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Section A-English

1. Ans. c

Sol. Option (c) is correct. The author mentions and elaborates different views on morality but about his perspective he states, 'I believe that there are truths about what's morally right and wrong. I believe that some of these truths are objective or, as they say in the literature, 'stance-independent'.' Then he later continues, 'I believe that these objective moral truths are knowable, and that some people are better than others are at coming to know them.' Hence (c).

2. Ans. c

Sol. Option (c) is correct. Although there are some similarities between utilitarianism and foundation, the author mentions that utilitarianism is not foundation. Reason being, utilitarianism is a moral theory. But a foundation is not a moral theory. It's the kind of thing that's supposed to ground, or support, or justify, moral theories, and moral claims generally, without itself being a claim within the domain of morality. Hence (c).

3. Ans. a

Sol. Option (a) is correct. The passage explains meta-ethics in the beginning of the passage and it matches the explanation of the utilitarianism, which is, 'actions are right to the extent, and only to the extent, that they promote overall wellbeing'. This is very similar to that of the meta-ethics. Hence (a).

4. Ans. b

Sol. Option (b) is correct. The passage states that, 'Morality is objective, but it neither requires nor admits of a foundation. It just kind of floats there, along with the evaluative realm more generally, unsupported by anything else. Parts of it can be explained by other parts, but the entirety of the web or network of good and evil is brute.' This supports the idea that the entirety of morality cannot be explained. Hence (b).

5. Ans. d

Sol. Option (d) is correct. The passage mentions options (a), (b) and (c) as a reference of utilitarianism but option (d) refers to the explanation of foundation stating that a foundation is not a moral theory. As the passage states, It's the kind of thing that's supposed to ground, or support, or justify, moral theories, and moral claims generally, without itself being a claim within the domain of morality. Hence (d).

6. Ans. b

Sol. Option (b) is correct. The concluding lines of the passage clears the difference between utilitarianism and foundation stating 'utilitarianism is not what I have in mind by a 'foundation'. This is not because utilitarianism is incorrect; it is because utilitarianism is a moral theory. But a foundation is not a moral theory. It's the kind of thing that's supposed to ground, or support, or justify, moral theories, and moral claims generally, without itself being a claim within the domain of morality.' The passage mainly differs in the domain of morality. Hence (b).

7. Ans. b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. In the passage, it is mentioned that Padre Bartolomeu Lourenco instructs Baltasar to hold the rope with which they will close the sails of the flying machine. This indicates that Baltasar is actively involved in the operation of flying machine. Hence (b).

8. Ans. b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage indicates that, after the flying machine makes two complete turns and soars into the sky, Baltasar bursts into tears and embraces Blimunda in a moment of joy. This emotional response suggests that Baltasar was excited and joyful about the flying experience. Hence (b).

9. Ans. b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. In the passage, the term "monstrance" is used to characterize the appearance of the sun. A 'monstrance' is a sacred vessel typically used in Christian religious traditions. By using the term to describe the Sun, the author adds symbolic imagery to convey the sun's brilliance in a way that resonates with the religious context of the character and the setting. Hence (b).

10. Ans. b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The simile raised its head like a seagull” suggests that the machine, upon ascending into the sky, exhibited a movement or posture reminiscent of a seagull. Seagulls are known for their graceful and soaring flight, and the simile implies that the machine similarly exhibited a smooth and elegant ascent. Thus option (b) captures the intended meaning. Hence (b).

11. Ans. d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The primary focus of the passage is on the character’s experience with a flying machine. The passage describes the characters preparing to leave using a time machine. While there are instances and emotional responses from the characters, the central theme revolves around the unique experience of flying and the events associated with the flying machine. Therefore option (d) accurately summarizes the main focus of the passage. Hence (d).

12. Ans. d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The writing style of the passage can be described as dramatic and vivid due to its use of expressive language, imagery and intense emotions. The use of phrases like “shaken by those rapid spins” and “soared like an arrow straight up into the sky” contributes to the dramatic nature of writing. Option (a) is ruled out as there is no feeling of gloom in the passage. Option (b) is ruled out because of the word ‘rhetoric’, that means either persuasive, repetitive or impressive. That is not the case with the passage. The passage can be flowery though, as it uses decorative language and figures of speech. Option (c) is incorrect as it is not objective and informative. Hence (d).

13. Ans. a

Sol. Option (a) is correct. The passage states “Richer countries can simply buy up excess credits from poorer countries and continue to pollute. Rather than try to get the better of developing countries, who undoubtedly have taken up environmental shortcuts in their bid to catch up with the West, the U.S. should take a look at the environmental profligacy, which is going on within. From opening up virgin territories for oil exploration to relaxing the standards for drinking water, Mr. Bush’s policies are not exactly beneficial, not even to America’s interests.” Here the context is negative and the only negative option is option (a). Hence (a).

14. Ans. c

Sol. Option (c) is correct. The author states in the passage that “however, while there is no denying that, south Asia must clean up its act, skeptics might question the timing of the haze report. The Johannesburg meet on Rio+10 is just two weeks away and the stage is, set for the usual battle between the developing world and the west, particularly the U.S. President Mr. Bush has adamantly refused to sign any protocol, which would mean a change in American consumption level. U.N. Environment report will likely to find a place in the U.S. Arsenal as it plants an accusing finger towards controls like India and china.” It refers to option (c). Options (a) and (b) are out of scope. Hence (c).

15. Ans. d

Sol. Option (d) is correct. The passage states in the beginning of the passage “radically changing monsoon patterns. Reduction in the winter rice harvest and a quantum increase in respiratory diseases all part of the environmental doomsday scenario which is reportedly playing out in South Asia.” Hence (d).

16. Ans. c

Sol. Option (c) is correct. The passage explicitly mentions, “We realize that are all in this together and that pollution anywhere should be a global concern otherwise only be more tunnels at the end of the tunnel.” Hence (c).

17. Ans. c

Sol. Option (c) is correct. Since, the author of the passage is talking about an issue of pollution that is there for all countries; to prove his point he has taken the observations and facts into account and then at the end to sum up on the basis on his observations and facts that we all should come together to pollution because it is a global concern. Option (a) is not the case here, because the author added his opinions too. Option (b) sounds good but fails. In descriptive opinions of others can be taken or considered but not the opinion of the author. Option (c) addresses

the attitude of the author. He presented observations and facts; and then finally presenting his opinion on this. Hence (c).

18. Ans. d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The passage states 'Both official and corporate India has always been allergic to any mention, of clean technology. Most mechanical two wheelers roll off the assembly line without proper pollution control system.' Therefore, options (a) and (b) are incorrect. Later in the conclusion, the passage also states 'Rather than try to get the better of developing countries, who undoubtedly have taken up environmental shortcuts in their bid to catch up with the West, the U.S. should take a look at the environmental profligacy, which is going on within.' Which proves that developing countries are taking shortcuts to catch up to the West. Option (d) is not the reason but a solution mentioned in the passage. Hence (d).

19. Ans. c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage mentions in the beginning that the older Sumerian temple was found buried "on the exact same spot" as the newer Hellenistic temple, and the archaeologists believe this deliberate construction on the same site indicates the historical significance of the location. Hence (c).

20. Ans. d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The passage mentions that the inscription found in the Hellenistic temple refers to "the giver of the two brothers," and the archaeologists interpret it as a ceremonial title with symbolic connotations related to Zeus, Alexander the Great, and the Greek god Hercules. Option (d) accurately reflects the inference drawn from the passage. Hence (d).

21. Ans. a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. The passage mentions the discovery of a silver drachm beneath an altar on shrine, suggesting that it was found at a deliberate location associated with religious practices. Option (a) reflects this idea. Hence (a).

22. Ans. a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. The passage suggests that the inscription mentions a fraternal bond between Alexander and Hercules, indicating a father-son-relationship between Alexander the Great and Zeus, who acknowledged Alexander as his son. The term, "filial" refers to the relationship between parent and their offspring. Whereas the term 'ambiguous' refers to not having one obvious meaning. The word 'amicable' means being friendly and congenial. The word 'precarious' refers to something that is dangerously uncertain. Hence (a).

23. Ans. c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The concluding lines suggest that these figurines symbolize a cult of warlike heroism. This is based on the association of some figurines with Macedonian riders, potentially linked to Alexander the Great, and the overall context of offering such items at the temple. Hence (c).

24. Ans. a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. The information given in the passage is the description of the archaeology and history which may have links with Alexander the great. Option (b) is incorrect as the passage is not mentioning events in a sequential manner. Option (c) is incorrect as it is mentioned that there may have been links to the history of Alexander, but nothing is given that is metaphysical. Option (d) is incorrect as the passage is not understanding or discussing an issue. Hence (a).

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

Exp. As of the present constitutional framework, the Right to Property is primarily governed by Article 300-A of the Constitution of India. Article 300-A states that no person shall be deprived of his or her property save by authority of law.

26. Ans. c

Exp. The 44th Constitutional amendment act 1978 deleted the right to property from the list of Fundamental Rights. Right to Property is no more a fundamental right, only a legal right.

27. Ans. a

Exp. Not a Fundamental Right: The Right to Property is no longer a fundamental right, which means it cannot be directly enforced through the Supreme Court or High Court under Article 32 or Article 226. However, it remains a constitutional right.

28. Ans. d

Exp. Initially, the Right to Property was a fundamental right under Article 19(1)(f) and Article 31. The 1st Amendment (1951) allowed property rights restrictions for public interest, addressing social inequalities and agrarian reform. Today, it's a constitutional right but not enforceable through Article 32 or Article 226.

29. Ans. d

Exp. Right to Property is made a legal right under Article 300-A in Part XII of the Constitution. Article 300-A states that no person shall be deprived of his or her property save by authority of law. Unlike the earlier provisions, the current stance emphasizes that the right to property is not absolute and can be regulated by law.

30. Ans. b

Exp. Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (RP Act) lays down the requirements for registration of a political party with the ECI. Any political party that seeks registration should submit a copy of its memorandum/constitution.

31. Ans. d

Exp. Registered political parties enjoy the following legal benefits – (a) tax exemption for donations received under Section 13A of the Income Tax Act, 1961, (b) common symbol for contesting general elections to the Lok Sabha/State Assemblies, and (c) twenty 'star campaigners' during election campaign.

32. Ans. d

Exp. Grounds for the Deregistration of political parties include registration obtained through fraud, declaration of illegality by the Central Government, and amendment of the internal constitution conflicting with the Indian Constitution.

33. Ans. d

Exp. The current rulebook allows EC to register parties but does not allow for deregistration. No provision in the RPA 1951 provides any mechanism for de-registration of a political party. At present, there are six 'national' parties, and sixty-one 'State' parties that have been recognised. Once a political party is deregistered, it cannot contest elections.

34. Ans. c

Exp. Kerala was the first state to adopt a code of conduct for elections. In 1960, before the Assembly elections in the state, the administration prepared a draft code covering important aspects of electioneering such as processions, political rallies, and speeches. In 1974, the ECI released a formal MCC. It also set up bureaucratic bodies at the district level to oversee its implementation. Before 1977, MCC guided only political parties and candidates.

35. Ans. b

Exp. The Indian Army has started receiving the Russian AK-203 assault rifles after the deal with Russia saw back-to-back delays, partly due to the war in Ukraine and payment delays.

36. Ans. a

Exp. India and Russia have begun the joint production of AK 203 rifles at a factory in Amethi, Uttar Pradesh. India and Russia had inked an agreement in December 2021 for procurement of 6,01,427 AK 203 assault rifles through Korwa Ordnance Factory in Uttar Pradesh's Amethi district.

37. Ans. b

Exp. India-Russia military-technical cooperation has evolved from a buyer-seller framework to one involving joint research, development and production of advanced defence technologies and systems. Both countries regularly conduct the Tri-Services exercise 'INDRA'.

38. Ans. c

Exp. Under an over ₹5,000-crore contract signed in July 2021, over 6.1 lakh AK-203 assault rifles are to be manufactured in India with technology transfer from Russia, by a joint venture Indo-Russian Rifles Private Limited (IRRPL). The IRRPL was set up in 2019 between the erstwhile Ordnance Factory Board [now Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Limited (AWEIL) and Munitions India Limited (MIL)] from India and Rosoboronexport (RoE) and Kalashnikov concern of Russia.

39. Ans. b

Exp. Quoting the SIPRI report, Russia continues to be India's main weapons supplier — accounting for 36% of its arms imports — though its overall share has been decreasing as India increasingly depends on western countries and indigenous suppliers for military hardware and software now. Followed by Russia, France (33%) is India's second largest arms supplier and the US (13%) is the third largest supplier of weapons for India.

40. Ans. b

Exp. AstraZeneca, the company that makes the Covishield vaccine for Covid-19 pandemic, has admitted the inoculation has potential side effects.

41. Ans. c

Exp. Serum Institute of India is a Pune based world's largest vaccine manufacturer by number of doses produced and sold globally. In India, the vaccine produced by AstraZeneca was marketed under the brand name Covishield, manufactured by the Serum Institute of India (SII).

42. Ans. a

Exp. Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is India's supreme body to formulate, coordinate and promote biomedical research. It was formed in 1911 when it was known as Indian Research Fund Association (IRFA). In 1949, IRFA was renamed ICMR.

43. Ans. c

Exp. CDSCO is the Central Drug Authority for discharging functions assigned to the Central Government under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act of 1940. It works under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare the National Regulatory Authority (NRA) of India.

44. Ans. a

Exp. Adar Poonawalla is an Indian businessman. He is the chief executive officer of Serum Institute of India and Chairman of Poonawalla Fincorp. His father is Cyrus Poonawalla, founder of the Serum Institute of India.

45. Ans. a

Exp. The government has proposed a new Explosives Bill to replace the outdated Explosives Act of 1884. In a document open for public consultation, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has proposed raising fines for violation of regulations and enhancing the efficiency of licensing procedures.

46. Ans. b

Exp. Under the proposed draft bill, individuals holding a license who are discovered violating regulations by involving themselves in the manufacturing, importing, or exporting of explosives could confront a prison sentence extending up to three years, a financial penalty amounting to Rs 1,00,000, or both. This marks a notable escalation from the existing stipulations within the Explosives Act, which currently mandates a maximum prison term of three years alongside a fine of Rs 50,000 for comparable violations.

47. Ans. b

Exp. According to the proposed Explosives Bill 2024, the Union government will designate the authority responsible for granting, suspending, or revoking licences, as well as carrying out other specified functions under the new legislation. Currently, the Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO) operating under the DPIIT is the regulatory body responsible for issuing licences for the manufacture, possession, use, sale, import, and export of any explosive material.

48. Ans. c

Exp. The Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organization (PESO) (est. 1898; HQ: Nagpur; under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry), was established during British rule as the Department of Explosives. It oversees the administration of various acts including the Explosives Act, 1884, and the Petroleum (Production) Act, 1934.

49. Ans. c

Exp. Vaccines manufacturer Serum Institute of India (SII) recently said it has started exports of 'R21/Matrix-M' malaria vaccine to Africa as part of the global fight against the disease.

50. Ans. b

Exp. The vaccine was developed by the Jenner Institute at Oxford University and the Serum Institute of India with support from the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership ('EDCTP'), the Wellcome Trust and the European Investment Bank ('EIB'). This low-cost, high-efficacy vaccine is already licensed by several African countries.

51. Ans. b

Exp. The vaccine was developed by the Jenner Institute at Oxford University and Serum Institute of India with support from the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership ('EDCTP'), the Wellcome Trust, and the European Investment Bank ('EIB'). To date the R21/Matrix-MTM malaria vaccine has been licensed for use in Ghana, Nigeria and Burkina Faso.

52. Ans. b

Exp. Since 2000, India cut malaria cases by more than half and the number of malaria deaths by more than 66%. In 2016, India introduced its first National Framework for Malaria Elimination (2016-2030). It has a vision of a malaria-free country by 2027 and elimination by 2030. In 2019, the Government of India increased funding by more than 25% for the National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme and increased support as a donor to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

Section C-Legal Reasoning**53. Ans. a**

Sol: Option (a) is correct. UAPA defines a "terrorist act" as any act committed with intent to threaten or likely to threaten the unity, integrity, **security, economic security, or sovereignty of India** or with intent to strike terror or likely to strike terror in the people or any section of the people in India or in any foreign country. The 2019 Amendment empowers the central government to designate an individual a "terrorist" if they are found committing, preparing for, promoting, or involved in a terror act. In the present case, Vidhan actions and speeches have posed a threat to the security of India. Therefore, it can be concluded that his act can be called as terrorist act. Hence, the court will uphold the government's designation of Vidhan as a terrorist. Option (b) is therefore incorrect. Option (c) is incorrect as it is outside the scope of the passage. Option (d) is incorrect as the passage does not provide that Court can direct the review committee to remove the name. Only thing mentioned is that the

review committee is empowered to order the government to delete the names, if the committee considers the order to be flawed.

54. Ans. b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. UAPA defines a “terrorist act” as any act committed with intent to threaten or likely to threaten the unity, integrity, security, economic security, or sovereignty of India or with intent to strike terror or likely to strike terror in the people or any section of the people in India or in any foreign country. The 2019 Amendment empowers the central government to designate an individual a “terrorist” if they are found committing, preparing for, promoting, or involved in a terror act. In the present case, Vidhyut’s action does not amount to terror act. It is merely critical of the policies of the present government. Therefore, the court will rule in favour of Vidhyut. Option (a) is therefore incorrect. Option (c) is incorrect as it is beyond the scope of the passage. The passage does not provide that court can order an inquiry. Option (d) is incorrect as the measure suggested is beyond the scope of the passage. As per the passage, Courts do not have the power to issue such advice.

55. Ans. b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage provides that UAPA defines a “terrorist act” **as any act committed with intent to threaten or likely to threaten the unity, integrity, security, economic security, or sovereignty of India or with intent to strike terror or likely to strike terror in the people or any section of the people in India or in any foreign country.** The 2019 Amendment empowers the central government to designate an individual a “terrorist” if they are found committing, **preparing for**, promoting, or involved in a terror act. **A similar provision already existed in Part 4 and 6 of the legislation for organisations that can be designated as a “terrorist organisation”.** In the present case, The AISU was planning an attack of Indian Army to threaten India’s security. Therefore it can be designated as a terrorist organisation. Option (a) is therefore incorrect. Option (c) is incorrect as fails to consider that they were planning an attack on Indian Army to threaten Indian’s security. Option (d) is incorrect as the reasoning is not based on legal principles mentioned in the passage.

56. Ans. d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The passage provides that UAPA defines a “terrorist act” **as any act committed with intent to threaten or likely to threaten the unity, integrity, security, economic security, or sovereignty of India or with intent to strike terror or likely to strike terror in the people or any section of the people in India or in any foreign country.** The 2019 Amendment empowers the central government to designate an individual a “terrorist” if they are found committing, **preparing for**, promoting, or involved in a terror act. **A similar provision already existed in Part 4 and 6 of the legislation for organisations that can be designated as a “terrorist organisation”.** From this definition, it is clear that intention is important. If any act is committed/attempt is made to give effect to this intent (to threaten integrity/security), then it would amount to a terror act. Accordingly, the individual/organisation committing/attempting such act can be designated as a terrorist. In the present case, the AISU tries to attack Indian army to threaten Indian’s security. But their guns and bombs turns out to be fake. This shows that they had the intention but could not give effect to their aim. The substituted fact would have no effect on the grounds for declaring AISU as a terrorist organisation, as an organisation can be declared as a terrorist organisation even for preparing to commit such act.

57. Ans. c

Sol: Option (c) is correct because it accurately reflects the process outlined in the UAPA as amended in 2019. The central government can designate an individual as a terrorist through a notification in the official gazette, and the individual is not given an opportunity to be heard before this designation. Option (a) is incorrect as the UAPA does not require a hearing before designating an individual as a terrorist. Option (b) is incorrect because the 2019 amendment does not specify detailed sanctions like travel bans and freezing of assets for designated individuals. Such sanctions are imposed, when designation is done by the United Nations. Option (d) is incorrect as the UAPA allows the government to designate individuals as terrorists even if they are not convicted for committing a terror act in a terror case. This is clear from the fact that an individual can be designated as a terrorist if he is found preparing for a terrorist act.

58. Ans. d

Sol: Option (d) cannot be inferred from the passage because in line with the legal presumption of an individual being innocent until proven guilty, **an individual who is convicted in a terror case is legally referred to as a terrorist, while those suspected of being involved in terrorist activities are referred to as terror accused.** All other statements can be concluded from the passage.

59. Ans. c

Sol. Option (c) is correct because the passage states that Articles 83 and 172 say the term shall be five years and no longer, but do not fix the minimum number of years of the term at five years. Hence, a lawful dissolution before the completion of the term does not contravene constitutional principles as it provides flexibility for such cases of political instability or loss of majority. Option (a) is incorrect because it misinterprets the Articles, which don't specifically mandate a fixed tenure but limit the maximum to five years. Option (b) is incorrect because political instability isn't a direct constitutional violation in itself, as dissolutions are permissible within the Articles. Option (d) is incorrect as it is an incomplete understanding, while correctly stating the maximum term, it does not specifically address the dissolution before completion. However, (d) indicates flexibility but doesn't fully acknowledge the articles' implications.

60. Ans. a

Sol. Option (a) is correct because the passage states that Article 327 allows Parliament to make provisions concerning all matters related to elections, whether they are for the Houses of Parliament or the state Legislative Assemblies. Therefore, Parliament can amend laws regarding elections, which may encompass matters affecting the states as long as it is within the legislative competence granted by Article 327. Option (b) is incorrect because the Article does not explicitly override the principles of federalism but gives Parliament broad authority in election matters. Option (c) is incorrect as Article 327 explicitly covers both Parliament and state Legislative Assemblies and not only limited to Parliament. Option (d) is incorrect because Article 327 provides Parliament with authority over election-related provisions, which would include election-related matters in the states without requiring state consent, as long as it remains within the scope of securing the due constitution of such houses.

61. Ans. a

Sol. Option (a) is correct as the passage states that, according to the Sarkaria Commission recommendations, a pre-election coalition should be invited first to form the government if they have a combined majority. Party B and C's coalition represents such a pre-election alliance in this scenario, justifying their invitation to form the government. Option (b) is incorrect because although Party A is the single largest party, it cannot be preferred as per the Sarkaria Commission's recommendation. Option (c) is incorrect because the democratic process, as per the Sarkaria Commission, includes respecting pre-electoral alliances, and being the single largest party does not automatically grant Party A the right to form the government. Option (d) is incorrect as the Sarkaria Commission provides a clear preference, which doesn't involve waiting for parties to reach consensus arbitrarily.

62. Ans. c

Sol. Option (c) is correct because the passage provides that as per Sarkaria Commission, in case of no majority enjoyed by any party to form government, a pre-election coalition with a majority of seats should be preferred to be invited first to form the government. In its absence the largest party to stake the claim with the support of others, including independents should be preferred. Here the situation of Party A having secured support of independent would be relevant only when there is no pre-election alliance. But that situation is not fulfilled here in this case, hence this fact of havinf support of independents would not strengthen or weaken the claim that Party A has raised. Therefore option (a), (b) and (d) are incorrect.

63. Ans. d

Sol. Option (d) is correct because the passage explicitly states that simultaneous elections would ensure the best utilization of time and resources, lead to a curtailment of the role of financial resources in elections, and result in better governance without violating any constitutional principles or citizens' rights. Option (a) is incorrect because the passage clarifies that Simultaneous elections neither stop someone from voting or participating in elections nor dismantle the current system of free and fair elections. Free and fair elections and rule of law are the most important constitutional virtues, which are not hampered by it.

Option (b) is incorrect as the passage directly counters this claim by stating that simultaneous elections do not impinge upon citizens' rights. Option (c) is incorrect because, according to the passage, Articles 327 and 328 do not grant exclusive rights to states over elections but rather allow for parliamentary legislation in this domain, with states having the power to legislate only insofar as parliamentary legislation does not cover specific electoral aspects. Thus, simultaneous elections, as per the report, do not affect these constitutional rights of states.

64. Ans. b

Sol. Option (b) cannot be inferred because the passage explicitly rejects the claim that simultaneous elections would hamper the electoral process or violate the rights of citizens. It states that simultaneous elections would not dismantle the system of free and fair elections. Instead, it suggests improvements in the utilization of resources and governance. Option (a) can be inferred from the passage, which clarifies that while the term of legislatures is set at five years, there is no stipulation that this is the minimum, implying that legislatures can be dissolved sooner under certain conditions. Option (c) can be inferred as the passage mentions the Sarkaria Commission's suggestions on how to address situation where no party gets a majority. Option (d) can be inferred because the passage directly states that simultaneous elections aim to lead to better utilization of resources and reduce the role of financial resources in elections, which contributes to better governance.

65. Ans. c

Sol. Assertion is correct but Reason is incorrect as Article 327 allows Parliament to "make provision with respect to all matters relating to, or in connection with, elections to either House of Parliament or to the House or either House of the Legislature of a State including the preparation of electoral rolls, the delimitation of constituencies and all other matters necessary for securing the due constitution of such House or Houses." Meanwhile, Article 328 says that states can legislate in relation to elections to their Legislative Assembly but to the extent it is not covered by parliamentary legislation.

66. Ans. b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage mentions that **as per Section 3 of the PWDV Act**, any act, omission or commission or conduct of the respondent shall constitute domestic violence in case it--

- (a) harms or injures or endangers the health, safety, life, limb or well-being, of the aggrieved person or tends to do so and includes causing physical abuse, sexual abuse, verbal and economic abuse; or
- (b) harasses, harms, injures or endangers the aggrieved person with a view to coerce her or any other person related to her to meet any unlawful demand for any dowry or other property or valuable security; or
- (c) has the effect of threatening the aggrieved person or any person related to her by any conduct mentioned in clause (a) or clause (b); or
- (d) otherwise injures or causes harm, to the aggrieved person.

In the present case, the act of Vidhan and his family does not fall in any of the above categories. No abuse is committed by them. They are merely showing respect and attention to the new bride. Therefore, no domestic violence has been committed by them. Option (a) and (d) are therefore incorrect. Option (c) is incorrect as the reasoning is generic. It is not based on any legal principles laid down in the passage.

67. Ans. a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. **As per section 3 of the PWDV Act**, any act, omission or commission or conduct of the respondent shall constitute domestic violence in case it--

- (a) harms or injures or endangers the health, safety, life, limb or well-being, of the aggrieved person or tends to do so and includes causing physical abuse, sexual abuse, verbal and economic abuse; or
- (b) harasses, harms, injures or endangers the aggrieved person with a view to coerce her or any other person related to her to meet any unlawful demand for any dowry or other property or valuable security; or
- (c) has the effect of threatening the aggrieved person or any person related to her by any conduct mentioned in clause (a) or clause (b); or
- (d) otherwise injures or causes harm, to the aggrieved person.

The introduction of the new facts makes Vidhan and his family's act as an act of domestic violence under Section 3(b) of the PWDV Act. Vidhi was harassed with a view to coerce her parents to bring dowry. Therefore, the additional fact would strengthen Vidhi's case.

68. Ans. c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. Section 17 of the PWDV Act mentions about right of the aggrieved party to reside in a shared household. As per the section, every woman in a domestic relationship shall have the right to reside in the shared household, whether or not she has any right, title or beneficial interest in the same. The aggrieved person shall not be evicted or excluded from the shared household or any part of it by the respondent save in accordance with the procedure established by law. While disposing such application the court can order restraining the respondent from dispossessing or in any other manner disturbing the possession of the aggrieved person from the shared household, whether or not the respondent has a legal or equitable interest in the shared household. In the present case, Vidisha has the right to reside in the shared home. Therefore Option (c) is correct. Options (a) and (b) are beyond the scope of the passage and hence incorrect. Option (d) is incorrect. It is specifically mentioned in the passage, that aggrieved person has a right to reside in the shared household even if she does not have any right, title or beneficial interest in the same. Therefore, the fact that only Vidur owns the house, will not have any bearing on the Vidisha's right to reside in the shared household.

69. Ans. b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage mentions that as per section 4 of the PWDV Act, any person who has reason to believe that an act of domestic violence has been, or is being, or is likely to be committed, may give information about it to the concerned Protection Officer and no liability, civil or criminal, shall be incurred by any person for giving in good faith of information for the purpose of sub-section. The neighbour informed the protection officer as he had witnessed the abusive behaviour towards Vidya. Thus, being a witness he had reasons to believe that domestic violence has been committed. The Act provides that such person may give information to the protection officer. Therefore, the act of neighbour is in consonance with the passage as it is valid under section 4 of the PWDV Act. Option (a) is therefore incorrect. Option (c) and (d) are incorrect as they are vague and beyond the scope of the passage.

70. Ans. c

Sol: A is correct. The Sessions Court at Borivali dismissed an appeal filed by a 43-year-old woman seeking relief under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 (PWDV Act) observing that husband giving time and money to his mother could not be considered domestic violence. R is false. The case dates back to 2008 when the woman had filed a complaint before the Metropolitan Magistrate at Borivali under Section 12 of the PWDV Act, accusing her husband and in-laws of mental and physical cruelty. This contention was rejected by court.

71. Ans. c

Sol: Statement (i) can be concluded. If an aggrieved person or on her behalf a Protection Officer or a service provider requests the person in charge of a shelter home to provide shelter to her, such person in charge of the shelter home shall provide shelter to the aggrieved person in the shelter home. The Act provides similar provision for providing medical facilities of the aggrieved party of her request.

Statement (ii) cannot be concluded but Statement (iii) can be concluded. Section 17 of the PWDV Act mentions about right of the aggrieved party to reside in a shared household. As per the section, every woman in a domestic relationship shall have the right to reside in the shared household, whether or not she has any right, title or beneficial interest in the same. The aggrieved person shall not be evicted or excluded from the shared household or any part of it by the respondent save in accordance with the procedure established by law. While disposing such application the court can order restraining the respondent from dispossessing or in any other manner disturbing the possession of the aggrieved person from the shared household, whether or not the respondent has a legal or equitable interest in the shared household. The Court can also direct the respondent to remove himself from the shared household if it is satisfied that domestic violence has taken place. Also, the court can restrain the respondent or any of his relatives from entering any portion of the shared household in which the aggrieved person resides on being satisfied that domestic violence has taken place.

72. Ans. c

Sol. This question is to be attempted in light of the observation laid down in the case of Puttaswamy ruling. In that case, it was observed that the state action to be upheld must show the action is sanctioned by law made by Parliament. In the present case, the steps taken by the State Government does not have any sanction in law made by Parliament. The steps were taken through informal steps which does not mean through law. Further it was on

the basis of the verbal direction issued by the Prime Minister. This does not amount to law made by Parliament. Hence, the actions will not be valid. Option (c) is the correct option. Accordingly, option (a) can be rejected as it states that action was sanctioned by law. Option (b) & (d) cannot be selected as both these options are stating that restrictions by state are/are not proportionate. The question does not provide what are the exact restrictions imposed. Therefore, it cannot be determined whether they were proportionate or not. Correct reasoning in this question is that action by the State Government is not sanctioned by law.

73. Ans. d

Sol. As per the principle, the state action to be upheld must show: (i) The action is sanctioned by law; (ii) The proposed action must be necessary in a democratic society for a legitimate aim such as public welfare and maintenance of law and order; (iii) The extent of such interference must be proportionate to the need for such interference; and (iv) There must be procedural guarantees, such as review by Court, against the restrictions imposed.

In the present case, the key facts are:

- People wanted to peacefully demonstrate against the government. (This is a part of their freedom of speech and expression-as per the note).
- The government feared that the demonstration will turn violent. So they decide to take an action against this.
- The measure taken is-complete prohibition on any demonstration against the government; if any person is guilty he will be sentenced to life imprisonment. No appeal is allowed.

The validity of the above measures is challenged. To decide the validity, the principle of proportionality is relevant. The decision taken by the government is not in compliance with the principle of proportionality because:

- The measures imposed are not proportionate. They are excessive. If the government feared that protest will turn violent in some states-then measures should be taken in those places only. However, the government has decided to completely prohibit any form of demonstration. This is clearly excessive.
- In addition to imposing such measures, the government has completely eliminated the scope for review by Courts. They have prohibited any appeal. This also violates the principle of proportionality as laid down in the Puttaswamy case. The case mentioned that there must be procedural guarantees, such as review by Court, against the restrictions imposed. The government has not provided any procedural guarantees.

Thus, option (d) is the correct. Option (b) is incorrect as the reasoning is not based on any legal principles laid down in the passage. Option (a) is incorrect as the restrictions imposed are not proportionate. Option (c) is incorrect. In addition to a legitimate state aim, the restrictions must be proportionate. This is missing in the present case. Therefore, the legitimate state aim alone will not make the law valid.

74. Ans. a

Sol. Since, the passage talks about proportionality, this question has to be answered on the basis of the same. There are multiple conditions related to proportionality. Depending on the circumstances, any of these conditions if missing can be used a ground to challenge a law.

Option (a) states that voters' right to know supersedes anonymity. This cannot be taken as a valid ground because the complete observation as mentioned in the passage is that voters' right to know supersedes anonymity in **political party funding**. This observation is given in the background of validity of electoral bonds scheme. In the present question, the scheme by Government is for political education. It talks about funding for such purpose. Funding is not about political party. Therefore, this cannot be used as a ground to challenge the scheme. Option (a) is the correct answer.

Option (b) states that restriction on right to information is not sanctioned by law. **This is an appropriate ground** because as per the passage, an action to be valid has to be sanctioned by law made by Parliament. In the present question, the scheme is not based on any law.

Option (c) states that aim behind the scheme is not a legitimate state aim. **This is an appropriate ground** because it is specifically mentioned in the passage that donor anonymity cannot be a legitimate state aim. In the present case, the scheme has created a restriction to protect anonymity of the donors.

Option (d) states that no procedural guarantee is provided against restrictions imposed on right to information. This is an appropriate ground as the scheme has specifically prohibited the courts from hearing any matter pertaining to the scheme.

75. Ans. b

Sol. In the present case, there is a clear conflict between two fundamental rights- right to equality and right to carry on any occupation. As per the passage, such conflict has to be resolved by applying the principle of double proportionality. The very first thing that the courts have to look for is does the Constitution create a hierarchy between the rights in conflict? **If yes, then the right which has been granted a higher status will prevail over the other right involved.**

In the present case, Option (b) states that the Constitution of India specifically provides that to give effect to right to equality the State can mandate even private education institutions to provide such reservation. This shows that the right of the private education institutions can be restricted to give effect to right to equality. On this basis, it can be inferred that Constitution is creating a hierarchy in which right to equality is above right to carry on any occupation. Thus, as per the principle of double proportionality, right to equality will prevail. This on its own will weaken the challenge by the private education institution. Option (b) is the correct option here. All other options would not (on their own) weaken the challenge. This is because all these options satisfy the condition of proportionality test. They will strengthen the challenge and not weaken it.

76. Ans. d

Sol. As per the passage, for a law to be valid it must comply with the proportionality tests. Option (a) (legitimate state aim), (b) (proportionate measures) & (c) (sanctions backed by law made by parliament) fulfill such conditions as laid down under the Puttaswamy case. However, option (d) violates an essential condition. The case states that there must be procedural guarantees, such as review by Court, against the restrictions imposed. This means there should be some guarantee to ensure review by courts. Option (d) is directly opposite to this. It is saying there is no need to provide any review mechanism. This is clearly incorrect. Accordingly, Option (d) has to be selected in this question.

77. Ans. b

Sol. Option (b) is not required. It is specifically mentioned in the passage, **that it is not necessary that the measure should be the only means capable of realizing the rights.** It is sufficient if the measure only partially gives effect to the right(s). Option (a) is required because the passage states that Court need to see if the Constitution create a hierarchy between the rights in conflict? If yes, then the right which has been granted a higher status will prevail over the other right involved. Option (c) is required because the passage states that in the last prong, it is analyzed **if the cost of interference (restriction) with one right is proportional to the extent of fulfilment of the other.** Option (d) is required because the passage states that Court must determine if there are **other possible measures which could have been adopted to realize the rights.**

78. Ans. b

Sol. As per the passage, it is important for police officer to be satisfied that there are grounds to arrest the individuals without warrant. The grounds are mentioned under Section 41(b)(ii). Once the police officer is satisfied that any of the grounds as mentioned under the Section exists, he shall record such reasons in writing and shall forward the check list duly filed and furnish the reasons and materials which necessitated the arrest to the magistrate. The passage provides that the provision (i.e. section 41) provides that the police officer shall record his reasons in writing for making such arrest.

In the present case, the police officer in charge has sufficient reasons to believe that Vidhan should be arrested. This was because Vidhan had a criminal history. Due to this, the police official believed that Vidhan would commit an offence in the future. Now, the Police officer is required to record his reasons in writing and share such reasons along with the checklist to Magistrate. In the present case, the police officer has only shared the record of prior criminal history. He has not shared any reason as he failed to record such reasons. This clearly show that the arrest is not in compliance with Section 41. Option (b) is correct. Option (a) is incorrect. Even if the police officer is 100% satisfied that the Vidhan will commit an offence in the future, that alone will not make the arrest in compliance with Section 41. Along with such satisfaction, the police officer also need to record reasons behind such arrest in writing. This has not been done in the present case. Option (c) is incorrect. The police officer has to share checklist, material which necessitated arrest and reasons with the magistrate. Merely sharing the material would not suffice. Option (d) is incorrect. The reasoning is not appropriate as the passage does not provide anything in this regard. Also, the passage states that police officer need to be satisfied in this regard. The passage does not provide any

criteria pertaining to determine whether past history will lead to crime in future. The accurate argument would be to say that police official has not recorded his reasoning. This is provided under Option (b).

79. Ans. c

Sol. As per Section 41(b)(ii), a police should arrest an accused only if he is satisfied that any of the conditions mentioned in this section is fulfilled. Now by referring to this provision alone, it can be concluded that if a police officer is deciding not to arrest an individual, then they are satisfied that the conditions as mentioned under Section 41 are not fulfilled. The provision requires 2 parts: (a) the police having reason to believe that person has committed offence and (b) any of the things as mentioned in section 41(b)(ii) necessitates the arrest. Here in the facts of the question, first part is fulfilled but for application of the section, both the part has to be fulfilled.

In this question it is asked which of the facts if proved true would not strengthen the decision of not to arrest. For this purpose, if any of the condition as mentioned under Section 41(b)(ii) is fulfilled, then the police officer's decision will not be strengthened. It'll actually be weakened. Option (c) contains such a fact. This says that Vidyut is going to leave India soon and he will not be able to come back to India. Now, if this is assumed true, then the police officer's decision will be weakened. One of the condition as mentioned under Section 41(b)(ii) is that if the police is satisfied that unless such person is arrested, his presence in the Court whenever required cannot be ensured. The condition in option (c) is stating that Vidyut will not be able to come back to India. This shows that Vidyut will not be present in court whenever required. Thus, this will not strengthen the decision by the Police Officer. This actually weakens it because in this case, Vidyut's arrest is justified as per Section 41(b)(ii). Option (a) will strengthen the decision as it shows that Vidyut will not affect the investigation. One of the condition under Section 41(b)(ii) is that police can arrest if person is going to affect the proper investigation. Statement in option (a) is just opposite to this. Thus, the decision not to arrest is strengthened. Option (b) will strengthen the decision as it shows that not going to make any threat or inducement to Vidya. One of the condition under Section 41(b)(ii) is that police can arrest if person is going to induce or threaten the Witness. Statement in option (b) is just opposite to this. Thus, the decision not to arrest is strengthened. Option (d) will strengthen the decision as it shows that Vidyut will not in any way cause disappearance of the evidence. One of the condition under Section 41(b)(ii) is that police can arrest if such arrest is necessary to prevent such person from causing the evidence of the offence to disappear or tampering with such evidence in any manner. Statement in option (d) is just opposite to this. Thus, the decision not to arrest is strengthened.

80. Ans. d

Sol. As per the passage, Section 41A empowers a police officer conducting a probe to issue notices to people connected to the case, directing them to appear before him. If the person concerned complies with the notice, they **shall not be arrested unless there are specific reasons**, which have to be recorded in writing by the police officer.

The important facts in the present case are that a notice was issued to Vidur under Section 41A. He has complied with the notice. Now, in light of his compliance he should not be arrested except if there are some specific reasons (recorded in writing). The question states that police had decided to wait for Vidur. However, he was arrested the moment he entered the police station. From this it can be inferred that the requirement of recording reasons have not been fulfilled by the Police. Thus, the arrest is not in compliance with Section 41A. Option (d) is the correct option. Option (b) cannot be selected as the question is entirely silent on the exact timelines. The appropriate option is (d). Option (a) & (c) cannot be selected. Both these options are containing reasons as provided under Section 41(b)(ii). However, it is mandatory under Section 41A that reasons shall be recorded by the police officer in writing if he wants to arrest the accused even after issuing the notice under section 41A. In the present case, the police officer has arrested him without recording any reasons. This can be inferred from the fact that Vidur had already replied that he will be in the station. Police had decided to wait and he presented himself in compliance of the notice. This showed that they did not had any reasons to arrest him. Still, he was arrested the moment he reached the station. He can only be arrested when police officer records special reason to arrest him.

81. Ans. d

Sol. The key facts from the question are:

- Police was directed to arrest Vidhi in compliance with Section 41 Cr.P.C. if considered appropriate by the police.
- The High Court considered Vidhi to be allegedly involved in the offence. **Hence this gives police a reason to believe that Vidhi has committed the offence.**

Police decided to arrest her to prevent her from escaping the town. **However, due to the urgent situation they could not record the reasons in writing. This failure to record the reasons makes the arrest not in compliance with Section 41 Cr.P.C.** Statement (ii) is correct.

Now, when Vidhi was taken to the magistrate in Madhya Pradesh, he was supposed to apply his mind to the situation and only after recording his reasons, he should order further detention. In the present case, the magistrate has not recorded reasons. Instead, he has verbally authorized further detention. This means he has also not complied with the guidelines. Accordingly, he will be liable to departmental action from the appropriate High Court within whose jurisdiction the magistrate is working. **In the present case, the Magistrate is working within the jurisdiction of the High Court of Madhya Pradesh. Accordingly, the Magistrate will face departmental action from High Court of Madhya Pradesh.** Statement (iv) is correct. Since, Statement (ii) & (iv) are correct, option (d) is correct.

82. Ans. a

Sol. It is mentioned in the passage that failure to comply with the directions aforesaid shall apart from rendering the Police officers concerned liable for departmental action, shall also make them liable to be punished for contempt of Court to be instituted before High Court having territorial jurisdiction over the police official. As explained in the previous question, the arrest is not in compliance with Section 41 Cr.P.C. as the police official failed to record the reasons in writing. Thus, they are liable to contempt of court. The appropriate court in the present case is High Court of Maharashtra. This is because the police belonged to the State of Maharashtra and they fall under the territorial jurisdiction of High Court of Maharashtra. Hence, the police official is liable to contempt of court before the High Court of Maharashtra.

83. Ans. a

Sol. The key point to attempt this answer is the observation of the Bombay High Court. Terming their arrest an “abuse of power” carried out “without application of mind”, the Bombay High Court recently confirmed the interim bail granted to former ICICI Bank CEO Chanda Kochhar and her husband Deepak Kochhar. The court said the arrests made by the CBI violated Section 41A of the Criminal Procedure Code (Cr.P.C.). **(R) is correct.** From this it can be inferred that if an arrest is made in violation of Section 41A Cr.P.C., it can be treated as abuse of power. **Hence, Assertion is also correct.** The correct option is (a) because the assertion is made on the basis of observation from the Bombay High Court. The logic given by High Court is the reason behind correctness of the Assertion. Hence, reasons is correct reason for A’s truthfulness. Option (a) is the correct option.

84. Ans. a

Sol. Section 41 contains various grounds which necessitate the arrest of an individual- if police officer is satisfied that such ground exists. Now, it is not mandatory that all of the grounds shall be fulfilled. The word used in the passage is “or”. This means if any of the grounds as mentioned under Section 41 exists, the police officer can arrest the individual. Option (a) is not correct because it is saying that all the grounds as provided under Section 41 exists. Since, the question is asking for an incorrect statement, option (a) has to be selected in the present question. Option (b), (c) & (d) contains a correct statement. It is specifically mentioned in the passage “Police officer shall forward the check list duly filed (option b) and furnish the reasons and materials which necessitated the arrest, (option c) while forwarding/producing the accused before the nearest Magistrate for further detention (Option d).”

Section D-Logical Reasoning

85. Ans. d

Sol. Option (d) is correct. Options (a) is inferred from the first sentence of the passage, ‘In India, the governor of a state is formally the head of the executive. But he or she is not part of the elected government or even elected by an electoral college as the president is. Governors are appointed by the party ruling at the Centre, often as a reward for loyalty. Option (b) can be inferred from the first few lines of the passage, ‘The expectation that they shall be above politics, as imagined by the Constitution, was thus never very realistic. The governor’s leaning is often towards the Centre in Opposition-ruled states.’ Thus making option (d) correct. Option (c) is out of the scope of the passage and so incorrect. Hence (d).

86. Ans. b

Sol. Option (b) is correct. The last few lines sum up the passage and give us the conclusion that “main issues must be addressed; the Centre has to decide on the method. “The passage discusses the issues faced by the state governments ruled by the Opposition parties and the Governor of that state, as he is appointed by the center. The passage ends by stating the opinion of the author quite vehemently. All the other options are hence incorrect. Hence (b).

87. Ans. a

Sol. Option (a) is correct. At first glance, all the options represent the acrimonious relationship between the governor and the government. However, options (b), (c) and (d) mentions the reason for the clash and is therefore complete. Option (a) does not state the reason which makes it open to inference and assumption and therefore makes it correct. For example, the reason for governor not joining the oath giving can be his health issues or any unforeseen circumstances. Hence (a).

88. Ans. c

Sol. Option (c) is correct. The example is mentioned to bolster the author’s argument that the relationship of governors with the legislatures in some Opposition states has become openly acrimonious. Option (a) is ruled out as the statement about Jagdeep Dhankar is not an idea rather an example to support the author’s point by demonstration or exemplification. Options (b) and (d) can be directly negated. Hence (c).

89. Ans. d

Sol. Option (d) is correct. All the options (a), (b), (c) are suggested by Kerala in the passage. Option (c) has been suggested by Bengal too. However, option (d) is a distorted suggestion as given in the last paragraph. It states that, ‘Resistance to and delaying of executive business are the complaints against governors whom Opposition states find unfriendly. The other suggestions of Kerala, too, touch upon issues relevant to different states, saying that the Centre should consult the state when appointing a governor, that the governor should not be chancellor — Bengal said this too — and that the governor can ask for Central forces only with the state’s permission. The proposals aim to lessen the Centre’s power’. Hence (d).

90. Ans. c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. This cannot be inferred from the passage because the last few lines of the passage point to the statement that is contradictory to what is given in the option (c). It is stated, ‘The Constitution, while attributing some powers to the office, does not seem to envisage the governor engaging in political tussles. Option (a) is understood from the following line in the first paragraph, ‘Governors are appointed by the party ruling at the Centre, often as a reward for loyalty.’ Option (b) is understood from the following line of the second paragraph. ‘Resistance to and delaying of executive business are the complaints against governors whom Opposition states find unfriendly.’ Hence (c).

91. Ans. b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage states that the Indian media's coverage often portrays Islam as a source of terrorism and Muslims as inherently violent, aligning with the Hindutva narrative used by the Indian State. Option (a) is incorrect because the author criticizes the Indian right-wing for idolizing Israel's robust security state and questions why India would want to emulate it. Option (c) is incorrect because the passage states that despite global concerns about India's democratic regression and religious minority treatment since 2014, the U.S. has largely turned a blind eye. Option (d) is incorrect because the passage mentions that Project Udbhav aims to 'rediscover' India's ancient strategic heritage, focusing on pre-Muslim rule texts, which does not indicate a step towards secularism. Hence (b).

92. Ans. b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage states that Hindutva ideologues envision India as a 'Hindu homeland', mirroring Israel's 'Jewish homeland' identity, and hope to gain Western support similar to Israel. Option (a) is incorrect because the passage mentions that the U.S.'s past leniency towards Pakistan had long-term repercussions, but it does not state that the U.S. has always been critical of Pakistan's policies. Option (c) is incorrect because the passage explicitly states that India is a vast, secure nation with a Constitution that doesn't

discriminate on religious grounds. Option (d) is incorrect because the passage points out that in drawing parallels with Israel, Hindutva ideologues echo Pakistani military dictator, General Zia ul-Haq's views, implying some similarity in their perspectives. Hence (b).

93. Ans. d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. It directly contradicts the author's point that the Indian media's portrayal of Islam aligns with the Hindutva narrative. If the Indian media has been consistently critical of the Hindutva narrative, it would weaken the author's argument. Option (a) is incorrect because, while it would be a significant development, it doesn't directly counter any specific argument made by the author. Option (b) is incorrect because the passage states that the U.S. has largely turned a blind eye to India's treatment of religious minorities since 2014; sanctions would not necessarily weaken the author's arguments but rather provide new information. Option (c) is incorrect because even if General Zia ul-Haq never compared Pakistan to Israel, it wouldn't significantly weaken the author's overall arguments about the similarities between Hindutva ideologues and Zia's views. Hence (d).

94. Ans. c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage states that Hindutva ideologues' tactics in Western countries mirror those of hardline Jewish groups, using funding and lobbying to influence policies. An open admission from Hindutva ideologues about using funding and lobbying would strengthen this point. Option (a) is incorrect because, while it might add another layer to the discussion, it doesn't directly strengthen any of the author's specific arguments. Option (b) is incorrect because it is a general statement about the U.S. and doesn't directly relate to the author's arguments about India. Option (d) is incorrect because, although it would show a similarity between Zia and Hindutva ideologues, it doesn't directly strengthen the author's specific arguments about India's current trajectory. Hence (c).

95. Ans. c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage concludes by stating that Indians must reflect on whether they want their nation to follow Pakistan's path, directly or via Israel. This encapsulates the author's opinion as presented in the passage. Option (a) is incorrect because the author questions why India would want to emulate a Hindu version of Pakistan, indicating scepticism rather than endorsement. Option (b) is incorrect because the passage states that the U.S.'s past leniency towards Pakistan had long-term repercussions for South Asia. Option (d) is incorrect because the author criticizes the Indian right-wing for idolizing Israel's robust security state and questions why India would want to emulate it. Hence (c).

96. Ans. b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage explicitly states that 'Israel, an artificial construct without a Constitution or defined borders, was created for a persecuted religious community. In contrast, India is a vast, secure nation with a Constitution that doesn't discriminate on religious grounds. Option (a) is incorrect because while the passage suggests that India had the Hindutva ideology, it did not directly support the view of the author on India's contrast with Israel. Option (c) is incorrect as it does not show the contrasting nature of both the ideologies. Option (d) is incorrect because the passage does not suggest that India is highly influenced by just one religion. Hence (b).

97. Ans. c

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The passage states that the "greenlash" can be interpreted as a natural outcome of the green agenda becoming a tangible reality. It specifically mentions that as long as the climate goals remained abstract, it was easy for everyone to support them. This directly strengthens the author's argument. Option (a) is incorrect because the passage states that there is growing resistance to the EU's green policies, which contradicts the idea that there has been no public resistance. Option (b) is incorrect because Dutch farmers are protesting stringent nitrogen emission limits, but the passage does not state that they believe the green agenda is unrealistic and unattainable. Option (c) is incorrect because the passage mentions that political leaders like French President Emmanuel Macron and Belgian Prime Minister Alexander De Croo are calling for a "pause" in the EU's green legislative agenda, but it does not attribute this pause to increasing geopolitical crises. Hence (d).

98. Ans. b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage states that the challenge for politics is to channel the dissent constructively, ensuring it doesn't derail the journey to net zero. This directly aligns with how the author suggests politics should deal with the "greenlash." Option (a) is incorrect because the passage states that advocating for an "ecological sovereignty" is a tactic used by right-wing, populist parties to distort the climate agenda, not a suggestion from the author on how politics should handle the "greenlash." Option (c) is incorrect because the passage mentions public concern in Germany over the phasing out of gas boilers, but it does not suggest that this is how politics should deal with the "greenlash." Option (d) is incorrect because the passage states that Poland is fighting to sustain its coal subsidies, but it does not indicate that this is the author's suggestion for how politics should handle the "greenlash." Hence (b).

99. Ans. b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage states that the "greenlash" can be interpreted as a natural outcome of the green agenda becoming a tangible reality. It specifically mentions that now that the complexities and sacrifices required are becoming evident, it's only natural for resistance to grow. This aligns directly with the author's viewpoint. Option (a) is incorrect because the passage mentions that right-wing, populist parties are capitalizing on the "greenlash," but it does not state that they are the sole reason for it. Option (c) is incorrect because the author does not suggest that the EU should halt all green initiatives; rather, the challenge for politics is to channel the dissent constructively. Option (d) is incorrect because the passage does not indicate that the "greenlash" means the EU's green policies have been a complete failure. It presents it as a complex issue with multiple interpretations. Hence (b).

100. Ans. b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage states that populist nationalism, which is capitalizing on the "greenlash," could slow down not just the decarbonization efforts but also the broader sustainability goals related to biodiversity and nature conservation. This aligns directly with the author's viewpoint and must necessarily be true based on the arguments presented. Option (a) is incorrect because the passage clearly mentions that there is growing resistance from various quarters, including Dutch farmers and conservative elements within the European Parliament, indicating that not all EU countries are in favour. Option (c) is incorrect because, although Dutch farmers are mentioned as one group protesting, the passage does not state that they are the primary force behind the resistance. Option (d) is incorrect because the passage does not claim that the EU's green legislative agenda has been completely derailed; it suggests that the challenge is to prevent it from being derailed. Hence (b).

101. Ans. d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The passage argues that the "greenlash" is a natural outcome of the green agenda becoming a tangible reality, with complexities and sacrifices becoming evident. If these complexities and sacrifices are not becoming evident to the public, it would weaken the author's argument. Option (a) is incorrect because the passage states that renewables have surpassed gas as the leading source of electricity, but this point is not central to the author's arguments about the "greenlash." Option (b) is incorrect because the passage does not state that the speed of the EU's green legislative agenda is a factor in the "greenlash." The focus is on the complexities and sacrifices becoming evident. Option (c) is incorrect because the passage mentions that right-wing, populist parties are capitalizing on the "greenlash" by criticizing inequalities they claim are exacerbated by green policies. Their denying climate change would not necessarily weaken the author's arguments about the "greenlash." Hence (d).

102. Ans. a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. The author mentions in the conclusion of the passage that 'Right-wing populists' parties are already capitalizing on the backlash, not by denying climate change, but by criticizing the inequalities they claim are exacerbated by green policies. They advocate for an "ecological sovereignty" that opposes wind and solar farms and promotes traditional agriculture.' Option (b) is incorrect as it contradicts the views of the author on the right-wing populists. Option (c) is incorrect as it is irrelevant in the context of the passage. Option (d) is incorrect because the 'ecological sovereignty' is not strengthening but weakening the green policies leading to climate change. Hence (a).

103. Ans. b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage discusses how Sri Aurobindo's version of the "Mahabharata" tale of Savitri offers a unique engagement of women with death, highlighting it as a symbol of the "divine truth of being." This indicates a departure from traditional interpretations. Option (a) is incorrect because the passage contrasts Death's portrayal in "The Seventh Seal" as cunning and deceitful with Yama's adherence to Dharma in the Mahabharata, indicating fundamental differences. Option (c) is incorrect as the passage emphasizes Savitri's intellectual prowess in outwitting Death, rather than focusing on her emotional grief. Option (d) is incorrect because "The Seventh Seal" is described as aligning with the grim reality of death's inescapability, not suggesting a positive outlook. Hence (b).

104. Ans. d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. It directly supports the author's discussion of Sri Aurobindo's unique portrayal of women, particularly in "Savitri: A Legend and a Symbol," as central figures in engaging with death. This recognition for feminist interpretations aligns with the passage's emphasis on the role of women in these narratives. Option (a) is incorrect because while it discusses cultural personifications of death, it does not specifically strengthen the argument regarding the role of women in the narratives. Option (b) is incorrect as it pertains to Bergman's intentions, which are not directly related to the author's focus on women's roles in these stories. Option (c) is incorrect because the focus on other Mahabharata stories does not directly strengthen the argument about the unique portrayal of women in the specific tale of Savitri. Hence (d).

105. Ans. c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage clearly states that Death in "The Seventh Seal" is characterized as cunning and deceitful, which contrasts with Yama's adherence to Dharma in the "Mahabharata." This aligns perfectly with the author's discussion. Option (a) is incorrect because it wrongly suggests that Death in "The Seventh Seal" also adheres to moral and divine laws, which contradicts the passage. Option (b) is incorrect as the passage does not depict Death in "The Seventh Seal" as benevolent or forgiving, instead highlighting its deceitful nature. Option (d) is incorrect because the passage does not suggest that both works symbolize the triumph of human intellect over mortality; rather, it contrasts their portrayals of Death. Hence (c).

106. Ans. b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. It aligns with the passage's discussion of how Death's portrayal in "The Seventh Seal" as cunning and deceitful contrasts with Yama's role in the "Mahabharata," which reflects cultural differences in viewing mortality. Option (a) is incorrect because the passage suggests that in the "Mahabharata," Savitri does outmanoeuvre Death intellectually. Option (c) is incorrect as the passage does not emphasize divine intervention in both narratives; it only mentions Yama's divine laws in the "Mahabharata." Option (d) is incorrect because the passage focuses more on the portrayal and perception of Death rather than its ultimate significance as the end of human existence. Hence (b).

107. Ans. c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. It aligns with the emphasis laid on Sri Aurobindo's unique interpretation of the "Mahabharata," reflecting how cultural context and the narrator's perspective can lead to different portrayals, especially regarding women's roles. Option (a) is incorrect because the passage highlights the unique and central role of women in these narratives, contradicting the notion of their limitation to traditional roles. Option (b) is incorrect as the passage showcases Savitri's intellectual prowess, not just her emotional expressions. Option (d) is incorrect because it generalizes the depiction of Death, whereas the passage discusses varied portrayals of Death in different narratives. Hence (c).

108. Ans. a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. The passage suggests that the Aurobindo's Savitri concludes with Death dancing with Block and his companions, a portrayal that aligns closely with the grim reality of death's inescapability and in contrast, the Mahabharata's tale of Savitri offers a different perspective. Option (b) is incorrect because the passage does not suggest that Savitri lets her emotional grief win over the death of her husband. Option (c) is incorrect as the author does not particularly compare or note the Savitri's narrative in the Mahabharata version. Option (d) is incorrect, although the author mentions that the "The Seventh Seal" involves active engagements with death, however the depiction of the death in his version was deceptive but not unique or transitional. Hence (a).

Section E-Quantitative Techniques

109. Ans. d

Sol: COMMON EXPLANATION,

For class 8th,

Let the total number of student = $100x$

So, the total number of girls and boys are $65x$ and $35x$, respectively.

Number of girls who scored less than or equal to 80% = 60% of $65x = 39x$

Number of boys who scored less than or equal to 80% = 80% of $35x = 28x$

Now, The number of students who scored less than or equal to 80% is 1340.

$$39x + 28x = 1340 \Rightarrow 67x = 1340 \Rightarrow x = 20$$

For class 9th,

Let the total number of student = $100y$

So, the total number of girls and boys are $55y$ and $45y$, respectively.

Number of girls who scored less than or equal to 70% = 40% of $55y = 22y$

Number of boys who scored less than or equal to 70% = 60% of $45y = 27y$

Now, The number of students who scored less than or equal to 70% is 1470.

$$22y + 27y = 1470 \Rightarrow y = 30$$

For class 10th,

Let the total number of student = $100z$

So, the total number of girls and boys are $60z$ and $40z$, respectively.

Number of girls who scored less than or equal to 75% = 60% of $60z = 36z$

Number of boys who scored less than or equal to 75% = 50% of $40z = 20z$

Now, The number of students who scored less than or equal to 75% is 560.

$$36z + 20z = 560 \Rightarrow 56z = 560 \Rightarrow z = 10$$

Now, we can easily arrange above data in tabular form.

Class	Girls	Boys	Total
8 th	1300	700	2000
9 th	1650	1350	3000
10 th	600	400	1000

Now ATQ,

$$\text{Average} = (1300 + 1650)/2 = 1475$$

Hence, option (d) is correct.

110. Ans. a

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,

$$\text{Ratio} = 700 + 1350 : 1650 + 600 = 2050 : 2250 = 41 : 45$$

Hence, option (a) is correct.

111. Ans. c

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,

$$\text{The number of students of class 8th and 9th together} = 2000 + 3000 = 5000$$

$$\text{The number of students of class 9th and 10th together} = 3000 + 1000 = 4000$$

$$\text{Required \% difference} = (5000 - 4000)/4000 = 1000/4000 = 25\%$$

Hence, option (c) is correct.

112. Ans. b

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,

$$\text{Difference} = (1300 + 1650 + 600) - (700 + 1350 + 400) = 1100$$

Hence, option (b) is correct.

113. Ans. a

Sol: COMMON EXPLANATION,

Given that, the ratio between age of Vidhi and Vidhan 5 years ago was 7: 10, respectively.

Let the age of Vidhi and Vidhan 5 years ago is $7x$ and $10x$, respectively.

Therefore,

Present age of Vidhi = $(7x + 5)$ years

Present age of Vidhan = $(10x + 5)$ years

Now, Vidyut's present age is 5 years less than twice the present age of Vidhi.

Present age of Vidyut = $2 \times (7x + 5) - 5 = 14x + 10 - 5 = (14x + 5)$ years

Now, the ratio between ages of Vidhan and Vidyut 5 year hence is 3: 4, respectively.

So,

Age of Vidhan after 5 years = $10x + 5 + 5 = (10x + 10)$ years

Age of Vidyut after 5 years = $14x + 5 + 5 = (14x + 10)$ years

Now,

Age of Vidhan after 5 years: Age of Vidyut after 5 years = 3:4,

$\Rightarrow (10x + 10) : (14x + 10) = 3:4 \Rightarrow x = 5$,

Similarly,

Given that, the ratio between age of Vidushi and Vidhit 4 years ago was 4:5, respectively

Let the age of Vidushi and Vidhit 4 years ago is $4y$ and $5y$, respectively.

Therefore,

Present age of Vidushi = $(4y + 4)$ years

Present age of Vidhit = $(5y + 4)$ years

Now, Vidya's present age is 6 years more than twice the present age of Vidushi.

Present age of Vidya = $2 \times (4y + 4) + 6 = 8y + 8 + 6 = (8y + 14)$ years

Now, the ratio between ages of Vidhit and Vidya 4 year hence is 14:25, respectively

So,

Age of Vidhit after 4 years = $5y + 4 + 4 = (5y + 8)$ years

Age of Vidya after 4 years = $8y + 14 + 4 = (8y + 18)$ years

Now,

Age of Vidhit after 4 years: Age of Vidya after 4 years = 14:25,

$\Rightarrow (5y + 8) : (8y + 18) = 14:25 \Rightarrow y = 4$

Now, we can easily calculate the age of all persons and arrange into tabular form.

	Vidhi	Vidhan	Vidyut	Vidushi	Vidhit	Vidya
Present age	40 years	55 years	75 years	20 years	24 years	46 years

Now ATQ,

Difference between the present age of Vidhan and Vidhi = $55 - 40 = 15$ years

Hence, option (a) is correct.

114. Ans. d

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,

Sum = $40 + 55 + 75 + 20 + 24 + 46 = 260$ years

Hence, option (d) is correct.

115. Ans. b

Sol: Following the COMMON EXPLANATION,

Ratio = $55 + 5 : 46 - 6 = 60:40 = 3:2$

Hence, option (b) is correct.

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

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