance. The law provides recourse for such situations, emphasizing the balance between individual rights and responsibilities. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option b) This option misinterprets the scope of nuisance law, which does not confine its considerations to the physical boundaries of the source of the nuisance. The crucial factor is the effect of the activities on neighbouring properties. The law explicitly addresses such externalities, providing a framework for individuals like Meera to seek redress when their property enjoyment is compromised by a neighbour's actions, regardless of where those actions originate. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option c) This is the correct answer as it accurately reflects the principles underlying nuisance law. Vikram's loud music practices, by disrupting the café's ambiance and deterring customers, directly interfere with Meera's business operations—a clear case of private nuisance. The law of nuisance is designed to address such interferences, providing a mechanism for affected parties to seek remedies when their property use or enjoyment is unreasonably compromised. This option correctly identifies the actionable nature of Vikram's disturbance. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Option d) This option mistakenly suggests that the involvement of a business somehow exempts the situation from being considered a nuisance. The law does not differentiate between nuisances affecting residential enjoyment and those impacting commercial operations. The key consideration is the unreasonable interference with the use or enjoyment of property, which in this case is Meera's café. The legal framework for nuisance encompasses both personal and business properties, reinforcing the applicability of nuisance claims to a wide range of disturbances. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

81. **Answer: C**

Reference Line: "Nuisance is an injury to the right of a person's possession of his property to undisturbed enjoyment of it and results from an improper usage by another individual."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) This statement is incorrect because mere personal preferences or sensitivities, especially in an urban and mixed-use area, do not establish a legal nuisance if the activities in question comply with local regulations and do not significantly interfere with the use or enjoyment of property. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This statement is incorrect because the mere audibility of an activity from a neighbour's property does not automatically constitute a nuisance. The key factors are the level of noise, compliance with local ordinances, and the impact on the use or enjoyment of the property. In this case, the activities are within acceptable noise levels. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) This is the correct answer. The facts indicate that the neighbour's activities, while audible, do not exceed local noise levels, nor do they cause significant damage or distress to Ankit. The law of nuisance requires a substantial and unreasonable interference with the use or enjoyment of property, which is not present in this scenario. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

d) This statement is incorrect because personal hobbies are not inherently nuisances under the law. The determination of whether an activity constitutes a nuisance depends on its impact on neighbours and compliance with local laws, not the nature of the activity itself. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

82. **Answer: C**

Reference Line: "Any act which is done with the intention to cause the infringement of the legal rights of another is considered to be a wrongful act."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: Option a) This option incorrectly assumes that property ownership grants absolute freedom in its use, disregarding the legal responsibilities towards neighbors. The law imposes limits on property use, especially when it affects others' rights to peace and quiet. Arjun's disregard for Priya's requests and the impact of his actions on her well-being demonstrates a lack of consideration for these legal boundaries. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option b) This option fails to recognize that the frequency of the disturbance does not negate its impact. Legal principles do not excuse nuisances simply because they occur less frequently. The consistent

weekend disturbances are enough to constitute a wrongful act under nuisance law, as they significantly affect Priya's enjoyment of her property. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option c) This is the correct answer because it aligns with the principle that actions causing intentional infringement of another's legal rights constitute a wrongful act. Arjun's deliberate continuation of his activities, despite knowing their impact on Priya, fits this definition. The law seeks to protect individuals from such infringements, making Arjun's behaviour actionable. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Option d) This option misunderstands the scope of legal rights and responsibilities. Even private actions, when they extend beyond one's property and infringe upon another's rights, can be subject to legal scrutiny. The fact that Arjun's celebration is private does not shield it from being considered a nuisance if it affects others adversely. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

83. **Answer: C**

Reference Line: "Damage or loss or annoyance must be such which the law should consider as a substantial material for the claim."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: Option a) This option incorrectly assumes that apartment living absolves residents from respecting their neighbours' rights to peaceful enjoyment. The law recognizes the need for reasonable accommodation and respect among neighbours, especially in shared living environments. Sanjay's actions clearly exceed what can be considered normal or unavoidable disturbances. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option b) This option fails to acknowledge the limitations on property rights when those rights infringe upon others. The use of one's property, including a home theatre system, is subject to reasonable limits, particularly when it adversely affects others' health and well-being. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

Option c) This is the correct answer because it accurately reflects the legal principle that actions causing substantial damage or annoyance, particularly when the actor is aware of the consequences, can be actionable. Sanjay's knowledge of Leena's condition and his refusal to mitigate the disturbance aligns with the concept of a substantial and unreasonable nuisance. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

Option d) This option misinterprets the balance between individual rights and communal responsibilities. While property rights are important, they do not justify causing significant disturbances to neighbours. The law seeks to mediate these conflicts by enforcing reasonable limits on activities that cause harm to others. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

84. **Answer: B**

Reference Line from the Passage: "The interference must be unreasonable or unlawful, meaning the act should not be justifiable in the eyes of the law and should be by an act which no reasonable man would do."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: Option a) This option incorrectly suggests that Tara has a basis for her request, despite the absence of actual noise disturbance due to the effective soundproofing. Legal claims of nuisance require evidence of unreasonable interference, which, in this case, is mitigated by the daycare's soundproofing. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

Option b) This is the correct answer because it acknowledges that Derek's drumming, while potentially loud, does not constitute a nuisance due to the effective soundproofing measures Tara has implemented. The law of nuisance is concerned with actual, not hypothetical, disturbances. Since the soundproofing prevents the drumming from disturbing the daycare's operations, Derek's practice schedule is not legally unreasonable. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

Option c) This option fails to account for the mitigating factor of soundproofing, which effectively nullifies the potential disturbance. Legal considerations of reasonableness include the practical impact of an action, and in this scenario, the soundproofing means Derek's drumming does not negatively impact Tara's daycare operation. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

Option d) This option misinterprets the nature of nuisance, which requires an actual disturbance rather than a subjective discomfort based on knowledge alone. Legal actions require demonstrable evidence of interference, which is lacking in this scenario due to the successful mitigation of noise. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

Logical Reasoning

85. **Answer:** B

Reference Lines: "The judgment addressed the broader implications of corruption on democratic integrity, stating that corruption and bribery not only erode public trust but also detract from a responsive and representative democracy."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) The option suggests that lawmaker immunity is essential for democracy, implying unconditional protection within parliamentary proceedings is necessary. This view, however, contrasts with the court's ruling, which emphasizes the balance between immunity and accountability. The ruling suggests that while some degree of immunity is necessary for the free functioning of democracy, it must not extend to covering acts of corruption or bribery. Therefore, unconditional protection contradicts the essence of ensuring accountability and integrity within the legislative framework. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This option aligns with the court's judgment, indicating that an effective democracy requires legislators to adhere strictly to accountability and integrity standards, especially in financial dealings. The court's decision highlights the detrimental impact of corruption and bribery on public trust and democratic effectiveness, emphasizing the necessity for legislators to maintain high ethical standards. By holding lawmakers to stringent accountability and integrity standards, the ruling seeks to preserve the integrity of parliamentary processes and democratic institutions at large. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

c) Suggesting that the integrity of parliamentary debates is inherently safeguarded by members' ethical conduct and that this negates the need for legal oversight overlooks the reality of potential ethical breaches. The Supreme Court's ruling underscores the importance of legal oversight as an essential mechanism to deter and address corruption and bribery within parliament. Ethical conduct alone, without the enforcement of legal standards and the possibility of legal repercussions, may not be sufficient to ensure the integrity of parliamentary processes. Thus, this option underestimates the complexity of maintaining legislative integrity and the court's rationale for implementing legal checks. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) This option implies that procedural transparency is more important than the ethical behavior of participants in maintaining the public trust in the legislative process. While transparency is crucial for accountability, the Supreme Court's ruling emphasizes that ethical behavior and adherence to integrity standards are fundamental to the public's trust in legislative processes. Corruption and bribery, regardless of transparency, erode trust and undermine the effectiveness of democracy. The court's decision reflects an understanding that ethical standards and the behavior of lawmakers are central to the legislative process's integrity. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

86. **Answer:** A

Reference Lines: "It established clear guidelines for investigating allegations against MPs and MLAs, balancing the need for parliamentary immunity with the imperative of accountability."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) Countries with stringent legal frameworks for investigating lawmakers and reporting fewer political corruption cases provide a compelling argument for the effectiveness of clear guidelines. This evidence directly supports the notion that well-defined legal parameters and accountability mechanisms can significantly reduce incidents of corruption, thereby maintaining the integrity of democratic processes. It illustrates a practical outcome of implementing such frameworks, aligning with the passage's emphasis on accountability and the fight against corruption within the legislature. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

b) The belief that lawmakers require complete immunity for uninhibited parliamentary debate reflects a perspective that prioritizes the freedom of legislative discourse over accountability measures. While the freedom to debate is crucial, the passage argues for a balanced approach where accountability and the ability to investigate allegations of corruption are equally important. This belief does not strengthen the argument for clear investigation guidelines; rather, it suggests an opposition to the very notion of legal oversight, which is crucial for maintaining democratic integrity. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) Concerns that excessive legal scrutiny could deter potential political career aspirants highlight a potential downside of stringent investigation frameworks. However, this argument does not directly support the need for clear guidelines; instead, it raises a cautionary point about the balance between accountability and the attractiveness of legislative careers. While important, it does not strengthen the argument that clear guidelines are essential for maintaining democratic integrity, as it does not address the core issue of combating corruption. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Reporting that a notable percentage of lawmakers misuse privileges for personal gain, even if disputed, points to the prevalence of unethical behavior within the legislature. While this evidence may indirectly highlight the need for accountability, it does not specifically strengthen the argument for setting clear investigation guidelines. It suggests a problem but does not directly link the solution of clear guidelines to a reduction in corruption or the maintenance of democratic integrity. The connection between clear guidelines and the reduction of misuse of privileges is not explicitly made, making this a weaker option for strengthening the argument. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

87. **Answer:** A

Reference Lines: "The ruling calls for a multi-faceted approach to combat corruption, involving legal frameworks, judicial oversight, and a culture of integrity among legislators."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) Random annual audits of legislative members represent a proactive and practical approach to ensuring ethical compliance and the absence of corruption. This measure directly addresses the concerns raised by the Supreme Court's ruling, which seeks to combat corruption and maintain integrity within the legislative body. By implementing random audits, there is a mechanism for ongoing oversight and accountability, which can deter unethical behavior and identify instances of corruption. This approach aligns with the ruling's emphasis on legal frameworks, judicial oversight, and a culture of integrity, making it an effective method for upholding legislative integrity. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

b) Increasing lawmakers' immunity contradicts the Supreme Court's stance on limiting parliamentary privilege in cases of corruption. The ruling acknowledges the need for a balance between immunity and accountability, specifically addressing the issue of corruption and bribery. Enhancing immunity would likely hinder efforts to maintain legislative integrity and combat corruption, as it would reduce the scope for legal oversight and accountability. This option goes against the principles outlined in the ruling and the passage's advocacy for measures that ensure accountability and integrity. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) Establishing a public forum for discussing and voting on representatives' ethics introduces a novel approach to involving the public in legislative ethics. While engaging the public in discussions about ethics can raise awareness and potentially influence the legislative process, it does not directly provide a mechanism for legal oversight or accountability as emphasized in the Supreme Court's ruling. The effectiveness of such forums in combating corruption and maintaining legislative integrity is less direct and less certain compared to legal measures and judicial oversight. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Promoting legislator self-regulation through integrity workshops and ethical training focuses on education and awareness as means to ensure ethical behavior. While important, this approach relies heavily on individual lawmakers' willingness to adhere to ethical standards without the imposition of external legal constraints. The Supreme Court's ruling, however, underscores the importance of legal frameworks and oversight in combating corruption, suggesting that self-regulation alone is insufficient for maintaining legislative integrity. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

88. **Answer:** C

Reference Lines: "This ruling overturned a previous 1998 decision that allowed lawmakers immunity even in cases of bribery, emphasizing that such acts undermine the very foundation of parliamentary democracy in India."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) Anecdotal stories from lawmakers about restricted speech due to fear of legal repercussions could highlight concerns about the impact of legal constraints on freedom of expression within parliament. However, the passage focuses on the legal and judicial aspects of limiting parliamentary privilege, particularly in cases of corruption, rather than individual lawmakers' experiences. This option does not directly relate to the evidence cited in the passage, which revolves around judicial decisions and the implications for parliamentary immunity and integrity. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Statistical data linking increased lawmaker immunity to higher rates of public trust in the legislative process could suggest a positive correlation between immunity and public perception. Nonetheless, the passage addresses the need to limit immunity in the context of corruption and bribery, emphasizing that unchecked immunity can undermine public trust and democratic integrity. This option presents a perspective that contradicts the passage's focus and does not represent the evidence discussed, which pertains to the Supreme Court's efforts to clarify and impose limits on parliamentary privilege. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) The Supreme Court's revision of a 1998 ruling that clarified limits on parliamentary privilege in corruption cases is explicitly mentioned in the passage. This piece of evidence is central to the argument, illustrating the judicial system's role in redefining the boundaries of parliamentary immunity to address and mitigate corruption within the legislative process. The citation of this specific judicial action provides a clear example of the legal and institutional measures taken to uphold legislative integrity and accountability, directly supporting the passage's narrative. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

d) Comparative studies of legislative bodies worldwide that do not have similar immunity provisions for their members could offer insights into different approaches to legislative immunity and their impact on corruption and accountability. However, the passage focuses specifically on the Indian context, detailing the Supreme Court's actions within India's legal and parliamentary framework. This option introduces an external comparison that is not addressed in the passage, which centers on the specific legal adjustments made by the Indian Supreme Court to combat corruption. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

89. **Answer:** A

Reference Lines: "The Court provided a detailed explanation of what parliamentary privilege encompasses and its limitations, especially when dealing with corruption and bribery."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) The assertion that unconditional legislative immunity is essential for safeguarding the independence and effectiveness of parliamentary debates directly conflicts with the passage's and the Supreme Court's viewpoints. The ruling challenges the notion of unconditional immunity, especially in the context of corruption and bribery, advocating instead for a balanced approach where immunity does not extend to covering corrupt practices. This balance is deemed necessary to maintain the integrity of parliamentary processes and ensure accountability. The passage clearly supports the idea that limitations on immunity are essential for combating corruption and upholding democratic principles, making this option contrary to the author's likely perspective. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Suggesting that legal frameworks and judicial oversight play a major role in maintaining legislative integrity along with ethical self-regulation supports the core argument presented in the passage. The Supreme Court's ruling emphasizes the importance of legal measures and judicial oversight as essential tools for combating corruption and ensuring accountability within the legislative process. The passage argues that self-regulation, while important, is insufficient on its own to maintain integrity and public trust. Legal frameworks provide the necessary mechanisms for enforcement and accountability, which are critical for upholding democratic integrity. This option represents the passage's advocacy for a balanced approach that includes both legal oversight and ethical conduct. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) The negative impact of corruption and bribery on public trust and the effectiveness of democratic institutions is a central theme of the passage. The Supreme Court's ruling, as described in the passage, acknowledges these detrimental effects and seeks to address them through legal and institutional measures. The passage clearly aligns with the view that combating corruption is essential for maintaining the integrity of legislative processes and the overall health of democracy. Therefore, this option presents a statement that the author is likely to agree with, rather than disagree, making it an incorrect choice for identifying a point of contention. Hence, option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Downplaying the importance of a culture of integrity and accountability among lawmakers in favor of ensuring their freedom to debate and decide freely misinterprets the passage's emphasis. The passage, reflecting the Supreme Court's ruling, underscores the critical role of ethical standards and accountability in fostering public trust and maintaining the integrity of democratic processes. While freedom of debate is essential, it must not be used to justify or shield corrupt practices. The passage advocates for a legislative environment where ethical conduct is prioritized alongside the freedom of debate, suggesting that both are vital for a healthy democracy. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

90. **Answer:** C

Reference Lines: "By revising the 1998 ruling, the Court sends a strong message against the misuse of legislative immunity for corrupt practices, advocating for a legislative environment that respects the principles of accountability and integrity."

Difficulty Level: Easy

Explanation: a) Suggesting that the judiciary's role in defining the limits of parliamentary privilege is detrimental to the autonomy of the legislative process misrepresents the passage's perspective. The passage portrays the judiciary's intervention as a positive and necessary step towards ensuring accountability and combating corruption within the legislature. The Supreme Court's actions are depicted as enhancing the legislative process's integrity by clarifying and imposing limits on parliamentary privilege. This option misconstrues the judiciary's involvement as negative, contrary to the passage's depiction of judicial oversight as a mechanism for safeguarding democratic principles. Hence, option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Claiming that setting clear, stringent guidelines for investigating corruption among lawmakers is unnecessary for democratic integrity contradicts the passage's argument. The passage highlights the importance of clear guidelines and legal frameworks as essential tools for addressing corruption and maintaining legislative integrity. The Supreme Court's ruling is presented as a step towards establishing such guidelines, underscoring their significance in fostering accountability and upholding democratic values. This option overlooks the passage's emphasis on the necessity of investigation guidelines for combating corruption and enhancing legislative accountability. Hence, option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) The Supreme Court's recent ruling is depicted in the passage as a pivotal development in enhancing the accountability and integrity of lawmakers. This conclusion encapsulates the central theme of the passage, reflecting the court's effort to address corruption within the legislative body through legal and judicial measures. The ruling is presented as a significant step forward in the fight against corruption, aiming to ensure that lawmakers adhere to principles of integrity and accountability. By revising the limits on parliamentary privilege, the court seeks to strengthen the legislative process and safeguard democratic institutions, aligning with the passage's message. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

d) Advocating for more comprehensive immunity for legislative members contradicts the passage's and the Supreme Court's positions. The ruling and the passage advocate for limiting immunity, especially in cases of corruption, to enhance accountability and integrity within the legislative process. More comprehensive immunity would likely hinder efforts to combat corruption and uphold democratic principles, going against the passage's argument for a balanced approach to parliamentary privilege. This option misinterprets the passage's advocacy for accountability and the setting of limits on immunity, making it an incorrect conclusion. Hence, option (d) is not the correct answer.

91. **Answer:** A

Reference Line: "This holistic approach underscores the importance of integrating gender considerations into the green jobs sector, aiming for a socially equitable and inclusive future in the low-carbon economy."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) This option directly aligns with the passage's main message about the importance of incorporating gender perspectives into the green jobs sector to ensure an equitable and inclusive future. The reference line emphasizes the holistic approach required to integrate gender considerations, aiming for social equity and inclusivity in the low-carbon economy. Thus, this option accurately captures the essence of the passage and the author's primary intention. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

b) This option misleads by suggesting the passage focuses on financial literacy and traditional employment sectors, diverting from the main theme of gender considerations in the green jobs sector. While financial literacy is crucial for empowering women, the passage emphasizes the broader issue of gender equity in the context of green jobs, rather than solely in traditional sectors. Thus, the passage does not primarily concern financial literacy as a means of empowerment. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) This option inaccurately suggests the passage positions technological innovation as the sole or primary solution to workforce gender disparities. Although technological innovation might play a role in addressing gender disparities, the passage underlines a multifaceted approach, including but not limited to technology, to ensure gender equity in the green jobs sector. It emphasizes the need for integrating gender considerations more broadly, rather than relying solely on technological solutions. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) While evaluating the effectiveness of global policies is critical to bridging the employment gender gap, this option misrepresents the passage by indicating it serves as the main theme. The passage focuses more on the need for integrating gender considerations into the green jobs sector rather than conducting a direct evaluation of global policies' effectiveness. The argument is built around a proactive approach to inclusivity, rather than a retrospective assessment of policies. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

92. **Answer:** B

Reference Line: "The underrepresentation of women in green jobs may hinder the overall success and inclusiveness of the green transition."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) The indication that empowered women in green jobs likely ascend to leadership roles suggests positive outcomes from current initiatives. However, this does not directly challenge the assumption that such initiatives will automatically ensure gender equity. Leadership ascension could occur in contexts where gender equity is still not fully realized, addressing only a facet of the broader issue. Thus, while positive, it does not directly weaken the claim that integration initiatives alone guarantee equity. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This option directly addresses the crux of the argument by highlighting that, despite supportive initiatives for integrating women into green jobs, persistent low participation rates signal deeper societal barriers. These ingrained norms challenge the notion that mere integration initiatives can automatically translate into gender equity. By pointing out that societal norms act as a significant obstacle, this option underscores the complexity of achieving gender equity beyond simple participation boosts. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) Highlighting an increase in STEM scholarships for women without a direct guarantee of green job roles points to a disconnect between educational opportunities and actual job market integration. However, this option does not directly challenge the argument about automatic gender equity through integration initiatives. It raises concerns about the effectiveness of educational support in ensuring green job roles but doesn't directly address the broader concept of gender equity in the green economy. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) This option discusses the effectiveness of policies in traditional energy sectors without directly addressing their impact on the green sector. While it suggests that success in traditional sectors may not directly predict outcomes in green jobs, it does not directly weaken the argument that integrating women into green jobs will ensure gender equity. The argument about automatic gender equity in the green

economy is broader than the effectiveness of policies across different sectors. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

93. **Answer:** B

Explanation: a) The Gender Gap in Jobs: Challenges and Solutions. While this title seems plausible but it talks about jobs in general and not the 'green' jobs.

b) Empowering Women in the Transition to Green Economy. This title effectively captures the focus of the passage on addressing gender disparity in green jobs and emphasizes the empowerment of women as a key strategy for achieving sustainability and social equity.

c) Achieving Gender Equity in sustainable Development. This title describes the development discussed in the passage, but it doesn't specifically highlight the transition to green jobs or the empowerment aspect emphasized in the passage.

d) Bridging the Divide: Women's Role in Sustainable Employment. This title hints at the theme of gender disparity and women's participation in sustainable employment, but it doesn't explicitly mention the transition to green economy or the empowerment strategies discussed in the passage.

94. **Answer:** A

Reference Line: "Empowering women in green jobs requires a multi-faceted approach, from early education in STEM fields to financial and policy support for women entrepreneurs venturing into the green economy."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: Option a) captures the paradox of the green economy promoting inclusivity and sustainability while failing to address gender disparities within its own sectors, which contradicts its foundational principles.

Option b) introduces a different issue related to environmental sustainability, not directly linked to the gender disparities discussed in the passage.

Option c) presents a scenario that could be seen as paradoxical but does not directly relate to the core argument of the passage about the green economy.

Option d) implies a comparison between sectors without providing evidence from the passage to support that green job policies are less effective, thus not forming a true paradox based on the given text.

95. **Answer:** C

Reference Line: "Empowering women in green jobs requires a multi-faceted approach, from early education in STEM fields to financial and policy support for women entrepreneurs venturing into the green economy."

Difficulty Level: Easy

Explanation: a) This option oversimplifies the passage's argument by suggesting that increasing women's participation in STEM education alone can achieve gender equity in green jobs. The passage advocates for a multifaceted approach that includes, but is not limited to, STEM education. It acknowledges the importance of addressing societal norms, structural barriers, and providing financial and policy support alongside educational initiatives. Therefore, this option misses the complexity of the issue as presented by the author. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This option contradicts the passage, which clearly states that societal norms and perceptions significantly hinder women's participation in the green economy. The passage emphasizes the need to tackle these societal and structural barriers as part of the strategy to empower women in green jobs. Ignoring the impact of societal norms overlooks a crucial aspect of the challenge faced in achieving gender equity in the green economy. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) This option accurately reflects the passage's argument that a comprehensive strategy to overcome gender disparities in green jobs involves addressing societal norms and structural barriers. The passage outlines the need for a multi-faceted approach, which includes but is not limited to education, financial support, and policy changes, to truly empower women in the green economy. This understanding is

fundamental to the passage's argument about the complexity of achieving gender equity in green jobs. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

d) By negating the significance of financial support and policy changes, this option misrepresents the passage's stance. The passage highlights these factors as crucial elements of the multifaceted approach needed to empower women in the green economy. Financial support and policy initiatives are portrayed as essential components of a broader strategy to address gender disparities, alongside educational and societal changes. Therefore, this option inaccurately simplifies the passage's argument. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

96. **Answer: B**

Reference Line: "Furthermore, developing gender-focused financial policies and supporting networks could enable women entrepreneurs to thrive in the green transition market."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) The emphasis on understanding and enhancing women's participation in green jobs, as suggested by the passage, implies that current data on women's role in these sectors might be insufficient. The call for a deeper analysis and increased participation points to a recognition of data gaps or a lack of comprehensive understanding, making this an inferable conclusion based on the passage's discussion. This observation aligns with the passage's broader call for a multi-dimensional approach to gender equity in the green economy. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This option contradicts the passage's broader argument by suggesting that financial policies alone are sufficient to ensure gender equity in the green economy. The passage advocates for a multifaceted approach, highlighting the need for societal change, educational initiatives, and the dismantling of stereotypes, alongside developing gender-focused financial policies. Suggesting that financial policies alone could ensure gender equity oversimplifies the complex array of strategies the passage argues is necessary. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) The passage's advocacy for initiatives that enhance women's roles in engineering and manufacturing sectors of the green economy implies a critical view of such initiatives. By promoting practical involvement, mentorship, and targeted education, the passage suggests these areas as key to integrating women more fully into the green economy. This underscores the passage's broader theme of seeking equitable opportunities for women in all facets of the green sector, making this inference align with the passage's argument. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) The passage's emphasis on addressing stereotypes and biases as part of achieving gender equity in the green economy makes this option a logical inference. It aligns with the passage's argument that a holistic approach to gender equity must include tackling societal perceptions and structural barriers that limit opportunities for women. The importance of confronting and dismantling these stereotypes is portrayed as crucial for creating a truly equitable green economy, thus making this inference consistent with the passage's discussion. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

97. **Answer: C**

Reference Lines: "No representative from the government approached the community members for consultation or hearing before proposing these lands under the said category."

Difficulty Level: Easy

Explanation: a) This option suggests that reclassifying orans as deemed forests will preserve them for future generations without any negative impacts. However, the passage does not provide evidence to support this claim, especially in terms of avoiding socio-economic drawbacks. It's overly optimistic and ignores the nuanced challenges that such a classification could pose, particularly for the local communities who depend on these lands for their livelihoods and cultural practices. Thus, this statement does not necessarily follow from the passage. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This option posits that local communities will adjust without any issues to the reclassification of orans. It contradicts the concerns expressed in the passage about the potential loss of access to resources and the impact on traditional practices. The passage explicitly mentions the absence of consultation with the communities, indicating potential disruption rather than seamless adaptation. This option's assumption of

seamless adaptation is not supported by the passage, making it incorrect. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) This choice is directly supported by the passage, which mentions that the government did not consult with community members before proposing this classification. This lack of consultation and communication has understandably led to uncertainty and concern among local communities about their future access to forest produce, cultural practices, and livelihoods. The passage makes it clear that this notification has introduced significant apprehension among affected communities, making this statement necessarily true. Hence, Option (c) is the correct answer.

d) This option makes a broad claim about the historical outcomes of deemed forests that is not addressed in the passage. While the passage discusses the impact of the notification on local communities, it does not provide historical data or evidence to support the claim that deemed forests always lead to enhanced economic opportunities. Without specific evidence from the passage, this statement is speculative and does not necessarily follow from the provided information. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

98. **Answer:** D

Reference Lines: "However, the move does not restrict any person or community from accessing the forest for grazing or worshipping."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) This option suggests that the passage fails to consider socio-economic impacts, focusing solely on environmental conservation. However, the passage explicitly raises concerns about the socio-economic effects on local communities, such as potential restrictions on access to forest produce and cultural practices. The critique that the passage overlooks socio-economic impacts is unfounded because the passage does acknowledge these impacts. Therefore, this does not point out a flaw in the reasoning. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This option claims that the passage assumes sustainable local use of orans without considering negative conservation effects. However, the primary concern highlighted in the passage is not the sustainability of local use but the lack of consultation and potential loss of access for local communities. The passage does not delve into the sustainability of these practices or their impact on conservation, making this critique somewhat misaligned with the passage's focus. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) By suggesting that the passage views all government actions negatively, this option misrepresents the passage's nuanced critique. The passage does not blanketly condemn government actions; instead, it raises specific concerns about the lack of consultation and communication with local communities regarding the deemed forest notification. This option oversimplifies the passage's critique, which is more focused on process and impact rather than a general negativity toward government actions. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) This option correctly identifies a flaw in the reasoning. The passage suggests that declaring orans as deemed forests would limit local communities' access to these lands. However, it overlooks legal provisions that might allow for community use despite the deemed forest status. If such provisions exist and are not considered, the argument against the classification based on restricted access is weakened. This oversight is a critical flaw in the reasoning, making this statement the correct answer. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

99. **Answer:** B

Reference Lines: "The proposal to classify orans as deemed forests has caused concern among communities in Rajasthan for fear of losing access to forest produce and livelihoods."

Difficulty Level: Easy

Explanation: a) While the passage might touch upon legal aspects related to conservation, its primary focus is not the Supreme Court's directives or the broader legal landscape of environmental law. The passage centers more on the immediate and practical implications of the deemed forests classification, specifically on local communities. The legal aspects serve as a backdrop to these socio-economic concerns rather than being the focal point. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This option captures the essence of the passage accurately. The primary concern expressed in the passage revolves around the socio-economic challenges faced by local communities due to the proposed reclassification of orans as deemed forests. It highlights the fears and uncertainties about access to resources, cultural practices, and livelihoods, making it the most comprehensive summary of the passage's content. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) The passage does discuss governmental conservation strategies to some extent, but its focus is far more localized and specific than a broad overview of India's conservation efforts. It does not provide a comprehensive guide to conservation strategies across the country but rather zeroes in on the implications of one particular strategy on local communities in Rajasthan. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) While government notifications and policy implementation in environmental conservation are relevant to the passage's discussion, they are not its central theme. The passage is more concerned with the effects of these policies, particularly the socio-economic impacts on local communities, rather than the procedural aspects of notifications and policy implementation. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

100. **Answer:** B

Reference Lines: "The government's efforts to conserve land might inadvertently harm communities that have historically depended on these lands."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) Economic diversification is a potential mitigation strategy for the economic impacts of environmental policies. However, this option does not directly address the central concern of the passage about access to forest produce and the cultural significance of orans. While diversification could help, it does not directly challenge the claim that the deemed forest classification will harm livelihoods by restricting access to these critical resources. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This option directly challenges the main concern expressed in the passage—that the deemed forest classification could restrict local communities' access to orans, adversely affecting their livelihoods. If deemed forests can indeed be managed in a way that conserves the environment while not impeding community access, this would significantly weaken the argument that the classification is detrimental to local livelihoods. By maintaining access, the primary basis for the argument against deemed forest status is undermined. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) While attracting tourism through increased biodiversity could have economic benefits for local communities, this option does not address the core issue of access restriction and its impact on livelihoods. Tourism might provide an alternative source of income, but it doesn't negate the potential harm caused by losing access to traditional resources and practices linked to orans. The passage's concern is more immediate and directly tied to access rather than potential future economic opportunities. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Consideration of community input during the notification process might suggest a more inclusive approach, but it doesn't directly weaken the argument about the classification's potential harm. Even with community input, the central issue remains whether the deemed forest status will result in restrictions that adversely affect livelihoods. This option might imply procedural fairness but doesn't address the substantive concern about access and its implications for local communities. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

101. **Answer:** B

Reference Lines: "Moreover, the government has not issued clarity in terms of guidelines or rules after these orans were marked in the deemed forest category."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) Proceeding with the classification without addressing the concerns disregards the crucial aspect of community engagement and the principle of informed and inclusive decision-making. This approach could exacerbate tensions and deepen the mistrust between the government and local communities, ignoring the passage's emphasis on the need for consultation and clarity. Such an action would likely ignore the socio-economic impacts highlighted in the passage, making this approach inappropriate. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) Suspending the reclassification process to conduct comprehensive consultations addresses the core issues highlighted in the passage: the absence of prior consultation and the resulting uncertainty and concern among local communities. This option reflects an understanding of the importance of engaging with and listening to the communities directly affected by the deemed forest classification. It aligns with the passage's critique and offers a path toward a more inclusive and informed decision-making process, making it the most appropriate course of action. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) Focusing solely on legal definitions and precedents ignores the broader socio-economic and cultural implications of the deemed forest classification on local communities. This approach might clarify legal standings but does not address the concerns about access, livelihoods, and cultural practices raised in the passage. It represents a narrow view that overlooks the complexity of the situation and the need for a holistic approach that considers the practical impacts on affected communities. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Implementing the classification immediately prioritizes environmental degradation concerns over the socio-economic well-being of local communities. While environmental conservation is crucial, this approach fails to balance it with the equally important need to ensure that conservation efforts do not harm those who have historically depended on these lands. The passage calls for a more balanced and inclusive approach that considers the needs and rights of local communities, making this option unsuitable. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

102. **Answer:** B

Reference Lines: "These concerns are legitimate as even the places of worship, last rites and religious events take place inside the oran and are related to the trees, water bodies and other entities of the sacred groves."

Difficulty Level: Easy

Explanation: a) While the legal aspects of conservation in Rajasthan are mentioned, they do not constitute the main focus of the passage. The passage is more concerned with the practical and immediate impacts of the deemed forest classification on local communities, rather than delving deeply into legalities. This option, therefore, misses the primary emphasis of the passage on socio-economic challenges, making it an unsuitable title. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This title accurately reflects the passage's focus on the socio-economic impacts of the deemed forests classification on communities in Rajasthan. It encapsulates the main concerns about access to resources, cultural practices, and livelihoods, directly addressing the passage's core content. The title succinctly communicates the central theme of the passage, making it the most appropriate and encompassing choice. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) The title suggests a broad overview of conservation efforts across India, which is not the focus of the passage. The passage specifically addresses the impact of one conservation strategy—deeming orans as forests—on local communities in Rajasthan. This title broadens the scope too much, moving away from the passage's specific focus on the socio-economic challenges faced by these communities. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) This title reduces the passage's content to procedural aspects of notifications and policy implementation in environmental conservation. While these elements are relevant, the passage's primary concern is the socio-economic impact on communities, which this title does not capture. It overlooks the main issues raised in the passage regarding the effects of government notifications on local livelihoods and cultural practices. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

103. **Answer:** A

Reference Lines: "Human pressures, such as dam construction, large-scale irrigation and global warming, have altered freshwater resources..."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) The argument effectively leverages a combination of empirical data, scientific research, and historical instances to demonstrate how human activities, such as dam construction and large-scale agriculture, have significantly influenced freshwater resources. This option is correct because it

acknowledges the passage's use of solid evidence to underline the human role in altering freshwater ecosystems, thereby making a strong case for the urgency of addressing these impacts. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

b) While it's important to consider natural variations in any environmental study, the focus of the passage is on human-induced changes. This option incorrectly suggests that the argument's validity is diminished by not covering natural variations, which is outside the passage's scope aiming at human impacts. The passage likely assumes that natural variations are constant or less significant compared to human actions, which are the primary focus. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) The mention of technology as a potential mitigator is indeed a relevant aspect of environmental management. However, the passage concentrates on outlining the direct impacts humans have on freshwater resources rather than solutions. This option diverts from the core argument by assuming the passage needed to discuss technological mitigation to be effective, ignoring its purpose to highlight human impacts. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Socio-economic factors undoubtedly play a role in environmental issues. Yet, the passage's effectiveness lies in its focus on concrete examples of human impacts on freshwater systems, rather than the underlying socio-economic drivers. This option misinterprets the argument's scope, which aims to establish a direct link between human activities and their effects on freshwater resources, not delve into socio-economic analysis. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

104. **Answer: B**

Reference Lines: "Understanding these dynamics in greater detail could help guide policies to mitigate the resulting harm -- but our immediate priority should be to decrease human-driven pressures on freshwater systems..."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) This option misinterprets the passage's priorities by suggesting that technological innovation takes precedence over reducing human pressures. The passage emphasizes the urgency of addressing human impacts directly, rather than relying on new technologies as the primary solution. It suggests a proactive approach to mitigating human pressures is crucial, regardless of technological advancements. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) The urgency of taking action to alleviate human pressures on freshwater systems is a central theme of the passage. It argues that waiting for a full understanding could exacerbate the problem, indicating a clear preference for preemptive measures. This approach aligns with the broader environmental principle that precautionary actions are often necessary in the face of uncertainty to prevent irreversible damage. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) Although international policy reform and a focus on climate change are important, the passage suggests that these are part of a broader set of actions needed to address freshwater degradation. By focusing solely on policy reform related to climate change, this option narrows the scope of necessary actions, overlooking the passage's emphasis on reducing human pressures as a multifaceted issue requiring a comprehensive approach. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) Suggesting that understanding must precede action is contrary to the passage's argument that immediate measures to reduce human impact are critical. While understanding is valuable, the passage posits that action should not be delayed until after a complete understanding is achieved due to the urgent nature of the threats to freshwater resources. This option underestimates the passage's emphasis on the immediacy of addressing human pressures. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

105. **Answer: D**

Reference Lines: "Human pressures have altered freshwater resources to such an extent that their capacity to regulate vital ecological and climatic processes is at risk."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) The issue of enrollment not increasing in schools is not analogous to human impacts on the environment. This option lacks the direct connection to broader issue and the specific threats posed, such as those to freshwater regulation and climate. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) While the decline in bee populations due to pesticides and habitat loss is an environmental concern, it shifts focus from the passage's emphasis on the direct and broad-scale impacts of human activities on freshwater systems. This option introduces a different environmental problem without the same scale of implication for ecological and climatic processes as the passage describes for freshwater resources. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) Agricultural technology advancements represent positive human contributions to environmental management but diverge from the passage's focus on the negative impacts of human activities on freshwater resources. This scenario does not parallel the passage's discussion on detrimental changes caused by human pressures but instead showcases an example of human innovation leading to beneficial outcomes. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) The scenario of ocean acidification due to increased carbon emissions directly mirrors the passage's discussion on human impacts on freshwater resources. It illustrates how human actions can degrade natural systems, in this case, oceans, similar to freshwater systems, despite efforts at conservation. This scenario encapsulates the passage's concerns about the broad ecological and climatic repercussions of human activities, making it the closest parallel. Hence, Option (d) is the correct answer.

106. **Answer:** A

Reference Lines: "The researchers determined the conditions during the pre-industrial period (1661-1860)."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) Presenting evidence of natural variations in freshwater systems prior to significant human intervention challenges the argument that human actions are the primary cause of current changes. This option suggests that natural fluctuations have always been part of freshwater dynamics, potentially weakening the emphasis on human impacts as the sole or primary cause. It introduces the possibility that what we observe could be part of a natural cycle rather than entirely human-induced. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

b) While technological innovations may mitigate the impact of human activities on freshwater resources, this does not directly weaken the argument that human pressures have been the primary cause of changes. It rather suggests a response to the problem rather than questioning the origin of the problem itself. This option fails to address the premise that human actions initiated the changes in the first place. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) Proposing volcanic activities as the main culprit for recent changes in freshwater resources introduces an alternative explanation but does not directly weaken the argument regarding human-driven pressures. This option shifts the focus to a specific natural cause without disproving the significant evidence of human impacts. While it suggests an alternative cause, it doesn't negate the multitude of human activities affecting freshwater systems. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) The improvement of freshwater conditions due to conservation efforts does not necessarily weaken the argument that human pressures are the primary cause of earlier changes. This option indicates successful mitigation efforts but does not dispute the initial impact of human activities on freshwater resources. It underscores a response to the problem rather than refuting the problem's human-induced origins. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

107. **Answer:** A

Reference Lines: "The analysis showed an increase in the frequency of exceptionally dry or wet conditions -- deviations in streamflow and soil moisture."

Difficulty Level: Easy

Explanation: a) The first part of the statement provides a summary of the research findings, indicating a significant shift in weather patterns marked by increased extremes. The second part clarifies these findings by specifying the nature of the changes observed, namely deviations in streamflow and soil moisture. This option correctly identifies the structure and purpose of the statement: the initial announcement of a general outcome followed by a specification of what that outcome entails. Hence, Option (a) is the correct answer.

b) There is no solution proposed in the second part of the statement to mitigate the conditions described. The statement solely focuses on outlining the results of the analysis and the specific changes observed, without addressing potential responses or solutions to these changes. This option incorrectly interprets the purpose of the second part, attributing a solution-oriented role that is not present. Hence, Option (b) is not the correct answer.

c) The statement does not introduce a new topic nor does it contradict earlier findings. Instead, it builds upon the ongoing discussion of human impacts on the environment by detailing the results of a specific analysis. This option mischaracterizes the role of both parts of the statement, suggesting a dynamic that is not supported by the text. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) While the statement does detail the changes observed, it does not discuss the geographical distribution of these changes. The focus is on the type of deviations (in streamflow and soil moisture) rather than where they occur. This option misinterprets the specificity provided in the second part, assuming it covers geographical aspects when it actually concentrates on the nature of the changes. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

108. **Answer:** B

Reference Lines: "The capacity of freshwater resources to regulate vital ecological and climatic processes is at risk."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation: a) Claiming damage is irreversible and mitigation efforts are futile directly contradicts the passage's call for action. The passage suggests that despite the significant impacts, there is still an opportunity for recovery and improvement, which requires immediate intervention. This option takes a defeatist view that is not supported by the passage's more hopeful outlook on the potential for mitigative actions. Hence, Option (a) is not the correct answer.

b) This option aligns with the passage's underlying message of hope and urgency. It suggests that despite the extensive damage inflicted on freshwater resources, there's still a window of opportunity for recovery, but this requires quick and decisive actions. The passage underscores the importance of immediate efforts to mitigate human impacts, reflecting a belief in the resilience of freshwater systems and the effectiveness of prompt conservation measures. Hence, Option (b) is the correct answer.

c) Suggesting that technological advancements alone will solve the problem overlooks the passage's emphasis on the need for immediate action across various fronts, including conservation and reducing human pressures. While technology may play a role in mitigating environmental impacts, the passage argues for a broader, more immediate approach to addressing the current state of freshwater resources. Hence, Option (c) is not the correct answer.

d) This option misrepresents the passage's focus by attributing changes primarily to natural climatic variations, thereby minimizing the role of human impact. The passage specifically highlights human-driven pressures as the main cause of the degradation of freshwater systems, making the call for immediate action rooted in the need to address these human impacts rather than natural variations. Hence, Option (d) is not the correct answer.

Quantitative Techniques

109. **Answer:** D

Explanation: Required number of balls = 60
Hence, option D.

Common Explanation (Q109 to Q114):

According to the given information -

Yellow balls in box A = 50

Yellow balls in box B = $50 \times \frac{90}{100} = 45$ balls

Yellow balls in box C = $50 \times \frac{104}{100} = 52$

Yellow balls in box E = $7^2 = 49$

Yellow balls in box D = $49+5 = 54$

Average number of balls in box A = $50 \times \frac{80}{100} = 40$

Therefore total balls in box A = $40 \times 3 = 120$

Average number of balls in box C = $6+49 = 55$

Therefore total balls in box C = $55 \times 3 = 165$

Average of balls in box D and box E

$D+E = 110$ (1)

$E-O = 10$ (2)

Solving equation 1 and 2, we will get

$E = 60, O = 50$

Therefore total balls in box E = $60 \times 3 = 180$

And in box D = $50 \times 3 = 150$

Number of Green balls in box A = $50 - 20 = 30$

Number of Green balls in box B = $30+15 = 45$

Number of Green balls in box C = $30 + \left(30 \times \frac{10}{100}\right) = 33$ balls

Number of Green balls in box D = $\frac{24}{100} \times 150 = 36$ balls

Number of Green balls in box E = $\frac{35}{100} \times 180 = 63$ balls

Average number of balls in box B = $5+45 = 50$ balls

Boxes	Total number of Balls	Yellow Balls	Green Balls	Red Balls
A	$40 \times 3 = 120$	50	30	40
B	$50 \times 3 = 150$	45	45	60
C	$55 \times 3 = 165$	52	33	80
D	$50 \times 3 = 150$	54	36	60
E	$60 \times 3 = 180$	49	63	68

110. **Answer:** A

Explanation: Required average = $(33+63)/2 = 96/2 = 48$
Hence, option A.

111. **Answer:** A

Explanation: Difference = $150 - 120 = 30$
Required percentage = $30/150 \times 100 = 20\%$
Hence, option A.

112. **Answer:** D

Explanation: Required difference = $(33 + 80) - (36 + 60)$
 $= 113 - 96 = 17$
Hence, option D.

113. **Answer:** D

Explanation: The total number of balls in box F = $120 \times 130\% = 156$
 Required difference = $156/6 \times 1 = 26$
 Hence, option D.

114. **Answer:** A

Explanation: Red balls in box C = 80
 According to ques half = $80/2 = 40$ balls
 Green balls in box E = 63
 Its $2/3$ will be = $63 \times (1/3) = 21$ balls
 Ratio will be = 40:21

115. **Answer:** D

Explanation: Desired Percentage = $[(576 - 512)/512] \times 100 = 12.5\%$
 Hence, option D.

Common Explanation (Q115 to Q120):

Number of wildlife fire cases in California due to lightning = $675/1.125 = 600$
 Number of wildlife fire cases in California due to electric spark = $0.77 \times 600 = 462$
 Total number of wildlife fire cases in California = $600 + 462 = 1062$
 Total number of wildlife fire cases in Los Angeles = $1062 \times 8/9 = 944$
 Number of wildlife fire cases in Los Angeles due to electric spark = $(944 - 80)/2 = 432$
 Number of wildlife fire cases in Los Angeles due to lightning = $944 - 432 = 512$
 Number of wildlife fire cases due to electric spark in Las Vegas = $432 \times 35/24 = 630$
 Total number of wildlife fire cases in Las Vegas = $675 + 630 = 1305$
 Total number of wildlife fire cases in Melbourne = $0.80 \times 1305 = 1044$
 Number of wildlife fire cases due to lightning in Melbourne = $544 \times 2 - 512 = 576$
 Number of wildlife fire cases in Melbourne due to electric spark = $1044 - 576 = 468$

Regions	Number of wildlife fire cases due to lightning	Number of wildlife fire cases due to electric spark	Total number of wildlife fire cases
Los Angeles	512	432	944
Melbourne	576	468	1044
Las Vegas	675	630	1305
California	600	462	1062

116. **Answer:** D

Explanation: Number of wildlife fire cases in Melbourne due to electric spark = 468
 Hence, option D.

117. **Answer:** C

Explanation: Desired difference for:
 Los Angeles = $512 - 432 = 80$
 Melbourne = $576 - 468 = 108$
 Las Vegas = $675 - 630 = 45$
 California = $600 - 462 = 138$
 Hence, option C.

118. **Answer:** A

Explanation: Total number of wildlife fire cases in Las Vegas = 1305
 Hence, option A.

119. Answer: D

Explanation: Desired ratio = 630:462 = 15:11
Hence, option D.

120. Answer: B

Explanation: Wildlife fire cases in Los-Angeles due to lightning = 512
Wildlife fire cases in Melbourne due to electric spark = 468
Average = $(512 + 468)/2 = 980/2 = 490$