

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
(b)	(d)	(c)	(c)	(a)	(a)	(b)	(d)	(c)	(a)
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
(c)	(d)	(c)	(a)	(b)	(b)	(a)	(a)	(c)	(d)
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
(a)	(b)	(a)	(d)	(b)	(d)	(d)	(a)	(b)	(c)
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
(a)	(b)	(d)	(b)	(c)	(a)	(b)	(c)	(b)	(c)
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
(b)	(c)	(d)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(a)	(b)	(c)	(c)
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
(a)	(b)	(c)	(c)	(a)	(d)	(c)	(b)	(b)	(c)
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
(b)	(d)	(c)	(b)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(d)	(c)	(d)
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
(d)	(d)	(c)	(b)	(d)	(b)	(a)	(c)	(b)	(b)
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
(a)	(b)	(d)	(a)	(d)	(d)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(c)
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
(b)	(c)	(c)	(c)	(b)	(c)	(b)	(c)	(c)	(b)
101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110
(d)	(c)	(b)	(c)	(a)	(d)	(a)	(d)	(c)	(c)
111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120
(a)	(b)	(d)	(c)	(c)	(a)	(b)	(b)	(a)	(d)

[Explanation: In the passage provided, the narrator begins by setting a tone of disbelief and impending doom. The statement, "But to-morrow I die, and to-day I would unburthen my soul," suggests a looming sense of mortality that the narrator is grappling with. Despite being aware of his imminent death, he expresses neither expectation nor desire for others to believe his account. This reluctance to expect belief underscores his understanding that his impending death is something others might find incredulous or difficult to accept.

The phrase "mad indeed would I be to expect it" highlights the narrator's internal struggle and disbelief regarding his own mortality. The use of "mad" suggests a conflict between rational thought and emotional turmoil. It indicates that while the narrator understands the reality of his situation, he finds it difficult to fully accept or come to terms with it.

Moreover, the narrator's choice to unburden his soul on the day before his death signifies a deep-seated need to share his story or confession, possibly as a way to reconcile with himself or to leave a testament to what has transpired. This act can be interpreted as an attempt to confront the reality of his impending death by externalizing his thoughts and emotions, despite his initial denial or disbelief.

Therefore, the narrator's initial attitude towards his impending death, as evidenced by his words and emotional state, aligns most closely with option B: "He is in denial and refuses to believe it." This interpretation is supported by the narrator's admission of impending death while simultaneously expressing disbelief and an expectation that others might not accept or understand his situation.]

2. Answer - D

[Explanation: In the passage provided, the narrator expresses a profound admiration and preference for the loyalty of animals over the friendships of humans. The narrator begins by highlighting his childhood disposition, noting his tenderness of heart and special fondness for animals. This fondness continued into adulthood, becoming one of his principal sources of pleasure.

The narrator articulates a sentiment that resonates with those who have experienced the loyalty of animals, particularly citing the "unselfish and self-sacrificing love of a brute." This phrase suggests that animals demonstrate a loyalty that is not tainted by human flaws such as selfishness or fickleness. Instead, it is a loyalty that goes straight to the heart of anyone who has felt the disappointment of insincere human friendships.

The passage contrasts the loyalty of animals with the "paltry friendship and gossamer fidelity of mere Man," implying that human relationships often lack the depth and constancy found in the loyalty of animals. This comparison underscores the narrator's belief that animal loyalty is more genuine and reliable than human friendships, which can be fleeting and conditional.

Therefore, the narrator's viewpoint regarding the loyalty of animals compared to that of humans aligns most closely with option D: "He finds animal loyalty more genuine than human friendship." This interpretation is supported by the narrator's heartfelt appreciation for the steadfast loyalty of animals throughout his life, contrasting it favorably with the perceived shortcomings of human relationships.

In conclusion, the narrator's perspective highlights a deep-seated belief in the sincerity and depth of animal loyalty, portraying it as a source of solace and joy that surpasses the complexities of human

interactions. This sentiment resonates throughout the passage, emphasizing the profound impact that animals have had on the narrator's life and emotional well-being.]

3. Answer - C

[Explanation: In the passage provided, the narrator describes the black cat as "sagacious to an astonishing degree." The word "sagacious" holds a specific meaning that directly influences the characterization of the cat. "Sagacious" refers to having or showing keen mental discernment and good judgment; it implies wisdom and intelligence beyond the ordinary.

The narrator's use of "sagacious" suggests that the black cat possesses remarkable intelligence and perceptiveness. This is further emphasized by the phrase "to an astonishing degree," indicating that the cat's abilities exceed typical expectations. The choice of this word paints a picture of a creature that is not only intelligent but also capable of making sound decisions and understanding complex situations.

Moreover, the context in which the narrator discusses the cat reinforces the idea of its sagacity. The cat's intelligence is highlighted in contrast to its appearance as a "remarkably large and beautiful animal, entirely black." This juxtaposition suggests that despite its striking physical attributes, it is the cat's mental acuity and wise behavior that truly capture the narrator's admiration.

Therefore, the word "sagacious" in relation to the narrator's black cat signifies a level of intelligence and wisdom that sets the animal apart from others. It denotes an ability to navigate its environment with insight and understanding, making choices that reflect a deep understanding of circumstances.

In conclusion, the narrator's characterization of the black cat as "sagacious" aligns with option B: "Wise and intelligent." This interpretation is supported by the word's definition and the context in which it is used within the passage, highlighting the cat's exceptional mental faculties and perceptiveness.]

4. Answer - C

[Explanation: "My very senses reject their own evidence" employs a paradoxical literary device, presenting a situation where the narrator's senses, typically relied upon to perceive and validate reality, are described as rejecting their own evidence. This statement challenges conventional logic by juxtaposing the expected function of senses with their unexpected refusal to accept what they perceive. The paradox serves multiple purposes within the passage: it underscores the narrator's heightened emotional and psychological state, highlighting a profound disconnect between perception and belief. It also invites readers to question the reliability of sensory perception and contemplate deeper philosophical questions about the nature of truth and reality. By presenting this contradiction, the author enhances the narrative's tension and thematic complexity, preparing readers for the unsettling events to follow while prompting them to consider the broader implications of human perception and understanding. Thus, the paradoxical phrase not only enhances the narrative's intrigue and emotional impact but also encourages readers to engage critically with the text's themes of uncertainty and existential fear.]

5. Answer - A

[Explanation: In the passage, the narrator introduces his wife's superstitions about their large, black cat, noting that she occasionally alludes to the traditional belief that such cats are witches in disguise. However, the narrator clearly states that his wife is not serious about these superstitions, mentioning them casually and without conviction. This dismissive attitude suggests that the narrator does not consider superstitions to be significant or relevant to the events he wishes to recount.

This dismissal of superstitions as irrelevant aligns with the narrator's overall approach of presenting his narrative in a straightforward and factual manner. He aims to unburden his soul by recounting a series of household events that have deeply affected him, focusing on their emotional and psychological impact rather than supernatural or mystical elements. By downplaying his wife's superstitions, the narrator emphasizes his intent to portray events plainly and without unnecessary embellishment.

Furthermore, the narrator's attitude towards superstitions underscores a pragmatic and rational perspective. He acknowledges their existence within cultural and historical contexts but does not attribute any meaningful influence to them in shaping his narrative or his own beliefs. This analytical assessment highlights the narrator's commitment to presenting his experiences with clarity and honesty, free from the distractions of supernatural interpretations.

Therefore, option A accurately reflects the narrator's analytical stance towards superstitions—viewing them as inconsequential to the narrative's core themes and focusing instead on the profound personal impact of the events he describes.]

6. Answer - A

[Explanation: In paragraph 1 of the passage, the term "vaunted" is used to describe the achievements of the Modi government. The word "vaunted" typically means to boast about or praise something highly. When applied to achievements, it suggests that these accomplishments are not only acknowledged but also emphasized and highlighted with pride. The context in which it appears indicates that the achievements of the government are being extolled or celebrated.

To "vaunt" something is to promote it in a conspicuous or self-satisfied manner, often implying that the praise may be somewhat excessive or overly emphasized. Therefore, the correct answer is A) Overstated. This choice aligns with the idea that the achievements are being portrayed in a very positive and perhaps exaggerated manner.

Option B, "Doubted," is incorrect because "vaunted" does not imply skepticism or uncertainty; rather, it denotes confidence and acclaim. Option C, "Underestimated," is incorrect as "vaunted" implies the opposite — that something is highly regarded or esteemed. Option D, "Misinterpreted," is also incorrect because "vaunted" does not imply that the achievements are misunderstood but rather that they are proudly showcased.

In conclusion, the word "vaunted" in the context of the passage indicates that the achievements of the Modi government are highly praised and prominently displayed, reflecting a positive perception of their significance.]

7. Answer - B

[Explanation: The phrase "overly despondent" is used to describe a negative outlook or attitude towards the challenges in urban transport. To understand the phrase, it's important to break down its components:

"Despondent" means feeling hopeless, discouraged, or disheartened. When something is "overly despondent," it means the level of pessimism or discouragement is excessive or unnecessary.

In the passage, this phrase is contrasted with the idea of not becoming overly despondent despite acknowledging the significant challenges faced in urban transport. It suggests that while the situation is challenging, being excessively pessimistic or discouraged does not help in addressing the issues effectively.

Therefore, the correct answer is B) Unnecessarily pessimistic. This choice accurately reflects the idea that the phrase "overly despondent" implies a pessimistic viewpoint that goes beyond what is justified or constructive. It emphasizes the need for a balanced perspective and proactive approach in tackling urban transport issues.

Options A, "Excessively hopeful," C, "Genuinely enthusiastic," and D, "Mildly skeptical," are incorrect because they do not convey the negative and discouraging tone associated with "overly despondent." The phrase indicates a state of pessimism rather than hopefulness, enthusiasm, or mild skepticism.]

8. Answer - D

[Explanation: "Every urban master plan has lofty objectives of increasing the share of all journeys made by public transport. Yet, the result is the opposite" is an example of irony:

Irony is a literary device that involves a contrast between expectation (what is intended or expected) and reality (what actually occurs), often revealing a disconnect or contradiction between the two. In the context of the passage provided, the statement highlights a fundamental contradiction in urban planning and transport policy.

Firstly, urban master plans universally aim to enhance the use of public transport as a means to reduce congestion, pollution, and promote sustainable mobility. These plans are typically backed by ambitious goals and policies aimed at improving public transport infrastructure, increasing its accessibility, and encouraging people to opt for public transport over private vehicles.

However, despite these well-intentioned objectives, the reality depicted in the passage reveals a starkly different outcome. Instead of an increase in public transport usage, there has been a noticeable rise in the number of private vehicles, particularly two-wheelers and cars. This shift not only indicates a failure to achieve the intended goals of urban master plans but also suggests unintended consequences such as worsening traffic congestion, air pollution, and reduced efficiency in urban mobility.

The irony lies in the discrepancy between the optimistic aims of urban planning—promoting public transport and reducing reliance on private vehicles—and the actual trend observed over the years. This contrast underscores the shortcomings of urban development strategies and calls attention to the complexities involved in achieving sustainable urban transport solutions.

Moreover, the use of irony in this context serves a critical purpose in the passage. It prompts readers to reflect on the gap between idealistic planning objectives and the challenging realities of implementation. It encourages a deeper examination of the factors contributing to the dominance of private vehicles despite efforts to promote alternatives, thereby fostering a more nuanced understanding of urban transport issues.]

9. Answer - C

[Explanation: The correct answer is C. The passage underscores the challenges posed by poor urban transport infrastructure in India, highlighting its detrimental impact on sustainable development goals. Urban transport is portrayed as a critical component of urbanization, influencing economic growth, environmental sustainability, and quality of life in cities.

- **Economic Implications:** The passage discusses how inadequate urban transport infrastructure hinders economic growth by limiting connectivity to jobs and markets. It suggests that congestion and inefficiencies in urban mobility contribute to productivity losses and increased costs for businesses and commuters alike. This aspect illustrates how poor urban transport directly affects economic activities and urban development.
- **Environmental Sustainability:** Sustainable development goals encompass environmental considerations such as reducing air pollution and promoting eco-friendly transport modes like walking, cycling, and public transit. The passage contrasts historical trends where sustainable travel modes were predominant (e.g., buses comprising 42% of trips in Chennai in 1970) with current trends dominated by private vehicles (cars and two-wheelers). This shift not only exacerbates traffic congestion but also increases emissions and environmental degradation, posing challenges to achieving sustainability targets.
- **Social and Cultural Impact:** Urban transport influences societal aspects by shaping commuting patterns, access to essential services, and overall quality of life. The rise of private vehicle usage reflects societal preferences for individual mobility but also highlights disparities in accessibility and affordability of public transport options, particularly for marginalized communities.
- **Policy and Planning Challenges:** The passage critiques urban master plans that aim to increase public transport usage but have seen limited success in practice. It suggests a disconnect between policy objectives and outcomes, attributing this gap to factors such as inadequate infrastructure investments, ineffective implementation strategies, and cultural shifts favoring private vehicle ownership.

In conclusion, the passage's portrayal of poor urban transport as a barrier to achieving sustainable development goals emphasizes its multifaceted impact on economic, environmental, and social dimensions of urban life in India. By highlighting the dominance of private vehicles and the challenges faced in promoting sustainable transport alternatives, the passage urges policymakers to

reconsider urban planning strategies and prioritize investments in efficient, accessible, and environmentally friendly urban transport systems.]

10. Answer: A

[Explanation: The passage draws upon old Bollywood movies from the 1950s and 1970s to illustrate the historical state of urban transport in Mumbai. It highlights that films from these decades provide a stark contrast to the current traffic conditions observed in the city. Specifically, movies from the 1970s, such as Amol Palekar's "Chhoti Si Baat," depict Mumbai streets with minimal to no traffic congestion. This portrayal stands in sharp contrast to contemporary Mumbai, where traffic congestion has become a pervasive issue.

By referencing these films, the passage underscores the significant transformation in Mumbai's urban transport landscape over the decades. It implies that during the 1970s, Mumbai enjoyed relatively uncongested streets, reflecting a time when public transport and other sustainable modes likely dominated urban travel. This historical perspective serves to highlight the dramatic increase in vehicular traffic, particularly private cars and two-wheelers, which has contributed to the current congestion and transportation challenges faced by Indian cities.

Furthermore, the mention of old Bollywood movies serves not only as anecdotal evidence but also as a cultural reference point to emphasize how urbanization and changes in transportation modes have altered the city's fabric. It suggests that Mumbai's transport history, as depicted in these films, provides valuable insights into the evolution of urban mobility and the associated challenges that policymakers and urban planners must address today.

In conclusion, the passage utilizes historical cinematic evidence to illustrate the evolution of Mumbai's traffic landscape, showing how a city once depicted with minimal traffic congestion in films from the 1970s has transformed into one facing significant urban transport challenges today. This contextual understanding underscores the broader narrative of urbanization and transport dynamics in Indian cities, making the connection between past depictions and present-day realities in Mumbai's urban transport system.]

11. Answer - C

[Explanation: In the context of the passage, the term "fever dream" is used to describe the surreal and ephemeral experience the narrator underwent during the months when they possessed immense wealth and luxury due to the Djinn's influence. This period felt almost unreal and dreamlike, similar to the disorienting and vivid experiences one might have during a fever-induced dream. The illusion here lies in the deceptive nature of this experience—it appeared real and substantial at the time but ultimately was fleeting and insubstantial, vanishing suddenly and leaving the narrator back in their original state.

The word "illusion" typically refers to a false impression or deceptive appearance, something that misleads the senses or the mind. In this case, the narrator's opulent life was an illusion because it created a misleading impression of permanence and stability that was quickly shattered. The term "fever dream" effectively captures this sense of an illusory, transient state that is both vivid and unreal.

Let's consider why the other options do not fit the synonym for "illusion":

- A) Antiques: This refers to old, collectible items of value. There is no implication of deception or false appearance in the term "antiques."
- B) Worship: This term refers to reverence or adoration, typically directed towards a deity or revered figure. It does not connote any sense of illusion or falsehood.
- D) Recover: This word means to regain or return to a normal state after a period of difficulty or illness. It does not imply any sense of deceptive or misleading appearance.

Thus, "fever dream" is the best synonym for "illusion" in the passage because it encapsulates the idea of a deceptive, temporary reality that ultimately fades away, leaving the narrator to confront their true circumstances.]

12. Answer - D

[Explanation: The phrase "stung me in ways I cannot begin to describe" is laden with emotional weight, indicating a profound and visceral reaction that is deeply felt but difficult to articulate. This reaction is tied to the narrator's return to their parents and the realization of their past neglect and selfishness.

The word "stung" typically connotes a sharp, sudden pain, much like the physical sensation of being stung by an insect. In a metaphorical sense, it captures the narrator's emotional suffering and distress upon confronting their parents' open arms and the unconditional love they had previously ignored. The use of the phrase suggests a combination of remorse, regret, and emotional turmoil.

Analyzing why the other options are less fitting helps clarify why "pain" is the most appropriate choice:

- A) Anger: While anger can be a strong emotional response, it does not align with the context of the passage. The narrator is not reacting with hostility or irritation towards their parents; rather, they are dealing with internal anguish and guilt.
- B) Surprise: Surprise indicates a sudden or unexpected reaction but lacks the depth of emotional suffering implied by the phrase "stung me in ways I cannot begin to describe." The narrator's reaction is more complex and layered than mere surprise.
- C) Joy: Joy is a positive and uplifting emotion, which contrasts sharply with the context of the passage. The narrator's experience is marked by painful self-reflection and regret, rather than happiness or elation.

Therefore, the phrase suggests pain—a deep, emotional hurt stemming from the narrator's realization of their past behavior and the impact it had on their relationship with their parents. This pain is compounded by the parents' open and forgiving response, which highlights the narrator's feelings of guilt and remorse even more intensely. The emotional pain described is multifaceted, involving sorrow for lost time, regret for selfish actions, and the sting of recognizing their own flaws and shortcomings.]

13. Answer: C

[Explanation: The passage "I lost all the things I had to lose. All my money. My properties, my lovers, all the people I had gathered to worship me and act at my smallest demand. My antiques, alcohol, cars." is a clear example of asyndeton. Asyndeton is a literary device where conjunctions (such as

"and" or "but") are omitted between parts of a sentence or list. This technique can be used to create a concise, impactful, and often dramatic effect.

In this passage, the narrator lists the items and people they lost without using conjunctions, which accelerates the rhythm and conveys a sense of rapid, overwhelming loss. Each item is starkly presented, enhancing the reader's perception of the sudden and total nature of the narrator's downfall. The lack of conjunctions between these nouns creates a feeling of breathlessness and emphasizes the sheer volume and significance of what has been lost.

Let's analyze why the other options are incorrect for this passage:

- A) Anaphora: This device involves the repetition of a word or phrase at the beginning of successive clauses or sentences. For example, if the passage had repeated "I lost" at the start of multiple sentences, it would be anaphora. However, the passage does not exhibit this pattern.
- B) Epistrophe: This involves the repetition of a word or phrase at the end of successive clauses or sentences. It's used for emphasis or poetic effect. The passage does not end its clauses or sentences with the same word or phrase, so it does not qualify as epistrophe.
- D) Polysyndeton: This is the opposite of asyndeton, involving the use of multiple conjunctions in close succession, often to slow down the pace of the text or create a sense of accumulation. For instance, a polysyndetic list might read "and my money, and my properties, and my lovers." The passage lacks the repeated use of conjunctions and therefore does not use polysyndeton.

By using asyndeton, the passage achieves a sense of immediacy and stark reality, allowing the reader to feel the weight of the narrator's losses. Each noun stands alone, isolated, much like the narrator feels in the wake of their losses. This technique effectively mirrors the overwhelming and disorienting experience of the narrator, emphasizing the totality of their downfall.]

14. Answer - A

[Explanation: The passage illustrates the protagonist's profound transformation from a life of material wealth and superficial relationships to one of simplicity and genuine connections. This journey supports the thesis that material possessions and power are ultimately unfulfilling and lead to a deeper appreciation for simple joys and authentic relationships.

Initially, the protagonist revels in a life filled with money, properties, lovers, and a host of admirers who cater to his every whim. However, this life quickly crumbles, leaving him with nothing. Returning to his parents, who welcome him back with open arms despite his previous neglect, he begins a slow recovery. This pivotal moment marks the start of his realization that the material wealth and power he once cherished are hollow and do not bring true fulfillment.

As the protagonist takes on a simpler job as a barista in a local café, he begins to find joy in the mundane yet meaningful interactions with a diverse range of customers. These encounters prove to be more enriching and interesting than the superficial relationships he had during his life of luxury. The genuine connections he forms and the satisfaction he derives from his work illustrate that happiness can be found in simplicity and authenticity.

Furthermore, the protagonist experiences an emotional and psychological revival, laughing and dreaming more than he ever did in his opulent past. This positive transformation is further solidified when he meets someone special, suggesting that true happiness is intertwined with authentic human connections rather than materialistic pursuits.

While options B, C, and D offer some insights, they do not encapsulate the protagonist's core realizations. Option B emphasizes supernatural influence, which, although a catalyst, is not the main focus of his transformation. Option C highlights the downfall associated with a life of luxury but overlooks the protagonist's positive journey towards appreciating simpler pleasures. Option D suggests that hard work and traditional success are keys to happiness, which is not the essence of the protagonist's newfound contentment.

Therefore, the thesis that best supports an analytical assessment of the protagonist's journey is:

A) Material possessions and power are ultimately unfulfilling and lead to a deeper appreciation for simple joys and authentic relationships.

This thesis encapsulates the protagonist's realization that true fulfillment comes from the simplicity of life and genuine human connections, rather than the ephemeral satisfaction derived from material wealth and superficial power.]

15. Answer: B

[Explanation: The narrator's reflection on their lost possessions and relationships reveals a significant shift in their perspective on life. Initially, the narrator had accumulated vast wealth, properties, lovers, and a host of people who worshipped them and fulfilled their every demand. This lifestyle, however, came crashing down suddenly, leaving them with nothing. In the aftermath of this dramatic loss, the narrator returned to their parents, feeling a deep sense of regret and guilt for having neglected them completely during their period of opulence. The narrator acknowledges their selfishness and the superficiality of their former life.

The transition period that followed their return was marked by confusion and loss, but also by a growing sense of relief. The narrator began to recover by taking up a job as a barista in a local café, which starkly contrasted with the corporate job they had previously loathed. This new job, while simpler and less prestigious, brought the narrator immense joy and fulfillment. They found beauty and interest in the diverse people who came to drink the coffee they made with their own hands. This experience allowed the narrator to engage with others on a more genuine and meaningful level, fostering real human connections that they had lacked before.

The narrator's new life, characterized by simplicity and authenticity, provided a profound sense of happiness and contentment that their former life of luxury and excess could not. They laughed and dreamed more than ever before, appreciating the value of genuine experiences and relationships over material possessions and superficial interactions. The culmination of this newfound happiness came when the narrator met someone special, further emphasizing the deep satisfaction and joy they found in their simpler, more authentic life.

Ultimately, the narrator's reflection highlights a journey from superficial wealth and relationships to genuine contentment and happiness through simpler, more meaningful experiences. This transformation underscores the narrator's realization that true fulfillment comes not from material possessions or status, but from authentic human connections and a life lived with sincerity and purpose.]

16. Answer - B

[Explanation: The narrator's response to the preacher's assurances of an afterlife reflects a deep-seated skepticism and doubt rather than acceptance or comfort. The passage states, "The god that would take from me these blessings was not one I had the desire to know," indicating the narrator's reluctance to embrace the preacher's teachings about an afterlife where he would be reunited with his deceased wife and child. This statement suggests that the narrator views the divine force responsible for his loss as unjust or undesirable, which undermines his willingness to believe in a comforting afterlife promised by the preacher.

Furthermore, the narrator's reaction of turning "a teary gaze to the preacher" and responding with a polite but distant "bless you, father," underscores his emotional distance and lack of genuine agreement with the preacher's assurances. The use of words like "hurt" and "such was my hurt" reveals the narrator's deep emotional pain and his struggle to reconcile his personal tragedy with the preacher's promise of eventual reunion in a blissful eternity. This complex emotional response highlights the narrator's inner turmoil and skepticism towards religious comfort in the face of profound loss, making option B, "Skeptical and doubtful," the correct answer.]

17. Answer: A

[Explanation: In the passage, the preacher's demeanor is characterized as solemn and austere. The description of his attire, with threadbare robes and a hat that is both humble yet foreboding like that of a doctor during a plague, sets the tone for his appearance. The use of words like "threadbare" suggests that his clothing is worn and simple, indicating a life of humility and perhaps hardship. However, the adjective "foreboding" adds a layer of seriousness and gravity to his presence, hinting at a deeper, more solemn aspect to his character.

When the preacher speaks to the protagonist, his manner is described as firm and quick. This implies that he speaks with conviction and urgency about matters such as the afterlife and the eternal reunion with loved ones. Despite the preacher's austere appearance, his words carry weight and authority, reflecting his role not only as a spiritual guide but also as a bearer of profound beliefs and promises.

The choice of the word "solemn" further emphasizes the seriousness and gravity of the preacher's demeanor. It suggests that he approaches his duties with solemnity, acknowledging the weight of his words and the impact they may have on those grieving or in need of spiritual guidance. This demeanor contrasts with joviality or enthusiasm (option B), which are not supported by the passage's description of the preacher as serious and reserved.

In conclusion, the preacher's solemn and austere demeanor, as described in the passage, underscores his role as a figure of spiritual authority and gravity within the community. His

appearance and mannerisms convey a sense of solemn duty and conviction in his beliefs, influencing how he is perceived by both the protagonist and the community he serves.]

18. Answer: A

[Explanation: In the passage, the adjective "fleet" is used to describe the men in the community who settled by the river. The phrase "the men were strong and fleet" suggests that these individuals were not only physically strong but also nimble and agile in their actions.

The word "fleet" here primarily conveys the idea of being quick and efficient. It implies that the men were adept at carrying out tasks swiftly and effectively, which is evidenced by their ability to construct homesteads, fencing, and even a church soon after settling in the nascent village. This efficiency is crucial in the context of establishing a new community where resources need to be utilized promptly for survival and growth.

Moreover, "fleet" also implies a sense of agility and adaptability. Beyond physical strength, these men demonstrated agility in adapting to their new environment and the challenges it presented, such as fishing, hunting, gathering wood, and building structures. Their ability to accomplish these tasks efficiently underscores their resourcefulness and capability in early community building.

Therefore, option A, "Nimble and agile," accurately defines the meaning of "fleet" in the context provided by the passage. It captures the nuanced interpretation of the word as it pertains to the men's actions and capabilities during the settlement process.]

19. Answer - C

[Explanation: In literature, apostrophe is a figure of speech where a speaker addresses someone absent or something non-human as if it were present and capable of responding. It often serves to intensify the emotional tone of a passage by creating a direct and personal connection between the speaker and the subject being addressed.

In the passage provided, the protagonist "spoke very little but held the dead close as if they would speak to me." This statement reveals a profound emotional state where the protagonist is not only physically holding onto the deceased but also emotionally engaging with them as if they were still alive and capable of communication. This behavior suggests a form of dialogue or interaction that goes beyond mere physical presence.

The use of apostrophe here amplifies the protagonist's grief and longing. By addressing the dead as if they were still able to respond, the protagonist expresses a deep emotional attachment and a desire for continued connection with the departed loved ones. This literary device serves to emphasize the protagonist's psychological state, highlighting their struggle to come to terms with loss and their yearning for a sense of continued presence or communication with those who have passed away.

The alternatives provided—Alliteration, Oxymoron, and Hyperbole—do not fit the context of the passage:

- Alliteration involves the repetition of initial consonant sounds in words close to each other, which is not evident in the passage.

- Oxymoron refers to the combination of contradictory terms (e.g., "bitter sweet"), which is not applicable here as the passage does not present contradictory terms.
- Hyperbole involves exaggeration for emphasis or effect, which is not demonstrated in the passage where the protagonist's actions and emotions are portrayed realistically rather than exaggeratedly.

Therefore, based on the analysis of the passage and the definition of apostrophe as a literary device, the correct answer remains C, apostrophe, as it accurately describes the protagonist's behavior of addressing the deceased as if they were still capable of responding, thereby intensifying the emotional depth of the narrative.]

20. Answer - D

[Explanation: The correct answer is D) It illustrates the tensions between personal grief and communal faith. Throughout the passage, the protagonist experiences profound personal grief due to the loss of his wife and infant son. His interaction with the preacher, who represents communal faith and religious authority, serves as a focal point for exploring broader themes in the narrative.

Firstly, the protagonist's skepticism towards the preacher's assurances of an afterlife highlights the tension between his intense personal grief and the communal faith espoused by the preacher. While the preacher offers solace and promises of reunion in an eternal realm, the protagonist struggles to reconcile his loss with the notion of a benevolent God who would take away his loved ones.

Secondly, the interaction underscores the complex interplay between individual suffering and communal faith-building within a newly settled community. As the settlement forms in the aftermath of a flood, characterized by loss and rediscovery of relics, the preacher's role in guiding the community spiritually becomes crucial. His attempts to bless homes, console grieving families, and impart religious teachings reflect communal efforts to establish a collective identity and sense of purpose amidst adversity.

Furthermore, the protagonist's withdrawal into grief and his solitary rituals, such as smoking tobacco by the fire and imagining conversations with his departed wife, symbolize his personal struggle to find meaning outside of traditional religious frameworks. This individual response contrasts with the preacher's communal role, emphasizing differing coping mechanisms and interpretations of faith within the frontier society.

Ultimately, the protagonist's interaction with the preacher serves as a microcosm of broader themes in the passage, illustrating the tensions between personal anguish and communal faith, the quest for meaning amidst loss, and the evolving dynamics of religious belief in shaping community identity in a challenging frontier environment.]

21. Answer - A

[Explanation: The passage primarily focuses on tracing the historical evolution of storytelling and its various forms, from ancient oral traditions to modern binge-watching facilitated by streaming services. It begins by highlighting how storytelling, initially through oral traditions, played a crucial role in ancient cultures by serving purposes such as entertainment, knowledge transmission, and cultural education. This sets the foundation for understanding how storytelling has been a persistent and integral part of human culture across millennia.

As the passage progresses, it discusses the transition from oral storytelling to written texts, citing examples such as the Indian fables in the Panchatantra and Shakespeare's plays, which were accessible through large collections in libraries. This phase emphasizes how written texts allowed for immersive consumption of narratives, much like binge-watching allows today, albeit in a different format.

The advent of technological innovations, such as the printing press, cinema, and television, further transformed storytelling by enhancing access and broadening audience engagement. The passage notes how serialized literature in the 19th century and the rise of cinema and television in the 20th century introduced new forms of immersive storytelling experiences, resembling binge-watching in terms of continuous and immersive consumption.

Finally, the passage connects this historical progression to the contemporary phenomenon of binge-watching through streaming services like Netflix and Disney+. These platforms have popularized the practice of releasing entire seasons of shows at once, allowing viewers to consume narratives in a binge-like manner. This evolution underscores the enduring human desire for immersive storytelling experiences, which has persisted from ancient oral traditions to modern digital platforms.

Therefore, option A) correctly encapsulates the main theme of the passage by emphasizing the continuous evolution of storytelling formats and mediums, highlighting how ancient oral traditions have paved the way for the contemporary binge-watching culture seen today. It illustrates the transformation of storytelling over time while acknowledging its fundamental role in human culture and entertainment practices.]

22. Answer - B

[Explanation: Option B) "Ancient storytelling traditions laid the foundation for modern forms of immersive entertainment" best captures the central idea expressed in the passage. The passage outlines the historical development of storytelling from ancient oral traditions to contemporary forms of narrative consumption, highlighting their influence on modern entertainment practices like binge-watching.

Firstly, the passage discusses ancient oral storytelling, noting its significance across various cultures for entertainment, knowledge transmission, and cultural education. These oral traditions relied on verbal narration and audience participation, establishing a direct and immersive engagement between storyteller and audience.

Secondly, the passage traces the evolution of storytelling with the advent of written texts. It cites examples such as the Panchatantra, Indian fables dating back to around 200 BC, and the works of William Shakespeare from the 1600s. Written texts allowed for the preservation and dissemination of stories across generations, enabling immersive consumption similar to binge-watching in terms of continuous and detailed narrative exploration.

Furthermore, the passage acknowledges the role of technological advancements, particularly the printing press, which revolutionized access to texts and further democratized storytelling. This phase facilitated widespread reading and expanded the audience for narratives, laying the groundwork for the later developments in entertainment media.

Lastly, the passage connects this historical evolution to contemporary binge-watching habits facilitated by streaming services like Netflix and Disney+. These platforms release entire seasons of shows at once, enabling viewers to engage deeply and continuously with narratives, akin to the immersive experiences offered by ancient oral traditions and serialized literature.]

23. Answer - A

[Explanation: The sentence "Eventually, the rise of cinema and television provided a new form of immersive storytelling" suggests that cinema and television introduced a type of storytelling that deeply engages or absorbs the audience. The word "immersive" in this context implies a narrative or experience that envelops the viewer, creating a sense of being deeply involved or absorbed in the story.

To accurately capture the meaning of "immersive" in this sentence, we look for a synonym that conveys the idea of being captivating or engrossing.

- Engrossing (Option A) means absorbing all of one's attention or interest, which perfectly aligns with the idea of deeply involving storytelling. It implies that the viewer is completely engrossed in the narrative, forgetting external distractions.
- Shallow (Option B) means lacking depth or intellectual or emotional profundity. This is the opposite of "immersive" as it suggests a superficial or superficially engaging experience, which does not captivate the viewer in a deep or meaningful way.
- Superficial (Option C) means concerned only with what is obvious or apparent, lacking in depth or completeness. This term indicates a lack of depth or meaningful engagement, contrasting with the immersive experience that involves the viewer deeply.
- Mundane (Option D) means lacking interest or excitement; dull. This word suggests something ordinary or everyday, devoid of the captivating or absorbing qualities associated with immersive storytelling.

Therefore, among the options provided, "Engrossing" (Option A) is the best synonym for "immersive" in the context of describing how cinema and television revolutionized storytelling. It accurately captures the idea that these media forms create experiences that deeply engage and absorb the audience, much like being immersed in a story or narrative world.

Options B, C, and D are all antonyms of "engrossing" and do not fit the context of the passage, where the focus is on the captivating and involving nature of storytelling facilitated by cinema and television. Thus, Option A is the correct answer.]

24. Answer - D

[Explanation: The phrase "unable to stop until the story ended" employs the literary device of hyperbole. Hyperbole is a figure of speech characterized by exaggerated or extravagant statements that are not meant to be taken literally. In the context of the passage, this hyperbolic expression vividly portrays the intense engagement and absorption of avid readers during the 18th century.

The use of hyperbole serves several purposes in this passage. Firstly, it emphasizes the extremity of the readers' behavior — their inability to cease reading until they reached the conclusion of the story. This exaggeration underscores the passionate and immersive nature of their interaction with literature, highlighting how deeply engrossed they were in the narrative.

Secondly, hyperbole functions to enhance the reader's comprehension by magnifying the emotional and psychological impact of reading during that era. It conveys a sense of urgency and dedication associated with the act of reading novels, suggesting that once readers were captivated by a story, they were driven to continue until they reached the satisfying conclusion.

Moreover, the hyperbolic statement "unable to stop until the story ended" captures a universal aspect of human behavior — the compelling desire to see a narrative through to its resolution. By exaggerating this natural inclination, the passage not only portrays historical reading habits but also resonates with contemporary readers who understand the consuming allure of a well-told story.

In conclusion, the use of hyperbole in the phrase "unable to stop until the story ended" enriches the passage by intensifying the portrayal of readers' fervor and commitment. It amplifies the significance of their engagement with literature, offering a heightened understanding of how literature has historically captivated and consumed its audience, making the act of reading a deeply immersive experience across centuries.]

25. Answer: B

[Explanation: The passage explores the concept of bingeing as a cultural phenomenon, tracing its roots from ancient oral storytelling traditions to modern-day streaming services. It argues that bingeing, defined as the unrestrained and excessive indulgence in stories, is not a recent development attributed solely to the advent of the internet and streaming platforms like Netflix and Disney+. Instead, the passage suggests that bingeing reflects a timeless human desire for immersive storytelling experiences.

Historically, bingeing manifested through oral storytelling, where communities would immerse themselves in narratives passed down through generations. These stories served not only as entertainment but also as a means of cultural education and knowledge transmission. The engagement with stories continued with the advent of written texts, where readers would consume large volumes of literature in one sitting, akin to binge-watching a series today.

Furthermore, the passage draws parallels between historical forms of bingeing, such as the serialization of literature in the 19th century or the public readings of novels in the 18th century, and modern binge-watching habits facilitated by streaming services. It suggests that the fundamental human desire to be completely immersed in a narrative—whether orally, through literature, or via visual media—remains constant across different historical periods.

Therefore, option B, "Bingeing reflects a timeless human desire for immersive storytelling experiences," best captures the passage's perspective. It emphasizes that bingeing is not a novel phenomenon brought about solely by technological advances but rather a continuation of humanity's enduring fascination with and enjoyment of deeply engaging narratives across various mediums throughout history. This perspective underscores the cultural and psychological significance of bingeing as a natural expression of human storytelling instincts over time.]

26. Answer - D

[Explanation: MS Swaminathan, the 'Father of India's Green Revolution,' helped India become self-reliant in agriculture and modernised it. He was conferred the Bharat Ratna posthumously.]

27. Answer - D

[Explanation: P.V. Narasimha Rao, awarded the Bharat Ratna posthumously in 2024, is credited with initiating the LPG (Liberalization, Privatization, and Globalization) reforms that transformed the Indian economy. The other figures were noted for different achievements.]

28. Answer - A

[Explanation: The words "Bharat Ratna" on the obverse side remained the same as the 1954 design as did the emblem of India and "Satyameva Jayate" on the reverse side.]

29. Answer - B

[Explanation: Parbati Baruah is India's first female mahout and has been recognized for her commitment towards mitigating human-elephant conflict with the help of scientific practices.]

30. Answer: C

[Explanation: C. Rajagopalachari, along with S. Radhakrishnan and C.V. Raman, were the first recipients of the Bharat Ratna in 1954. Rajagopalachari was recognized for his contributions to Indian independence, his tenure as the last Governor-General of India, and his profound influence on Indian politics and education.]

31. Answer - A

[Explanation: Jehangir Ratanji Dadabhoy Tata (J.R.D. Tata) was the Bharat Ratna awardee whose 120th birth anniversary was celebrated by TPWODL. The Bharat Ratna is India's highest civilian award.]

32. Answer - B

[Explanation: The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu presented Bharat Ratna at an Investiture Ceremony held at Rashtrapati Bhavan (March 30, 2024), New Delhi. 'Bharat Ratna', the highest civilian Award of the country, was instituted in the year 1954. Any person without distinction of race, occupation, position or sex is eligible for these awards. It is awarded in recognition of exceptional service/performance of the highest order in any field of human endeavour.]

33. Answer: D

[Explanation: Brainware integrates brain organoids with microelectrodes, which enables the formation of an organoid neural network that directly incorporates living brain tissue into the computing process.]

34. Answer: B

[Explanation: The "brain organoid" in Brainware is grown in a Petri dish using human stem cells. While the exact type of stem cells is not specified, embryonic stem cells are often used for such purposes due to their ability to differentiate into any cell type.]

35. Answer: C

[Explanation: It enables ANNs to identify trends from vast datasets for predictive analytics. The recent emergence of Big Data has significantly improved the utility of ANNs, especially in marketing. By analyzing extensive datasets, ANNs can predict consumer behavior, forecast sales, and optimize marketing campaigns based on trends identified from previous data.]

36. Answer - A

[Explanation: Convolutional neural networks (CNNs) are a type of feed-forward network that are used for image analysis and language processing. There are hidden convolutional layers that form ConvNets and detect patterns. CNNs use features such as edges, shapes, and textures to detect patterns.]

37. Answer - B

[Explanation:

- Option A is incorrect. Brainware does not utilize silicon chips but relies on brain organoids for adaptive learning.
- Option B is correct. The study shows that training leads to changes in the functional connectivity of the organoid, demonstrating unsupervised learning capabilities and improved performance.
- Option C is incorrect. Brainware's improvements are due to the adaptive nature of the organoids, not pre-programmed algorithms.
- Option D is incorrect. The system actually shows an increase in accuracy from 51% to 78%, indicating effective unsupervised learning.]

38. Answer - C

[Explanation: Brain organoids rely on the property of pluripotent stem cells, which have the capability to differentiate into various specific cell types. These cells were used to grow the brain organoid, which was then integrated into the biohybrid computer, Brainware. This characteristic of pluripotent stem cells is fundamental to the development and adaptability of the brain organoid in biocomputing.]

<https://www.labiotech.eu/trends-news/brainware-brain-organoid-ai/>

39. Answer - B

[Explanation: The human brain needs only 20 watts of power to perform tasks that a supercomputer, requiring around 21 megawatts, would perform. This stark difference in energy efficiency underscores the potential of the human brain's capabilities, which researchers aim to harness in the Brainware biohybrid computer.]

<https://www.labiotech.eu/trends-news/brainware-brain-organoid-ai/>

40. Answer - C

[Explanation: On 1 January 2024, BRICS – the intergovernmental organisation comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa – admitted four new members: Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran and the United Arab Emirates. The group's decision to open the door to new members was taken at its Johannesburg summit in August 2023, sparking a debate about its growing international influence.]

41. Answer - B

[Explanation: The 2024 BRICS Games, also known as the 2024 BRICS Sports Games, was an international multi-sport competition running from 12 to 23 June 2024 in Kazan, Russia, organized by countries belonging to the economic association BRICS, and was held in Kazan in connection with Russia's chairmanship of BRICS in 2024.]

42. Answer - C

[Explanation:

- Statement A is Incorrect. The report states that Saudi oil is increasingly directed to China and India.
- Statement B is Incorrect. Iran is expanding its oil exports to China despite sanctions.
- Statement C is Correct. This accurately reflects both the enhancement of BRICS' access to energy reserves and the direction of Saudi oil exports.
- Statement D is Incorrect. The inclusion of these countries significantly boosts BRICS' energy reserves.]

43. Answer - D

[Explanation: Finland - which has a 1,340km (832 mile) land border with Russia - joined in April 2023. Sweden became a member in March 2024. Both had applied to join in May 2022, shortly after Russia invaded Ukraine, having been neutral for decades. Ukraine, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Georgia also hope to join Nato.]

44. Answer - A

[Explanation: The \$100 billion trade agreement between Russia and India aligns with the BRICS' de-dollarization strategy by promoting the use of local currencies for international trade. This agreement is a significant step in reducing the reliance on the US dollar and reflects the bloc's broader strategy of conducting transactions in their own currencies. The other options do not accurately describe the nature of the agreement or its alignment with the de-dollarization goals.]

45. Answer - B

[Explanation: Malaysia has applied for membership in the BRICS alliance, as announced by Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim during his meeting with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov. This application signifies Malaysia's interest in joining the group of emerging economies, which currently includes Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa, along with newly admitted members Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, and the UAE.]

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/asia-pacific/malaysia-applies-for-brics-membership-premier-anwar-ibrahim/3287650>

46. Answer - A

[Explanation: The 2024 BRICS+ Youth Innovation Summit in South Africa had the overarching theme "Innovate to Empower: Building Futures, Transforming Societies". It aimed to empower young minds through innovation.]

47. Answer: A

[Explanation: The Extended Fund Facility (EFF) is the name of the IMF's provisional package to Sri Lanka that was cleared after India's financing assurance. The EFF is a medium-term lending arrangement that provides support to countries facing balance of payments problems due to structural weaknesses in their economies. The Rapid Financing Instrument (RFI) is a short-term lending arrangement that provides support to countries facing urgent balance of payments needs due to external shocks or natural disasters, the Stand-By Arrangement (SBA) is a short- to medium-term lending arrangement that provides support to countries facing balance of payments problems due to cyclical or temporary shocks, and the Flexible Credit Line (FCL) is a precautionary lending arrangement that provides access to large and upfront financing to countries with very strong policy frameworks and track records.]

48. Answer - B

[Explanation: India and Sri Lanka are set to take the ongoing discussions on the Economic and Trade Cooperation Agreement (ETCA) forward, with the next two rounds of bilateral talks scheduled later this month and in March. The progress in negotiations is significant for New Delhi and Colombo, as the much-discussed pact was stalled in the past, owing to stiff opposition from some worker unions and hardline Sinhala-nationalist politicians, who saw the agreement as favouring Indian interests predominantly.]

49. Answer - C

[Explanation: Major debt restructuring agreements valued at a combined USD 10 billion were concluded with major bilateral lenders under the auspices of the OCC, co-chaired by Japan, India, and France.]

[Sri Lanka concludes Major Debt Restructuring Agreements - Newswire](#)

50. Answer - C

[Explanation:

Statement A) is incorrect because the EEZ extends seaward up to 200 nautical miles, not 12 nautical miles. The 12-nautical-mile limit typically refers to a coastal state's territorial sea.

Statement B) is incorrect because unlike the territorial sea, the EEZ does not grant full sovereignty over all activities. While coastal states have sovereign rights within the EEZ for the purpose of exploring, exploiting, conserving, and managing natural resources, they do not have full sovereignty over navigation and overflight. These rights are subject to very limited exceptions.

Statement C) is correct. Within its EEZ, a coastal state has sovereign rights for the purpose of exploring, exploiting, conserving, and managing natural resources, whether living or nonliving, of the seabed and subsoil. This includes resources such as oil, gas, minerals, and marine life.

Statement D) is incorrect because the EEZ does not grant coastal states the authority to prohibit or limit freedom of navigation or overflight without exceptions. While coastal states have exclusive rights over resource exploitation within the EEZ, they must still allow for freedom of navigation and overflight, subject to very limited exceptions such as those related to national security or marine environmental protection.]

51. Answer - A

[Explanation: The primary reason for the recent tension between India and Sri Lanka over Katchatheevu is election rhetoric and nationalist sentiments in India. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Foreign Minister S. Jaishankar have used the issue to criticize the DMK and Congress, which has inflamed the situation. Although maritime resource allocation and cultural practices are relevant, the immediate cause of the tension is the political use of the issue in India's election campaigning.]

<https://southasianvoices.org/https-southasianvoices-org-geo-c-in-n-katchatheevu-india-sri-lanka-05-31-2024/>

52. Answer - B

[Explanation: The Afanasy Nikitin Sea-mount is the undersea mountainous feature in the equatorial Indian Ocean that is rich in cobalt. It is at the center of the maritime issue between India and Sri Lanka, with both countries having made claims regarding the exploration and rights over this resource-rich area.]

<https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/sri-lanka-lesser-known-maritime-issue-can-strain-india-relations-more-than-any-other>

53. Answer - C

[Explanation: The Frontline Socialist Party (FSP) in Sri Lanka accused India of exploiting the country's ongoing political and economic crisis by seeking to explore cobalt in the Afanasy Nikitin Sea-mount, an area claimed by Sri Lanka as part of its extended continental shelf.]

54. Correct Answer: C

Reference : "The Hindu Marriage Act specifies various valid reasons, including adultery, cruelty, desertion, conversion to another religion, mental illness, and incurable diseases."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

A) Incorrect: This option is partially correct. It correctly states that Raj can file for judicial separation based on Simran's adultery, which aligns with one of the valid grounds specified in the Hindu Marriage Act, as mentioned in the passage. However, it is important to note that this option does not consider Simran's counterclaim for cruelty. The passage indicates that spouses can seek judicial separation based on multiple valid grounds. In this case, Simran's claim of cruelty is also a legitimate ground for seeking separation. Therefore, while it correctly addresses one aspect of the scenario, it does not provide a comprehensive solution, as it neglects Simran's legal position.

B) Incorrect: This option is also partially correct. It acknowledges Simran's ability to counterclaim for judicial separation based on Raj's cruelty, which aligns with the passage's principle. However, it does not address Raj's right to file for separation based on Simran's adultery. The passage clearly states that various valid reasons, including cruelty, can serve as grounds for seeking judicial separation. Therefore, this option focuses exclusively on Simran's perspective and neglects Raj's legitimate grounds for seeking separation.

C) Correct: This option is the most appropriate and comprehensive answer. It recognizes that both Raj and Simran have valid grounds for seeking judicial separation, as established in the passage. The Hindu Marriage Act specifies multiple valid reasons for such separation, including adultery and cruelty, among others. In this complex scenario, where both parties have legitimate claims, it is entirely possible for both A and B to be valid. The passage emphasizes the importance of assessing the circumstances and deciding the case accordingly, which aligns perfectly with this option. Therefore, option C accurately reflects the complexity of the situation and the legal principles involved.

D) Incorrect: This option is incorrect as it dismisses the valid grounds for judicial separation that both Raj and Simran have based on the principles outlined in the passage. The passage clearly indicates that the Hindu Marriage Act provides multiple valid reasons, including adultery and cruelty, for spouses to seek judicial separation. Therefore, neither A nor B is an appropriate response, as both parties have legitimate claims based on the legal provisions mentioned in the passage.

55. Correct Answer: A

Reference: "During a judicial separation proceeding, the court also addresses important matters such as alimony or maintenance payments and child custody."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

A) Correct: This option provides the most comprehensive and legally sound approach to the complex situation presented. It correctly states that the court should prioritize the best interests of the children when deciding child custody, as emphasized in the passage. The welfare and happiness of the children should be the primary concern. Additionally, it appropriately addresses the division of marital assets, advocating for a fair and equitable distribution based on the contributions of both parties during the marriage. This aligns with the legal principle mentioned in the passage, ensuring that both child custody and asset distribution are handled according to established legal principles.

B) Incorrect: While this option emphasizes Maya's role as the primary caregiver, it oversimplifies the complex matter of child custody. The passage suggests that the best interests of the children should be paramount, and a blanket decision based solely on one party's role may not fully consider these interests. Additionally, it focuses solely on awarding the family home to Maya without addressing the equitable distribution of other marital assets, which could lead to an unfair outcome.

C) Incorrect: This option shifts the emphasis to Ravi's financial contributions without adequately considering the children's best interests. It does not align with the principle from the passage, which emphasizes the importance of the children's welfare when deciding custody. Moreover, it advocates for an equal division of marital assets without accounting for the specific contributions of each party during the marriage, potentially resulting in an inequitable distribution.

D) Incorrect: While appointing a guardian ad litem or consulting a financial expert may be helpful in some cases, this option overly complicates the decision-making process. It does not directly address the legal principle from the passage, which emphasizes considering the best interests of the children when determining child custody. Additionally, it does not offer a straightforward solution for the equitable distribution of marital assets based on the parties' contributions during the marriage.

56. Correct Answer: D

Reference : "It's important to note that judicial separation is not a permanent arrangement. It allows spouses to live separately for a specified period, during which they may have the opportunity to work on their issues and potentially reconcile."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

A) Incorrect: This option suggests that Aditya and Neha should continue living separately while also working on reconciliation efforts. While reconciliation is a valid approach during the judicial separation period, this option neglects the possibility of seeking an extension of the separation period, as mentioned in the passage. It is important to recognize that the specified period for judicial separation is not set in stone and can be extended if needed.

B) Incorrect: This option advises Aditya and Neha to immediately file for divorce, which does not align with the legal principle outlined in the passage. Judicial separation is a distinct legal arrangement that provides couples with a chance to work on their issues and potentially reconcile during a specified period. This option dismisses the possibility of seeking reconciliation during the separation period.

C) Incorrect: This option suggests withdrawing the request for judicial separation and resuming married life without any legal intervention. While this is possible, it does not consider the fact that Aditya and Neha have already initiated the judicial separation process. The passage indicates that the separation period allows couples to live apart and potentially reconcile during this time. Simply withdrawing the request without seeking an extension overlooks the legal process already in motion.

D) Correct: This option provides the most appropriate course of action. Aditya and Neha should seek an extension of the judicial separation period, as allowed by the legal principle stated in the passage.

This would give them more time to work on their issues and decide the future course of their marriage. It aligns with the concept that judicial separation is not permanent and offers couples an opportunity to reconcile during the specified period.

57. Correct Answer: C

Reference: "If reconciliation does not occur, the judicial separation can be revoked or converted into a divorce."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

A) Incorrect: This option suggests that Rohan and Preeti should immediately file for divorce without considering the legal principle mentioned in the passage. While divorce is an option, the passage indicates that if reconciliation does not occur, judicial separation can be revoked or converted into a divorce. This option does not acknowledge the possibility of revoking the judicial separation, which may be preferable in some cases.

B) Incorrect: This option advises Rohan and Preeti to continue living separately under the judicial separation order indefinitely, which is not in alignment with the passage's legal principle. The passage states that the judicial separation can be revoked or converted into a divorce if reconciliation does not happen. This option does not consider exploring those legal avenues.

C) Correct: This option provides the most appropriate course of action. Rohan and Preeti should consult with legal counsel to understand the process and implications of revoking the judicial separation or proceeding with a divorce. This aligns with the legal principle outlined in the passage, which allows for these options if reconciliation does not occur. Seeking legal advice ensures that they make an informed decision.

D) Incorrect: This option suggests that Rohan and Preeti should wait for the court to automatically convert their judicial separation into a divorce after a specified period, which may not be accurate or appropriate. The passage does not specify an automatic conversion process but rather emphasizes the possibility of revoking the judicial separation or initiating a divorce. This option does not align with the legal process mentioned in the passage.

58. Correct Answer: B

Reference: "Overall, judicial separation in Hindu law recognizes the intricate nature of marital relationships and provides a legal framework for couples to navigate their challenges while protecting the rights and interests of both parties."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

A) Incorrect: This option suggests that Arjun and Riya should file for divorce immediately without considering the possibility of further reconciliation. It may not fully address the complexities of their

situation, as indicated in the passage, which acknowledges the legal framework for couples to navigate their challenges.

B) Correct: This option provides the most appropriate course of action. Arjun and Riya should consult with legal experts to explore the possibility of extending their judicial separation period to continue reconciliation efforts. This aligns with the legal principle mentioned in the passage that judicial separation recognizes the intricate nature of marital relationships and allows couples to work on their issues over a specified period.

C) Incorrect: This option advises Arjun and Riya to maintain their separation status indefinitely, which is not in alignment with the passage's legal principle. The passage suggests that judicial separation is not a permanent solution and is intended to provide a framework for couples to address their issues and potentially reconcile during a specified period.

D) Incorrect: While requesting a conversion of their judicial separation into a divorce is an option, this option prematurely concludes that further reconciliation attempts may not be fruitful. It does not consider exploring the possibility of extending the separation period, which may still be a viable choice as per the legal framework mentioned in the passage.

59. Correct Answer: B. Arjun's confession holds no evidentiary value as it was retracted in court, indicating it might not have been voluntary.

Reference: "However, they [confessions] must be voluntary and true to be relevant."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation:

A. Incorrect. While Arjun's confession was given during an official interrogation, the passage emphasizes the importance of voluntariness and truthfulness in confessions. If a confession is influenced by inducement, threat, or promise, as suggested by the rumors of police promises, it may not be considered voluntary or true, thus compromising its admissibility.

B. Correct. The retraction of the confession in court raises doubts about its voluntariness and truthfulness. As per the reference line, confessions must be voluntary and true to be relevant. The retraction suggests that the initial confession might have been made under duress or false promises, aligning with the passage's emphasis on the importance of voluntariness in the legitimacy of confessions.

C. Incorrect. The passage clearly states that judicial confessions, while holding evidentiary value, cannot be the sole basis for conviction. This principle is crucial in ensuring fair trials and preventing wrongful convictions based solely on confessions, especially when there are concerns about their voluntariness.

D. Incorrect. Even if a confession seems voluntary and aligns with circumstantial evidence, the retraction of the confession casts doubt on its initial voluntariness and truthfulness. The passage stresses the importance of the confession being voluntary and true, and a retracted confession challenges these criteria, thus affecting its evidentiary value.

60. Correct Answer: C. The statement is both an admission and a confession of a potentially criminal act.

Reference: "The Act distinguishes between confessions and admissions; while an admission acknowledges any fact, a confession specifically admits guilt arising from a crime."

Difficulty Level: Difficult

Explanation :

A: Incorrect. Although Ankit admitted to accessing files, this alone does not constitute a direct confession of corporate espionage. A confession, in the legal sense, requires an explicit acknowledgment of guilt for a specific crime, which Ankit's statement does not provide. Additionally, accessing files as part of one's job responsibilities, without more, does not necessarily imply criminal intent or action.

B: Incorrect. While Ankit's statement does not explicitly admit guilt for corporate espionage, it is more than a mere admission of a fact. The context of the admission, coupled with the evidence of Ankit's connections to the rival company, elevates the statement beyond a simple acknowledgment of accessing files. It suggests a deeper involvement, potentially amounting to an implicit confession of a crime, depending on how the court interprets the surrounding circumstances.

C: Correct. Ankit's admission of accessing confidential files, in the context of his connections to the rival company, could be interpreted as an implicit confession of involvement in corporate espionage. In legal terms, while an admission acknowledges a fact, a confession involves admitting guilt arising from a crime. Given the circumstances and the suggestive nature of Ankit's connections, his admission could be construed as a confession, albeit an implicit one. This option requires a nuanced understanding of how contextual factors can transform an admission into a confession in legal proceedings.

D: Incorrect. Ankit's admission is not irrelevant; it establishes that he had access to the files. However, without further context or evidence, it does not directly amount to a confession of the specific crime of corporate espionage. This option overlooks the potential interpretative weight that a court might give to an admission in the light of additional circumstantial evidence.

61. Correct Answer: B. The confession should be corroborated with physical evidence or witness testimony to convict Priya.

Reference : "Judicial confessions are those made in court or before a magistrate. They hold evidentiary value but cannot be the sole basis for conviction."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation :

A: Incorrect. Even though Priya's confession was made before a magistrate, which adds to its evidentiary value, the passage clearly states that judicial confessions cannot be the sole basis for conviction. The absence of corroborative evidence, like physical proof or witness accounts, makes reliance solely on the confession for conviction legally insufficient.

B: Correct. This option aligns with the principle in the passage. Priya's confession, while significant, requires additional evidence for a conviction. The lack of physical evidence or witness testimony supporting her confession means that, according to the legal principle, her confession alone should not be the sole basis for her conviction. Additional corroborative evidence is essential to establish the truthfulness and reliability of her confession.

C: Incorrect. Disregarding Priya's confession entirely is not warranted as judicial confessions do hold evidentiary value. The appropriate legal approach is to seek additional evidence to support the confession rather than to dismiss it outright. The confession remains a critical piece of evidence but needs to be substantiated by other forms of proof.

D: Incorrect. While Priya's lack of a criminal record and her financial situation may be relevant to understanding her motives and behavior, these factors do not directly affect the reliability of her confession in a legal sense. The focus should be on corroborating the confession with additional evidence rather than assessing its reliability based on her criminal record or personal circumstances.

62. Correct Answer: D. The recorded confession, being extra-judicial, must be corroborated with substantial evidence for conviction.

Reference : "Extra-judicial confessions, made outside the court or not in the immediate presence of a magistrate, are considered weaker evidence and require substantial corroboration."

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Explanation:

A: Incorrect. This choice suggests that Vikram's recorded confession is sufficient for conviction. However, as per the passage, extra-judicial confessions, like the one made to Raj, are considered weaker forms of evidence in the Indian legal context. Their validity relies heavily on corroboration with other evidence. In Vikram's case, the confession alone, especially given its informal nature and the circumstances under which it was obtained (secretly recorded by a friend), does not meet the rigorous standards required for a conviction. The court would require more than just this confession, such as direct evidence linking Vikram to the crime scene or forensic evidence proving his involvement in the arson.

B: Incorrect. Relying solely on circumstantial evidence to support Vikram's confession is not a robust legal approach. While circumstantial evidence can be powerful, especially when it forms a coherent narrative pointing to a suspect's guilt, it is not typically sufficient on its own to confirm the veracity of an extra-judicial confession. In Vikram's case, the circumstantial evidence establishes a motive and possibly an opportunity, but without direct evidence linking him to the act of arson, the confession remains weak. The legal system seeks to prevent wrongful convictions based on unreliable confessions, and thus, substantial and direct corroborating evidence is required to elevate an extra-judicial confession to a level where it can be the basis for a conviction.

C: Incorrect. The fact that Vikram's confession was not made in the presence of a magistrate does not render it inadmissible. Extra-judicial confessions can be admitted into evidence, but they are scrutinized more carefully due to the higher risk of unreliability. The key issue is not the admissibility of the confession but its sufficiency as evidence for conviction. The court would consider the

confession as part of the overall evidence but would require additional, more concrete evidence to form a basis for conviction.

D: Correct. This option is consistent with the legal principle that extra-judicial confessions require substantial corroboration. In Vikram's case, while his confession to Raj forms a critical part of the evidence, it cannot stand alone as the basis for conviction. The circumstantial evidence, such as his disputes with the competitor, adds some weight but is not enough. The prosecution would need to present additional evidence, like forensic evidence from the crime scene, eyewitnesses who saw Vikram near the crime scene around the time of the arson, or any other direct evidence that firmly establishes his guilt.

63. Correct Answer: C. The retraction necessitates a thorough investigation into the circumstances of the initial confession.

Reference: "Retracted confessions, where a person later denies their initial confession, are common in Indian criminal cases."

Difficulty Level: Easy

Explanation:

A: Incorrect. While Ravi's claim of coercion is critical, the court cannot disregard the confession outright based on this claim alone. The legal process requires an examination of the circumstances surrounding the initial confession and the reasons for its retraction. The court needs to assess the validity of Ravi's claim of coercion and cannot simply dismiss the confession without this assessment.

B: Incorrect. According to the legal principles discussed in the passage, a retracted confession cannot be the sole basis for conviction, especially when it is claimed to be coerced. The court needs to consider the retraction and the reasons behind it, and without additional corroborating evidence, relying solely on a retracted confession for conviction is legally insufficient.

C: Correct. This option aligns with the principle that a retracted confession requires careful scrutiny. The court should investigate the reasons for Ravi's retraction, including the possibility of coercion or other factors that might have influenced his initial confession. This ensures that the confession was made voluntarily and truthfully, adhering to legal standards.

D: Incorrect. The confession is not irrelevant, as it forms a significant part of the case. However, its validity is questioned by the retraction. The court must assess the confession's reliability and the circumstances of both the confession and its subsequent retraction. Simply disregarding the confession would not be a thorough or legally sound approach.

64. Ans – b

Alay Razvi, a partner at Accord Juris, explained that the old criminal laws from the colonial era in India, which included the Indian Penal Code (IPC), the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), and the Indian Evidence Act, have been replaced by new laws. These new laws are the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA). These changes aren't just about new names; they involve major updates like changing the numbers of the sections that deal with different crimes. For example, the law on murder used to be in section

302 of the IPC, but in the new BNS, it's now in section 101. Similarly, the crime of cheating was previously in section 420 of the IPC, but now it's in section 316 of the BNS. These changes mean that the structure and specifics of the law have been significantly altered.

65. Ans – b

He added that there have been important changes to make the criminal justice process faster and more efficient. The BNSS (Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita) now requires mandatory forensic investigations for crimes that can be punished with seven years or more in prison, using scientific methods to gather evidence. There are also specific deadlines, like medical reports in rape cases must be submitted within 7 days, and judgments should be delivered within 30 to 60 days. The new laws also expand what electronic evidence can be used and explain how to handle this evidence properly. These changes aim to reduce delays in trials and ensure faster judgments. The electronic evidence must undergo verification by an independent forensic expert and adhere to the stringent procedural guidelines delineated by the BNSS.

66. Ans – a

The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) is a new law that replaces the old Indian Penal Code (IPC). Here are the key changes in simple terms:

Fewer Sections: The BNS has reduced the total number of sections from 511 to 358.

New Crimes Added: It introduces 21 new types of crimes, such as hate crimes and mob lynching.

Updated Offences: It includes specific offences like terrorism, organized crime, and hate speech.

Redefines Sedition: Sedition is now defined as actions that threaten the integrity of the nation, called treason.

Expanded Theft Definition: The definition of theft now includes stealing data and other non-physical items.

67. Ans – b

The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) is a new law that replaces the old Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC). Here are the main changes in simple terms:

Victim-Centric Approach: The new law focuses more on protecting and supporting victims.

Extended Police Custody: Police can now hold suspects for up to 90 days instead of just 15 days.

Trials in Absentia: Trials can go on even if the accused is not present in court.

Zero FIR: People can file a First Information Report (FIR) at any police station, not just the one where the crime happened.

Electronic Summons: Summonses can be sent electronically.

Witness Protection Scheme: There are new measures to protect witnesses.

Forensic Investigations: Serious crimes must include forensic investigations.

Electronic Trials: Trials can be conducted electronically, moving away from traditional courtroom settings.

68. Ans – d

The Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) is a new law that replaces the old Indian Evidence Act. It modernizes how evidence is handled in the following ways:

Electronic and Digital Records: The BSA allows electronic and digital records to be used as evidence in court. This means things like emails, text messages, and other digital documents can be used just like paper documents.

Audio-Video Recording: For rape cases, it requires that the victim's statements be recorded using audio and video, ensuring accurate and reliable evidence.

Primary Evidence: Electronic records are now considered primary evidence, meaning they are just as important as original physical documents.

Electronic Oral Evidence: People can give their testimony electronically, for example, through video calls.

69. Correct Answer: (c) No, as per Section 21 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, initiating arbitration requires specific procedures, including the issuance of a clear notice.

Reference : " Section 21 within the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 plays a pivotal role in the initiation of arbitration proceedings, setting forth the necessary guidelines for commencing the process.."

Difficulty level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) Incorrect: This option misinterprets the legal process by assuming that seeking court intervention is universally permissible before initiating arbitration. However, the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, specifically mandates certain procedures, as highlighted in Section 21, including the issuance of a clear notice to initiate arbitration proceedings. Court intervention without adhering to these procedures may not be legally valid, as demonstrated in various legal precedents discussed in the passage.

(b) Incorrect: While deadlock situations between parties failing to agree on arbitrator appointments can sometimes necessitate court intervention, it's essential to note that the initiation of arbitration, as per Section 21, demands compliance with prescribed procedures. In this hypothetical situation, Mr. Arjun bypasses the required steps, making court intervention premature and legally insufficient.

(c) Correct: Section 21 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, outlines specific prerequisites for commencing arbitration proceedings. These include issuing a clear notice to the respondent, indicating the intent to refer the dispute to arbitration. In this scenario, Mr. Arjun's direct approach

to the court without complying with the prescribed notice requirements violates this section, rendering his approach legally invalid.

(d) Incorrect: This option assumes that only the respondent, Ms. Priya, holds the authority to approach the court for arbitrator appointments. However, as per the Act, either party involved in the dispute can seek court intervention for arbitrator appointments. Nonetheless, irrespective of the party seeking court intervention, adherence to Section 21's notice issuance requirement is mandatory before approaching the court for such appointments.

70. Correct Answer: (d) No, because unilateral termination without notifying Ms. Aisha violates the principle of fairness and the informing purpose of the notice in arbitration proceedings.

Reference : "Firstly, the notice serves as an informing document, ensuring that the respondent is aware of the claims made against them and the initiation of arbitration proceedings."

Difficulty level: Difficult

Explanation:

(a) Incorrect: This option suggests that Mr. Rahul had the authority to unilaterally terminate the contract without notifying Ms. Aisha due to dissatisfaction with the artwork's quality. However, in legal contexts and especially in contracts involving arbitration clauses, fair and transparent communication is pivotal. Unilaterally terminating the contract without prior notification to the other party contradicts fair business practices. The informing purpose of the notice in arbitration emphasizes providing the respondent with an understanding of the claims made against them, which Mr. Rahul failed to comply with in this scenario.

(b) Incorrect: This option correctly identifies the principle highlighted in the passage regarding the informing purpose of the notice in arbitration proceedings. However, it focuses solely on this aspect without addressing the unilateral termination by Mr. Rahul without prior notification to Ms. Aisha. While the informing purpose is essential, the scenario presented involves an unfair and unilateral action by Mr. Rahul that goes against principles of fairness and transparency.

(c) Incorrect: While the existence of an arbitration clause indeed provides a mechanism for dispute resolution, initiating arbitration without notifying the other party directly contradicts the informing purpose outlined in the passage. The purpose of the notice is to ensure both parties are aware of the claims against them, which requires clear communication and transparency. By initiating arbitration unilaterally, Mr. Rahul bypasses this crucial informing aspect.

(d) Correct: Mr. Rahul's unilateral termination without informing Ms. Aisha violates the principles of fairness and transparency, as highlighted in the passage. The informing purpose of the notice in arbitration emphasizes the necessity for both parties to be aware of the claims made against them. By unilaterally terminating the contract without notification, Mr. Rahul denies Ms. Aisha the opportunity to understand the reasons for the termination and the initiation of arbitration proceedings, thus violating the informing principle.

71. Correct Answer: (d) No, because failure to initiate arbitration disregards the procedural framework established by Section 21, contradicting the essence of the arbitration clause in their agreement.

Reference : "Moreover, Section 21 facilitates the identification and establishment of the procedural framework for arbitration."

Difficulty level: Moderate

Explanation:

(a) Incorrect: The mere presence of an arbitration clause in an agreement signifies the parties' intent to resolve disputes through arbitration. Resorting to a civil court without initiating arbitration disregards the procedural framework established in Section 21, contradicting the essence of the arbitration clause.

(b) Incorrect: While civil courts may have broader jurisdiction, the agreement's arbitration clause is a contractual commitment to resolve disputes through arbitration. Failure to adhere to this agreement contradicts the established framework outlined in Section 21.

(c) Incorrect: This option correctly identifies the principle outlined in the passage regarding Section 21's role in establishing the procedural framework for arbitration. However, it does not directly address Mr. Arvind's failure to initiate arbitration as per the agreement.

(d) Correct: Mr. Arvind's action of directly approaching a civil court instead of initiating arbitration disregards the procedural framework set by Section 21 and goes against the essence of the arbitration clause in their agreement. This violates the agreement's commitment to resolve disputes through arbitration, highlighting the importance of adhering to Section 21's framework.

72. Correct Answer: (d) No, because unilateral appointment of an arbitrator without mutual consent violates the fundamental principle of arbitration requiring cooperation and agreement between involved parties.

Reference : "By stipulating the need for mutual consent through the issuance of this notice, Section 21 aligns with the fundamental principle of arbitration – the agreement and cooperation between involved parties."

Difficulty level: Moderate

Explanation: (a) Incorrect: While this option correctly identifies the principle from the passage, it focuses on the alignment of Section 21 with the fundamental principle of arbitration. Yet, it fails to address Mr. Arjun's unilateral action, which breaches the principle of mutual consent and cooperation emphasized in the passage.

(b) Incorrect: Even if the contract explicitly allows unilateral appointment of arbitrators in case of breaches, the fundamental principle of arbitration underlines the need for mutual consent and cooperation between involved parties. Unilateral actions without mutual agreement contradict this principle.

(c) Incorrect: This option suggests that Mr. Arjun, as a party claiming breach, has the unilateral right to appoint an arbitrator without notifying Ms. Neha. However, this overlooks the fundamental principle of mutual consent and cooperation in arbitration matters, as emphasized in the passage.

(d) Correct: Mr. Arjun's unilateral appointment of an arbitrator without notifying Ms. Neha violates the fundamental principle of arbitration requiring mutual consent and cooperation between involved parties. This unilateral action doesn't adhere to the essence of Section 21, which emphasizes the necessity of mutual agreement and cooperation in arbitration matters.

73. Correct Answer: (c) No, as per the consistent emphasis in courts on complying with the prescribed procedure outlined in Section 21, failure to adhere to this requirement may lead to the court's intervention.

Reference : "Courts have consistently emphasized the importance of complying with the prescribed procedure outlined in Section 21, noting that a failure to adhere to this requirement may lead to the court's intervention."

Difficulty level: Easy

Explanation:

(a) Incorrect: Initiating a lawsuit directly in a civil court doesn't hold precedence over arbitration clauses in business contracts if the contract explicitly includes an arbitration clause. The consistent emphasis in courts on complying with prescribed procedures is to ensure proper adherence to the contract's agreed-upon dispute resolution mechanism.

(b) Incorrect: Mr. Sharma's belief in the suitability of a civil court for resolving the dispute doesn't override the contractual obligation established through the arbitration clause. The emphasis on complying with prescribed procedures is to ensure parties honor the agreed-upon mechanisms before resorting to other avenues.

(c) Correct: Courts consistently emphasize adherence to prescribed procedures outlined in Section 21 before initiating alternative dispute resolution mechanisms or resorting to litigation. Failure to comply may lead to the court's intervention, highlighting the importance of following the agreed-upon dispute resolution mechanisms established in the contract.

(d) Incorrect: The existence of an arbitration clause indeed requires adherence to its prescribed procedures before resorting to civil court litigation. The consistent emphasis on compliance with prescribed procedures aims to uphold the contractual obligations established through the arbitration clause for dispute resolution.

74. Ans – b

Option B is aligned with the stipulations mentioned in the draft Bill about obligations for SSDEs to operate in a fair, non-discriminatory, and transparent manner, specifically prohibiting practices like self-preferencing or restricting third-party access. This reflects the core concern of ex-ante regulation, which is to prevent anti-competitive behavior before it can distort the market.

- Option A is incorrect because the regulations focus on fair conduct rather than dismantling services. There is no mention in the passage of needing to dismantle any services as a regulatory measure.
- Option C misleads as the draft Bill and the concept of ex-ante regulation do not typically include provisions for temporary exemptions based on the temporariness of market dominance.
- Option D is incorrect because sharing proprietary algorithms with competitors is not a standard or mentioned requirement for SSDEs under the proposed legislative framework.

75. Ans - d

Ex-ante competition regulation is not very common. The European Union (EU) is unique because it has a full set of rules under something called the Digital Markets Act that tries to manage competition before problems happen. The CDCL (a regulatory body) likes this idea because digital markets have special features that make them different from traditional markets.

Here's why digital markets are unique:

1. Economies of scale and scope: As digital companies produce more goods or offer more services, their costs per unit drop. This means the more they do, the cheaper it gets per item or service. This helps them grow very fast compared to traditional businesses.
2. Network effects: The more people use a digital service, the more useful or enjoyable it becomes for everyone using it. This can make a digital service grow quickly because everyone wants to join in as more people use it.

Because these digital markets grow so fast, they can quickly become dominated by one or a few companies, making it hard for others to compete. The existing rules take too long to address these issues, allowing companies that might be breaking the rules to keep going without being checked in time.

That's why the CDCL is pushing for preventative obligations, which means setting up rules in advance to stop anti-competitive behavior before it becomes a problem. This is in addition to the usual approach of stepping in after the fact when problems are noticed. This new approach aims to keep the market fair and competitive by monitoring and correcting things promptly.

76. Ans - b

Explanation:

- Option B is the correct choice as it directly aligns with the proactive approach described in the passage and Kapil's argument, emphasizing the prevention of monopolistic practices which can distort the competitive landscape of digital markets.
- Option A serves as a challenging distractor by suggesting a potential negative consequence of ex-ante regulation – the standardization of strategies that might limit innovation. This is plausible but ultimately a deviation from the benefits of preventing anti-competitive practices.

- Option C offers another plausible yet incorrect response, focusing on the operational challenges that could distract digital enterprises from their core activities. This reflects a common critique of regulation but does not support the argument that ex-ante measures are beneficial for maintaining fairness.
- Option D is subtly misleading as it addresses a genuine concern about regulatory frameworks potentially disadvantaging smaller enterprises. However, it veers away from the core benefit of ex-ante regulation in preventing established firms from dominating the market, which is Kapil's point.

77. Ans – a

The draft Bill is inspired by the European Union's Digital Markets Act, but it specifically focuses on regulating only the most powerful digital companies, not every tech company out there. It looks particularly at companies that have a big impact in certain areas of the digital market, like online search engines, social networking sites, and video sharing platforms.

To decide which companies are considered powerful or "dominant," the Bill sets specific criteria. These criteria include:

- Significant financial strength test: This test checks financial details like how much money the company makes.
- Significant spread test: This test looks at how many users a company has in India.

Even if a company doesn't meet these numeric criteria, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) can still classify a company as a "systemically significant digital enterprise (SSDE)" if it meets other qualitative standards. This could include factors like the company's role in the market or its influence on consumers and competitors. Essentially, the Bill aims to make sure that the biggest and most influential digital companies play fair and don't misuse their power.

78. Ans - c

The primary duty of Systemically Significant Digital Enterprises (SSDEs) is to avoid any behavior that unfairly limits competition. This means they must act fairly and openly with everyone who uses their services. The new draft Bill sets specific rules for these companies:

1. No Self-Preferencing: SSDEs can't promote their own products over those from other companies on their platform. This stops them from giving an unfair advantage to their products.
2. No Restricting Third-Party Apps: They must allow other companies' apps to be available on their platform and can't stop users from changing default settings to favor their own services.
3. No Anti-Steering: They cannot prevent businesses that use their services from communicating directly with their customers.
4. No Tying or Bundling: SSDEs are not allowed to force users to buy additional, unnecessary services just to use the main service they need.
5. Proper Use of Data: They must not use data from one part of their service to unfairly benefit another part of their business, and they can't use private user data to gain an unfair advantage.

These rules are designed to make sure that large digital companies do not abuse their power and that the digital market remains competitive and fair for everyone.

79. Ans – b

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81. Ans – a

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83. Ans – d

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Primary Evidence: Electronic records are now considered primary evidence, meaning they are just as important as original physical documents.

Electronic Oral Evidence: People can give their testimony electronically, for example, through video calls.

84. Answer: a

Reference Line:

"The first stage captures his arrival at Wuthering Heights, where he endures Hindley's hostility but finds a kindred spirit in Catherine. This period is crucial in setting the stage for Heathcliff's later actions, as his experiences during this time deeply influence his worldview and his understanding of power dynamics."

Explanation of Each Option:

Option a:

This option directly challenges the author's argument that Heathcliff's experiences, particularly his early life at Wuthering Heights and his interactions with Hindley and Catherine, were pivotal in shaping his path towards revenge. By suggesting that inherent personality traits were the primary

influence, this statement, if true, would significantly weaken the author's stance on the impact of Heathcliff's experiences. It contradicts the reference line which emphasizes the importance of Heathcliff's experiences in shaping his actions.

Option b:

While this option offers an alternative explanation for Catherine's descent into madness, it does not directly weaken the author's argument about Heathcliff's motivations and experiences leading to his revengeful path. The author's focus is more on Heathcliff's journey than on the specific reasons for Catherine's madness, making this option less relevant in weakening the author's argument.

Option c:

This option shifts the focus from Heathcliff's personal journey to the broader narrative elements of the novel. However, the author's argument is specifically about how Heathcliff's experiences shape his path towards revenge, not about the overall driving forces of the narrative. Therefore, while this statement might offer a different perspective on the novel's themes, it does not directly weaken the author's specific argument about Heathcliff.

Option d:

This option presents an alternative motivation for Heathcliff's return to Wuthering Heights. However, the author's argument is that Heathcliff's return marked the final stage of his journey towards revenge, fueled by his earlier experiences. This option, suggesting a different motivation, does not directly counter the author's emphasis on the impact of Heathcliff's experiences on his path to revenge, making it a weaker choice for weakening the author's argument.

85. Answer: d

Reference Line:

"Catherine's character arc parallels Heathcliff's, with her own struggles between nature and civilization, and her eventual descent into madness. Her choices and their consequences reflect the novel's exploration of the conflict between natural desires and societal expectations."

Explanation of Each Option:

Option a:

While the novel does touch upon societal norms and expectations, particularly in the context of Catherine's character, the passage does not suggest that this is the primary purpose of the novel. The focus is more on the personal journeys of the characters and the theme of revenge, rather than a direct critique of Victorian society.

Option b:

This option is too narrow and absolute. The passage describes Heathcliff's character as being shaped by various experiences, including his relationships and early life at Wuthering Heights. It suggests that his quest for revenge is a significant aspect of his character, but not the sole defining one.

Option c:

The passage mentions gothic elements, including the supernatural, as accentuating the themes of the novel. However, it does not state that these elements are central to the development of the main characters. The focus is more on the emotional and psychological aspects of the characters rather than the supernatural.

Option d:

This option is directly supported by the passage. Catherine's internal conflict, especially her struggle between nature and civilization, is highlighted as parallel to Heathcliff's journey and significant in the progression of the plot. The passage specifically mentions her descent into madness and the impact of her choices, indicating the importance of her character arc in the novel.

86. Answer: d

Reference Line:

"Her choices and their consequences reflect the novel's exploration of the conflict between natural desires and societal expectations."

Explanation of Each Option:

Option a:

While the natural landscape in "Wuthering Heights" does play a role in setting the tone and atmosphere, the passage does not suggest that it is the primary factor in exploring the human condition within the novel. This option, therefore, might be a relevant aspect but not the most effective way as per the passage's focus.

Option b:

Focusing solely on the historical context of the Victorian era would provide insight into the background of the novel, but it would not fully address the complex exploration of the human condition as described in the passage. The novel's themes transcend just the historical context, making this option less effective.

Option c:

The passage mentions gothic elements, including the supernatural, as accentuating the themes of the novel. However, it does not state that these elements are the primary drivers of the plot or the exploration of the human condition. This option does not align with the passage's emphasis on character development and internal conflicts.

Option d:

This option directly aligns with the passage's discussion of the novel's exploration of the human condition. The passage highlights the conflict between natural desires and societal expectations, particularly in the context of Catherine's character. Investigating how societal expectations influence

the characters' choices and destinies would effectively explore the themes presented in the novel, making this option the most relevant and supported by the passage.

87. Answer: b

Reference Line:

"His early life at Wuthering Heights is marked by a complex relationship with Catherine and an escalating animosity towards others, particularly Hindley."

Explanation of Each Option:

Option a:

This option suggests that Heathcliff's revenge was rooted in a sense of justice. However, the passage indicates that his actions were driven by personal experiences and emotions, particularly his complex relationship with Catherine and animosity towards others. This option does not resolve the paradox of his lack of satisfaction.

Option b:

This option introduces the idea that Heathcliff's deeper, perhaps subconscious, desire was for reconciliation rather than revenge. This could explain why his pursuit of revenge left him unsatisfied, as it was contrary to his true, deeper longing. It aligns with the complexity of his early relationships and emotional experiences described in the passage.

Option c:

While societal norms may have influenced the characters' actions, the passage focuses more on personal motivations and emotional journeys. This option does not directly address the paradox of Heathcliff's dissatisfaction with his revenge, as it externalizes the reasons for his actions.

Option d:

This option suggests that Heathcliff's inherent cruelty was the driving force behind his actions, which could overshadow any satisfaction from revenge. However, the passage emphasizes the influence of Heathcliff's experiences and relationships on his path to revenge, rather than an innate cruelty. This option does not adequately resolve the paradox of his lack of satisfaction from revenge.

88. Ans: b

Explanation:

Option A: Heathcliff's psychological development was predominantly influenced by his socioeconomic status rather than his personal relationships.

Incorrect. This option suggests that Heathcliff's development was more influenced by his socioeconomic status than his personal relationships. However, the passage emphasizes that Heathcliff's character and drive for revenge are shaped by his personal experiences and relationships, particularly his complex relationship with Catherine and his conflicts with others like

Hindley. Therefore, this option does not align with the passage's focus on personal interactions and emotional responses as the primary catalysts for Heathcliff's actions.

Option B: Catherine's rejection of Heathcliff is primarily responsible for catalyzing his transformation into a figure consumed by the need for revenge.

Correct. This option aligns with the passage's assertion that Catherine's rejection acts as a catalyst for Heathcliff's revenge. It specifically states that the heartbreak he experiences when Catherine chooses Edgar Linton over him ignites his desire for revenge and sets him on a path of destruction and retribution. This option directly correlates with the narrative described in the passage, emphasizing the impact of personal betrayal and rejection on Heathcliff's motivations.

Option C: Heathcliff's vengeful actions are largely justified by the norms and values of the society depicted in "Wuthering Heights."

Incorrect. While the novel portrays a society with certain harsh realities and moral ambiguities, the passage does not suggest that Heathcliff's actions are justified by societal norms. Instead, it portrays his actions as increasingly vindictive and destructive, impacting innocents and culprits alike. This option could misinterpret the societal acceptance of revenge as justification, which the passage does not support.

Option D: The supernatural elements in the novel are pivotal in driving Heathcliff towards a path of revenge against those who wronged him.

Incorrect. This option misleads by attributing Heathcliff's motivations to supernatural elements. While the passage mentions the novel's gothic elements, including the supernatural, it emphasizes that these aspects accentuate the thematic exploration rather than directly influencing Heathcliff's decisions or actions. His drive for revenge is depicted as a personal response to human interactions and emotional injuries, not supernatural influences.

89. Answer: b

Reference Line:

"The rise in online searches for 'eco-anxiety' reflects a growing public concern about environmental issues."

Explanation of Options:

Option a)

This option does not weaken the author's argument. In fact, it supports Ritchie's view of cautious optimism by showing progress in the shift from fossil fuels to renewable energy, which aligns with the positive steps mentioned in the passage.

Option b)

This option directly weakens the author's argument. The passage suggests that there is hope and potential for positive change, partly based on the assumption that increased awareness and concern about environmental issues will lead to behavioral change. If a survey reveals that this awareness

does not translate into substantial behavioral change, it undermines the basis for Ritchie's optimism, challenging the idea that current efforts and awareness are effective in addressing environmental challenges.

Option c)

This option, like option a, supports rather than weakens the author's argument. The improvement and widespread implementation of carbon capture technologies are in line with the positive steps towards mitigating climate change discussed in the passage. It indicates progress in addressing environmental issues, reinforcing the author's perspective.

Option d)

This option also supports the author's argument. The alignment of international policies towards carbon neutrality is a positive step towards addressing climate issues, which aligns with Ritchie's view of cautious optimism and the potential for effective action in the face of environmental challenges. It does not weaken the author's argument but rather strengthens it.

90. Answer: c

Reference Line:

"Ritchie's book, 'Not the End of the World,' presents a series of graphs and data that highlight the positive steps humanity has already taken towards mitigating climate change."

Explanation of Options:

Option a)

This option is not an implicit assumption in the passage. While the author acknowledges positive steps towards mitigating climate change, there is no direct indication that these steps are primarily driven by government and corporate policies. The passage focuses more on broader trends and actions, not specifically on policy drivers.

Option b)

This option could be considered a plausible assumption, but it is not the primary one underpinning the author's argument. The passage does mention public concern (eco-anxiety) but does not explicitly state that this concern will inevitably lead to significant policy changes. The author's argument is more focused on the overall potential for positive change, not solely on policy changes driven by public awareness.

Option c)

This option aligns with the implicit assumption in the passage. The mention of Ritchie's book presenting data and graphs highlighting positive steps in climate change mitigation suggests an underlying belief in the power of technological and data-driven advancements. This assumption is crucial for the author's argument that there is room for hope and effective action, as it implies that such advancements will continue to contribute significantly to solving environmental problems.

Option d)

While this option might seem relevant, it is not an implicit assumption in the passage. The author does not compare the current generation's sense of responsibility to that of previous generations. The focus is on the potential for positive change in the present, rather than on a comparative analysis of generational attitudes towards the environment.

91. Answer:b

Reference Line:

"She argues that while anxiety is a natural response to the current environmental situation, it is not entirely productive on its own. Instead, it should be coupled with a sense of hope and action."

Explanation of Options:

Option a)

This option contradicts the author's perspective. The passage conveys a sense of cautious optimism and does not support the view that environmental challenges are insurmountable or will lead to irreversible damage. Therefore, this statement cannot be necessarily true based on the author's arguments.

Option b)

This option aligns with the author's argument. Ritchie acknowledges the validity of eco-anxiety but emphasizes the need to pair this concern with optimism and actionable steps. The passage suggests that merely feeling anxious about environmental issues is not enough; it must be accompanied by hope and action to be effective. This is a necessary truth derived from the author's viewpoint.

Option c)

This option is contrary to the author's argument. Ritchie suggests that our generation might be the first to improve the state of the environment for the next, which implies that future generations might inherit a better environment, not a worse one. Therefore, this statement is not a necessary truth based on the author's arguments.

Option d)

This option is not supported by the passage. The author mentions positive steps taken towards mitigating climate change, including reducing coal usage. This implies that such actions have had a significant impact, contrary to what the option suggests. Therefore, this statement cannot be necessarily true based on the author's arguments.

92. Answer:c

Reference Line:

"In her conversation with New Scientist, Ritchie expresses a balanced view, acknowledging the validity of eco-anxiety while emphasizing the importance of pairing this concern with optimism."

Explanation of Options:

Option a)

This option cannot be inferred from the passage. While Ritchie's work involves data analysis, there is no indication that she believes technological advancements are the sole solution to climate change.

Option b)

This option is contrary to what can be inferred. Ritchie's research into environmental records suggests that she finds historical data relevant and important in understanding current environmental challenges.

Option c)

This option is a valid inference. Ritchie's balanced view, acknowledging eco-anxiety and emphasizing optimism, indicates that she values a perspective combining concern with proactive optimism.

Option d)

There is no basis in the passage to infer this. Ritchie's emphasis on collective steps towards mitigating climate change does not imply a belief that individual actions are insignificant.

93. Ans: c

Explanation:

Option A: Eco-anxiety should be entirely replaced with optimism to foster a more productive public engagement with environmental issues.

Incorrect. This option misrepresents Ritchie's views by suggesting that eco-anxiety should be entirely replaced with optimism. The passage indicates that Ritchie acknowledges the validity of eco-anxiety but believes it should be paired with optimism, not replaced by it. Her approach advocates for a balance between concern and hope, rather than the elimination of one for the other.

Option B: The measures already taken to reduce carbon emissions and coal usage are sufficient to mitigate the effects of climate change in the near future.

Incorrect. This option implies a conclusion that the current measures are sufficient for near-term mitigation of climate change effects, which is not stated in the passage. While Ritchie highlights positive steps towards mitigating climate change, the passage does not claim these steps are sufficient on their own or address the immediacy of their impact.

Option C: Despite the prevalence of eco-anxiety, it is crucial to pair this concern with optimism to encourage effective action and improve the environmental outlook.

Correct. This option accurately reflects the conclusion drawn by Ritchie as presented in the passage. Ritchie advocates for pairing eco-anxiety with optimism to foster hope and encourage proactive engagement with environmental issues. This pairing is emphasized as a way to make the anxiety more productive and improve the environmental outlook.

Option D: Long-term environmental trends indicate that current efforts to address climate change may be misguided and need redirection.

Incorrect. This option suggests a negative appraisal of current efforts, which contradicts the optimistic tone conveyed by Ritchie's perspective in the passage. Ritchie's work, as described, focuses on acknowledging progress and promoting continued positive change, not critiquing current efforts as misguided.

94. Answer:c

Reference Line:

"Moreover, the integration of AI in education must be done transparently and equitably, always prioritizing the best interests of students."

Explanation of Options:

Option a:

This option suggests that AI systems often malfunction, causing disruptions. While this might point to a practical limitation of AI in education, it does not directly weaken the author's argument about the transformative impact of AI. The author's focus is on the potential and benefits of AI, not its operational reliability. Therefore, this option does not effectively weaken the author's argument.

Option b:

This option actually strengthens the author's argument. The increased engagement and satisfaction reported by students in AI-powered classrooms align with the author's view that AI enhances the learning experience. Therefore, this option does not serve to weaken the author's arguments but rather supports them.

Option c:

This option directly challenges the author's argument. The author emphasizes the need for AI integration in education to be equitable and in the best interest of all students. If AI in education actually widens the achievement gap, it contradicts the author's viewpoint on equitable and beneficial AI integration, thereby weakening the argument.

Option d:

While this option highlights a positive aspect of AI in education (reducing teacher workload), it does not directly counter the author's main argument about the transformative and equitable impact of AI. The focus of the author's argument is on student learning and equitable access, not specifically on teacher workload. Thus, this option does not effectively weaken the author's argument.

95. Answer:b

Reference Line:

"In AI-powered classrooms, the learning process becomes more dynamic. As students interact with concepts, the AI system evaluates their comprehension in real time, adjusting the content accordingly."

Explanation of Options:

Option a:

This option suggests that traditional classrooms are more effective than AI-powered ones, which directly contradicts the author's argument about the benefits of AI in education. Therefore, this option would weaken, rather than strengthen, the author's argument.

Option b:

This option aligns perfectly with the author's assertion that AI-powered classrooms offer a more dynamic and responsive learning environment. The observed improvement in students' ability to understand complex concepts quickly in AI-integrated classrooms directly supports the author's claim about the effectiveness of AI in enhancing the learning process. This option strengthens the author's argument.

Option c:

This option points to a negative consequence of AI integration in education, namely an increased administrative workload for teachers. This would be a drawback of AI in education and does not support the author's positive view of AI's impact. Therefore, this option does not strengthen the author's argument.

Option d:

The incompatibility of AI systems with existing educational software would be a significant challenge in the implementation of AI in education. This option highlights a potential problem rather than supporting the author's positive stance on AI in education. Thus, it does not strengthen the author's argument.

96. Answer:c

Reference Line:

"AI's global perspective is also significant. It enables students from different parts of the world to collaborate on projects, fostering cross-cultural understanding and a global outlook."

Explanation of Options:

Option a:

This option suggests that AI's primary role in education is to improve administrative efficiency. However, the passage focuses more on AI's role in enhancing the learning experience and personalization of education, rather than administrative aspects. Therefore, this inference is not strongly supported by the passage.

Option b:

The passage does not imply that AI will reduce the number of educators. Instead, it suggests that AI is a tool to augment educators' capabilities and provide a richer understanding of student learning patterns. Therefore, this option does not align well with the passage's content.

Option c:

This option aligns with the passage's emphasis on AI's role in fostering global collaboration and understanding among students. The passage specifically mentions AI enabling students from different parts of the world to collaborate, indicating a move towards a more interconnected and globally aware student body. This inference is directly supported by the passage.

Option d:

The passage does not suggest that AI aims to completely replace traditional teaching methods. Instead, it emphasizes a balanced approach where AI complements educators. The passage highlights the irreplaceable human aspect of teaching and learning, suggesting that AI is not intended to fully automate the educational process. Therefore, this inference is not supported by the passage.

97. Ans: b

Explanation:

Option A is incorrect because the passage does not claim that AI has replaced teachers; it suggests AI is a tool that complements educators.

Option B is correct as the passage explicitly states that AI systems adjust content based on student interaction and understanding, making the learning process more dynamic.

Option C is incorrect because the passage mentions that ensuring equal access for all students is one of the challenges in implementing AI in education.

Option D is incorrect as the passage identifies privacy concerns as paramount, not trivial.

98. Ans: c

Explanation:

Option A might seem plausible but the passage does not make any claims about AI eliminating cultural biases, only that it facilitates collaboration.

Option B is incorrect as it contradicts the passage's emphasis on the complementarity of AI and human educators.

Option C is correct because the passage implies that the global perspective of AI-powered education allows students from different parts of the world to collaborate, which assumes their diverse backgrounds.

Option D is incorrect as it opposes the passage's premise that traditional methods were lacking and AI has revolutionized this aspect.

99. Answer:c

Reference Line:

"However, he underscores the irreplaceable emotional intelligence and personal experiences that human artists bring to their work, elements where AI falls short."

Explanation of Each Option:

a) A recent study shows that most people cannot distinguish between artworks created by AI and those created by human artists.

This option does not directly weaken the author's argument. The author's main contention is about the unique emotional depth and personal experiences that human artists bring to their art, not about the ability of observers to distinguish between AI and human-created art. Therefore, this option, while interesting, does not address the core of the author's argument.

b) Several renowned artists have started using AI tools exclusively for creating their artworks, abandoning traditional methods.

This option suggests a trend among artists but does not directly counter the author's argument about the unique qualities of human creativity. The adoption of AI tools by artists does not inherently mean that these tools can replicate the emotional intelligence and personal experiences of human artists. Thus, this option does not significantly weaken the author's position.

c) A new AI program has been developed that can replicate the emotional depth and personal experiences typically associated with human-created art.

This directly challenges the author's claim that AI falls short in replicating the emotional intelligence and personal experiences inherent in human-created art. If an AI program can indeed replicate these aspects, it undermines the author's argument about the unique value of human creativity in art, making this the strongest option to weaken the author's argument.

d) Art galleries and museums have reported a significant decline in visitor numbers since the introduction of AI-generated art exhibitions.

While this option might suggest a negative impact of AI art on traditional art venues, it does not directly weaken the author's argument about the unique qualities of human-created art. The decline in visitor numbers could be due to various factors and does not necessarily challenge the author's claims about the emotional and experiential aspects of human creativity in art.

100. Answer:b

Reference Line:

"The legal landscape surrounding AI art is equally complex. In India, for instance, the law protects original artistic works created by humans, even if computer-generated, but does not recognize AI as an 'author'."

Explanation of Each Option:

a) A survey reveals that a majority of the public believes AI-generated art should be considered a separate category from human-created art.

While this option highlights public opinion on AI art, it does not directly strengthen the argument for legal protection of human-created art. The distinction made by the public does not necessarily translate into legal recognition or protection.

b) An international art council has proposed stricter guidelines for AI-generated art, emphasizing the protection of human artists' rights.

This option directly supports the author's argument about the complexity and necessity of legal protection for human-created art. The proposal of stricter guidelines by an authoritative body aligns with the need for legal frameworks that recognize and protect the rights of human artists in the face of AI's growing role in art creation.

c) Recent technological advancements have enabled AI to create art independently without any human input or guidance.

While this option highlights the capabilities of AI in art creation, it does not directly strengthen the argument for legal protection of human-created art. The independence of AI in creating art could be seen as further complicating the legal landscape, but it does not inherently support the need for legal protection of human artists.

d) A prominent art museum has decided to exclusively feature human-created art, citing the unique value and authenticity it offers.

This option, while underscoring the value of human-created art, does not directly address the legal aspects of protecting such art. The decision of a museum to feature human-created art is more about curatorial choice and does not necessarily strengthen the argument for legal protection in the context of AI's involvement in art creation.

101. Answer: d

Reference Line:

"The legal landscape surrounding AI art is equally complex. In India, for instance, the law protects original artistic works created by humans, even if computer-generated, but does not recognize AI as an 'author'."

Explanation of Each Option:

a) AI-generated art is legally recognized as the intellectual property of the AI developers.

This option is not necessarily true based on the author's arguments. The passage does not explicitly state that AI-generated art is recognized as the intellectual property of AI developers. The focus is on the lack of legal recognition of AI as an author, not on who ultimately holds the intellectual property rights.

b) Art created through AI tools does not require any form of human creativity or input.

This option is contradicted by the passage. The author mentions that AI-generated art is created using existing artworks and through inputs provided by humans (e.g., text prompts). Therefore, human creativity and input play a role in the creation of AI-generated art.

c) Galleries and museums are legally obligated to differentiate between AI-generated and human-created art in their exhibitions.

The passage does not suggest any legal obligation for galleries and museums to differentiate between AI-generated and human-created art. It mentions that galleries are adapting to contemporary art trends, including AI art, but does not imply a legal requirement to distinguish between the two.

d) The current legal framework in India does not grant authorship rights to AI for artworks it generates.

This option is directly supported by the passage. The author clearly states that in India, the law protects original artistic works created by humans, even if computer-generated, but does not recognize AI as an 'author'. This implies that under the current legal framework, AI does not have authorship rights for the artworks it generates.

102. Answer:c

Reference Line:

"Artists like FabinRasheed view AI as an enabler rather than a replacer, accelerating the creative process across various art forms."

Explanation of Each Option:

a) AI is rapidly replacing traditional art forms and techniques.

This option is not supported by the passage. The author discusses AI as an addition to the art world, not as a replacement for traditional art forms and techniques.

b) AI-generated art lacks the capability to be legally recognized as original work.

While the passage touches on legal complexities, it does not state that AI-generated art lacks the capability for legal recognition as original work. The focus is more on the absence of authorship rights for AI.

c) AI serves as an enabler in the art world, augmenting the creative process rather than replacing human creativity.

This option aligns with the author's viewpoint. The passage highlights the role of AI as an enabler that aids and accelerates the creative process, rather than replacing the essence of human creativity.

d) AI has been universally accepted by the art community for its innovative contributions.

The passage indicates that there are controversies and differing opinions within the art community regarding AI, suggesting that it has not been universally accepted.

103. Ans: b

Explanation:

Option A is incorrect as the passage suggests that AI is seen more as an enabler rather than a replacer of human creativity.

Option B is correct as it reflects the nuanced view from the passage that while AI art is innovative and impactful, it lacks the emotional depth and personal touch that human artists bring to their creations.

Option C is incorrect, as the passage specifically mentions legal complexities and challenges, such as the lack of recognition of AI as an 'author' in some regions.

Option D is also incorrect, as the passage notes both positive views and concerns within the art community about AI art, not a uniform negative perspective.

104. Answer:c

Reference Line:

"The court's decision not to dismiss suits filed in 1991, which seek to declare a part of the Gyanvapi Mosque site in Varanasi as the property of Lord Vishweshwar, is a departure from the intent of the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991. This Act, aimed at preserving the religious character of places of worship as it existed on August 15, 1947, is crucial in preventing the alteration of such sites based on historical claims."

Explanation of Options:

a) The Allahabad High Court's ruling in the Gyanvapi case aligns with the secular principles of the Indian Constitution.

This option is incorrect. The passage criticizes the court's decision for potentially undermining the secular ethos enshrined in the constitution by allowing a full civil trial to determine the religious character of the Gyanvapi site, which could lead to communal discord.

b) The Places of Worship Act, 1991, should be interpreted flexibly to accommodate historical claims and contemporary religious sentiments.

This option is contrary to the author's view. The author emphasizes the importance of the Places of Worship Act, 1991, in maintaining the status quo of religious sites as of August 15, 1947, and views the court's flexible interpretation as a threat to secularism.

c) The judicial process should prioritize the preservation of the status quo of religious sites as of August 15, 1947, to uphold secularism.

This option aligns with the author's perspective. The author believes that maintaining the religious character of places of worship as it was in 1947 is crucial for upholding secularism, as indicated by the reference line.

d) The determination of a religious site's character should be influenced by the current religious practices and beliefs of the local community.

This option is incorrect. The author argues against altering the status of religious sites based on current practices or beliefs, emphasizing the importance of adhering to the historical status as of 1947 to prevent communal discord and maintain secularism.

105. Answer:a

Reference Line:

"In a somewhat controversial interpretation, the court has held that the Act does not apply as the 'religious character' of the structure in question is yet to be established. This decision allows for a full civil trial to determine whether the structure is a mosque or a temple, based on evidence."

Explanation of Options:

a) A court ruling that allows a historical building to be modified, despite a law protecting architectural heritage as it existed at a specific historical date.

This option is most similar to the author's statements. It parallels the situation where the court's decision potentially undermines a law (the Places of Worship Act) meant to preserve the historical status of religious sites, similar to a law protecting architectural heritage.

b) A legislative body enacting a law that encourages the modernization of historical sites to reflect contemporary cultural values.

This option is not similar to the author's statements. The author discusses a judicial decision, not legislative action, and the focus is on preserving historical status, not modernizing it.

c) A judicial decision that upholds the right of a community to build a new structure on a site with no historical or cultural significance.

This option is not parallel to the situation in the passage. The author's concern is about altering the status of historically significant sites, not about building on sites without historical significance.

d) A court's decision to preserve a natural landmark, citing environmental laws that prioritize the current ecological status over historical considerations.

This option is contrary to the author's argument. The author is concerned about the preservation of historical status, whereas this option talks about prioritizing the current status over historical considerations, which is the opposite of what is discussed in the passage.

106. Answer:d

Reference Line:

"Such a stance risks propelling society towards a revanchist mindset, where past grievances are avenged, undermining the secular ethos enshrined in the constitution."

Explanation of Options:

a) The Places of Worship Act, 1991, categorically prohibits any legal proceedings that might change the religious character of a place of worship.

This option is not necessarily true based on the passage. The passage indicates that the court's decision suggests a departure from the intent of the Places of Worship Act, 1991, rather than its categorical prohibition.

b) The Allahabad High Court's decision is a definitive affirmation of the Gyanvapi Mosque site's religious character as a temple.

This option is incorrect. The passage does not state that the court has definitively affirmed the site's character as a temple; it only mentions that the court's decision allows for a civil trial to determine the site's religious character.

c) The 1991 suits are primarily focused on the right to worship rather than altering the religious character of the Gyanvapi Mosque site.

This option is not accurate. The passage indicates that the 1991 suits explicitly aim to declare the main part of the site as a mosque and demand the removal of all religious effects, which is more about altering the site's character than merely focusing on the right to worship.

d) The judicial process in the Gyanvapi case is indicative of a shift towards a revanchist mindset in society.

This option is necessarily true based on the passage. The author suggests that the court's approach in the Gyanvapi case may lead to a revanchist mindset in society, seeking to avenge past grievances, which undermines the secular ethos of the constitution.

107. Ans: a

Explanation:

Option A is correct because the argument in the passage relies on the assumption that the Places of Worship Act is foundational to maintaining secularism by preventing the alteration of religious sites based on historical claims.

Option B is too broad and not specifically supported by the passage, which focuses on this particular case and the implications of the court's decision.

Option C is irrelevant to the argument about the risks posed by the court's ruling.

Option D is not assumed in the passage; rather, the passage suggests that resolving historical claims can be controversial and problematic.

108. Ans: d

Explanation:

Option A does not directly address the core argument about the impact of the decision on secularism, merely describing the procedure.

Option B supports the integrity of the judiciary but does not directly weaken the argument about this particular decision.

Option C focuses on public opinion, which does not directly counter the argument about the impact on secular values.

Option D is the most weakening because if the Act itself allows for exceptions in cases like this, the court's decision does not necessarily represent a departure from the intent of the law or a threat to secularism.

Solution [109-114]

Number of pencils sold by B = 220

Number of calculators sold by B = $300 - 220 = 80$

Number of pencils sold by D = 250

Number of calculators sold by D = $250/5 = 50$

Number of calculators sold by A = $50 \times 3 = 150$

Number of pencils sold by A = $150 + 200 = 350$

Number of calculators sold by C = $480 - (150 + 80 + 50) = 200$

Number of pencils sold by C = $200/0.4 = 500$

Shopkeeper	Number of pencils sold	Number of calculator sold	Total
A	350	150	500
B	220	80	300
C	500	200	700
D	250	50	300

109. C
= 350

110. C
= 700

111. A
= $250:150 = 5:3$

112. B
= $300/500 \times 100 = 60\%$

113. D
 $= 500 - 250 = 250$

114. C
 Number of calculators sold by D = $250/5 = 50$
 Number of pencils sold by C = $200/0.4 = 500$
 Difference = $500 - 50 = 450$
 $\% = (450/50) \times 100 = 900\%$

Solutions Q. 115 to 120

Months	Number of pencils sold	Number of erasers sold
January	320	200
February	280	150
March	315	180
April	364	220
May	248	160

115. C
 $= (320+280)/2 = 300$

116. A
 $= 315/180 \times 100 = 175\%$

117. B

 $= \text{Number of lead pencils sold in April} = 364 \times 0.75 = 273$
 So, required difference = $273 - 220 = 53$

118. B
 $= 248:160 = 31:20$

119. A
 $= 200+150 = 350$

120. D
 $= \text{Pencil sold in February} = 280$

$= \text{Eraser sold in April} = 220$
 $\% = (220/280) \times 100 = 78.5\%$