MEGA LAW & G.K.

CLAT 2027 | MOCK NO. 40

QUESTION PAPER

Time: 120 minutes Maximum marks: 120 Marking: +1 correct, -0.25 incorrect, 0 unattempted.

Instructions: Read each passage and answer the questions that follow. Choose the single best option. All rules in hypothetical legal and analytical sets are exhaustive for those questions.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PASSAGE 1 (Q1 TO Q5)

At seven each evening, the clock in the upstairs corridor chimed a minute after the clock in the hall. My aunt maintained that the upstairs clock was wrong. The caretaker insisted the hall clock had been made fast deliberately, so guests would not miss the last train. Nobody checked them against the station clock, which had stopped the winter my grandfather died.

When I returned to the house, years after its sale had been proposed, I found a catalogue of belongings on the dining table. An auctioneer had described the writing desk as "mahogany, probably provincial" and the portrait above it as "school unknown". I remembered my grandfather calling the desk an heirloom and the portrait a masterpiece. These were not lies in the ordinary sense: he had spoken of objects as he wanted his descendants to treat them. The auctioneer had spoken as someone expected to sell them. Both were making claims, but neither was merely recording a fact.

My cousin Renu arrived with a cardboard box and began taking away photographs. She ignored the portraits of people in ceremonial dress and chose the blurred ones: a servant holding a bicycle, a dog asleep on a pile of letters, our grandmother with her eyes closed. I accused her, half in jest, of collecting the least important evidence. She replied that the official portraits already had witnesses: the gilt frames, the inscriptions and the guests who had stood before them. The ordinary moments had no such advocates. "If we leave them," she said, "they will become the kind of thing that never happened."

By then the two corridor clocks had fallen silent. I had come to decide which objects were worth preserving, and discovered that I could not even decide what "worth" meant. The auctioneer's column measured one kind of survival; my grandfather's adjectives had sought another. Renu's box was not a correction to either. It was a decision about whose past would be permitted to remain visible. I took the stopped station clock from the shelf. It had never told the right time in my memory, but it had once been the clock by which everyone in the house set their watches.

Q1. The contrast between the auctioneer and the grandfather chiefly concerns what?

(a) One sees objects as saleable assets, while the other assigns them familial significance.
(b) One knows the objects' origins, while the other knowingly falsifies them.
(c) The grandfather rejects historical evidence, but the auctioneer verifies every attribution.
(d) The auctioneer values photographs, whereas the grandfather values clocks.

Q2. Which interpretation best explains Renu's preference for blurred photographs?

(a) She is convinced informal pictures have higher commercial value.
(b) She distrusts every picture in which somebody looks directly at a camera.
(c) She wants evidence of lives and moments that formal family memory neglects.
(d) She thinks poor photographic quality guarantees the scene was candid.

Q3. The narrator's response to the stopped station clock is most consistent with which idea?

(a) A failed instrument can still retain significance through its former social function.
(b) Broken objects should be preserved ahead of objects that remain usable.
(c) The station clock establishes which corridor clock was always accurate.
(d) The narrator secretly believes the station clock can be repaired without cost.

Q4. Which assumption underlies Renu's warning that some moments may become events that "never happened"?

(a) A family photograph can prove every detail of an event beyond dispute.
(b) What survives in records influences what later generations believe occurred.
(c) Auctions are legally required to destroy images without formal inscriptions.
(d) The servants' names were deliberately erased by the grandfather.

Q5. Which statement most accurately describes the narrator's final intellectual position?

(a) He decides monetary valuation is the only stable basis for preservation.
(b) He embraces Renu's choices as objectively correct in every case.
(c) He abandons the task because all personal memory must be false.
(d) He recognises that preservation entails choosing among competing kinds of value.

PASSAGE 2 (Q6 TO Q11)

A city trying to reduce traffic can choose between widening roads and charging drivers for entering the busiest streets. The first promises more room; the second asks drivers to reconsider a trip. Neither approach is as simple as it sounds, because the number of journeys is not fixed. A faster road may persuade people who once used trains to drive, encourage businesses to move farther from customers, and make distant housing more attractive. Engineers call the resulting increase in traffic induced demand.

But the phrase can become a slogan rather than an explanation. A new road across a river may connect communities that previously faced a long detour. If the new journeys carry workers to jobs they could not realistically reach, counting each additional vehicle as evidence of failure confuses movement with congestion. The purpose of transport is not to minimise the number of journeys. It is to make worthwhile journeys possible at costs that a city can bear.

Congestion charges present a mirror-image difficulty. Where revenue funds reliable buses, a fee can reduce delays without excluding people who lack other ways of travelling. Where public transport is poor, the same fee may shorten travel times mainly for those able to pay. A transport department that publishes only average speeds could declare victory in either case. Yet averages cannot tell us whether the cleaner, quicker route is now unusable for a hospital worker whose shift begins before the first bus.

Measurement should therefore begin with a question rather than a preferred instrument. If the goal is to improve access to jobs, hospitals and schools, planners should measure how many people can reach each destination within a reasonable time and cost. If the goal is to reduce pollution, they should examine emissions and exposure, not just vehicle counts. An intervention might improve one objective while making another worse. Those conflicts do not make evaluation impossible; they make it political in the best sense, a choice about which benefits and burdens deserve priority.

The habit to resist is declaring the success of a policy with the number it was designed to change. A road agency reports kilometres built; a charging authority reports cars deterred. Neither number is useless. Each becomes misleading when it quietly replaces the purpose for which the policy was introduced.

Q6. The author would most likely challenge which conclusion?

(a) Road capacity may change where people choose to live and work.
(b) Falling car entries alone establish that urban mobility has improved.
(c) Transport schemes can produce benefits and burdens for different groups.
(d) Whether journeys are worthwhile depends partly on their purposes.

Q7. A bridge creates new trips by giving residents access to a previously distant hospital. How would this affect the author's assessment of induced demand?

(a) It shows that induced demand never occurs when bridges are constructed to connect communities previously separated by a long journey.
(b) It requires the planners to stop measuring congestion at all.
(c) It proves that road widening always outperforms charging schemes.
(d) It illustrates why added journeys cannot automatically be treated as policy failure.

Q8. Which evidence would most directly test the equity concern about congestion pricing?

(a) Average daily temperature before and after the charge
(b) The number of journalists attending the transport announcement
(c) Changes in affordable journey times for lower-income shift workers
(d) The percentage of motorists who know the price of the fee

Q9. The author distinguishes a policy's "instrument" from its "purpose" primarily to show that

(a) improving a target indicator can fail to deliver the underlying public benefit.
(b) no public agency should record output measures in its annual accounts.
(c) traffic policy must be judged by pollution alone.
(d) political choices are inherently beyond empirical evaluation.

Q10. Suppose a city opens a new road and reports that average journey speed rose, while poorer neighbourhoods lost nearby bus routes. What follows most securely from the passage?

(a) The new road necessarily increased total emissions.
(b) Speed improvement is insufficient to establish better access for all residents.
(c) Loss of bus routes proves all driving trips are wasteful.
(d) The city's transport department must have manipulated its speed data.

Q11. Which additional finding would most weaken the claim that charging made travel fairer?

(a) Bus services became more punctual but fares also fell.
(b) The number of drivers entering the centre declined after the fee.
(c) Most local newspapers praised the charge's environmental ambition.
(d) Low-wage employees without viable alternatives faced substantially higher commuting costs.

PASSAGE 3 (Q12 TO Q16)

When the first edition of a colonial district gazetteer was digitised, the library celebrated the disappearance of distance. A student in a small town could now search a document once accessible only in a metropolitan reading room. Names, village boundaries, revenue categories and trade routes appeared on screens almost instantly. The catalogue called the project the democratisation of the archive.

The phrase concealed two different questions. The first concerned who could consult the records. Digitisation plainly expanded that possibility. The second concerned what those records knew. The gazetteer's authors had counted landholders more carefully than landless labourers, taxable production more carefully than unpaid work, and formal petitions more carefully than conversations in a marketplace. A searchable silence does not become a voice merely because it can be reached from a phone.

Some historians responded by proposing that every administrative claim be treated as presumptively false. That remedy strikes me as too easy. The figures may be indispensable for reconstructing changing irrigation patterns or the movement of prices. A record's institutional purpose helps explain its omissions; it does not make every observation fraudulent. More important, if we assume in advance that official material is worthless, we may stop asking the harder question of why particular facts were important to officials and others were invisible.

An archivist described the index as a map drawn by people who had been interested in only certain roads. The map can still take us somewhere; it cannot tell us what we shall find beyond its edges. Her team therefore added field interviews, local-language documents and a record of uncertain identifications. They also retained the original categories, rather than silently replacing them with modern equivalents. A word used to classify a community a century ago might be offensive or misleading now, but altering it in the source could hide the very machinery of classification historians need to analyse.

The achievement of digitisation is real. Its achievement is not neutrality. A search box lowers the cost of finding what the archive chose to record; it does not abolish the choices. The responsible reader must ask both what an entry says and what kind of institution needed that entry to exist.

Q12. What is the strongest reason the author rejects treating every gazetteer claim as false?

(a) Some colonial records contain no numerical information at all.

(b) Rejecting all claims prevents inquiry into both useful evidence and systematic omissions.

(c) Historians have already reconstructed every relevant perspective omitted from the district's official archives through entirely independent and comprehensive evidence.

(d) Digital catalogues ensure the original authors' intentions are irrelevant.

Q13. The archivist's map analogy implies that

(a) recorded categories are useful within limits shaped by their makers' interests.

(b) every geographical map, because it shows actual locations, gives a more complete and truthful account than any written historical archive.

(c) digitising a text changes the historical boundaries of the district.

(d) unrecorded experiences can be reconstructed without further evidence.

Q14. Why might retaining an objectionable historical term be defensible?

(a) Because the archivist believes the term remains socially appropriate

(b) Because editing historical records is prohibited under every archival law

(c) Because the original terminology reveals how administrative power classified people

(d) Because researchers should avoid reading local-language sources

Q15. A researcher finds no reference to informal women's labour in the digitised gazetteer. Which conclusion best follows?

(a) Such labour certainly did not exist in the district.

(b) It was insignificant relative to every documented economic activity.

(c) The digitised copy has necessarily omitted pages from the original.

(d) The absence may reflect what officials considered worth recording.

Q16. Which criticism of the phrase "democratisation of the archive" is most faithful to the passage?

(a) It describes increased access but risks overstating the completeness of available knowledge.

(b) It is false because rural students still cannot open any historical files.

(c) It demonstrates that archival research has become unnecessary.

(d) It proves that records were written exclusively for modern search engines.

PASSAGE 4 (Q17 TO Q22)

An astronomer tells her audience that the light from a distant galaxy began its journey before the Earth formed. The statement is intended to make the audience feel the scale of the universe, but it also hides an ordinary scientific difficulty: the light does not arrive carrying a label that says how far it travelled. Researchers infer distance from measurements and models. A number on a slide is therefore not a direct observation in the same sense as a telescope registering a pattern of light.

In one method, astronomers identify objects thought to have a known intrinsic brightness. The dimmer an object appears, other things equal, the farther away it is. The important phrase is "other things equal". Dust can absorb light; instruments register different wavelengths with different efficiencies; and the proposed standard object may not be as standard as first believed. Scientists respond not by abandoning measurement but by calibrating instruments, comparing independent methods and reporting uncertainty.

Popular accounts sometimes strip that uncertainty away. An image caption may supply an impressive distance to six digits, although the confidence interval would make the last several digits meaningless. Precision in presentation can be mistaken for confidence in knowledge. Yet the opposite error is equally common. An observer hears that a distance estimate has been revised and concludes that astronomy is little more than guessing. Revisions can show that a method is responsive to new evidence rather than immune to criticism.

Consider two teams examining the same galaxy. Their estimates differ. One uses a method sensitive to dust, while the other relies on a calibration that may change if the stars used as standards are systematically different from the target. The disagreement cannot be settled by averaging the answers as though all errors were random. First the teams must understand whether their methods share a hidden assumption. If both rely on the same flawed model of stellar brightness, apparent agreement between them may be less reassuring than it seems.

A scientifically literate audience should neither worship the displayed number nor dismiss it. The more useful question is how the number was produced, which uncertainties remain and what observation might force it to change.

Q17. Which statement best captures the author's view of revisions to astronomical estimates?

(a) A revision establishes that the earlier researchers were dishonest.

(b) Repeated revisions of the same distance estimate demonstrate that no quantitative knowledge about remote celestial objects can ever be established.

(c) A revised estimate can reflect improved evidence rather than a failure of scientific method.

(d) Astronomers should stop publishing estimates until uncertainty disappears.

Q18. Why would averaging two distance estimates sometimes be misleading?

(a) Both estimates might depend on a common mistaken assumption.

(b) Telescopes are unable to record light from distant objects.

(c) Arithmetic averages can never be useful in scientific research.

(d) Astronomers normally use identical instruments for every observation.

Q19. The phrase "precision in presentation" warns against

(a) reporting any result that includes decimal notation.

(b) comparing a new estimate with an older one.

(c) distinguishing direct observations from inferred quantities.

(d) displaying more digits than the evidence can justify.

Q20. A second team finds almost the same distance as the first, but both use the same disputed calibration stars. The closest inference is that

(a) both estimates must be right because they agree numerically despite using the same disputed standard stars to calibrate their observations.

(b) agreement provides weaker confirmation than if their uncertainties were independent.

(c) the galaxy must have changed its distance between observations.

(d) the telescope readings can be ignored in future studies.

Q21. Which discovery would most directly challenge a distance estimate based on standard brightness?

(a) The galaxy has an unusually poetic name.

(b) More observers attended the public lecture than expected.

(c) The supposed standard objects systematically differ in actual luminosity.

(d) A new telescope photographed the same galaxy in colour.

Q22. The author most strongly endorses which response to a precise scientific claim?

(a) Inspect its method, uncertainties and vulnerability to further evidence.

(b) Trust it only if it has never been revised.

(c) Prefer the most visually impressive number without further inquiry.

(d) Reject all inferred quantities as inferior to direct observation.

CURRENT AFFAIRS INCLUDING GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

PASSAGE 1 (Q23 TO Q27)

The entry into force of a new agreement on marine biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction has renewed debate about how states govern resources in the high seas and seabed beyond national jurisdiction. For decades, international maritime law offered elaborate rules on navigation, fisheries and seabed activities, while new technologies made it increasingly feasible to identify genetic material from organisms living far from any coast. Questions arose over who should receive the benefits and who should bear the costs of conservation. The agreement also provides a framework for protected areas and assessment of activities likely to affect marine ecosystems. Its usefulness will depend on scientific capacity, the quality of information shared by states and the willingness of institutions with overlapping mandates to cooperate. An agreement's entry into force creates obligations for its parties; it does not automatically ensure that every state has ratified it or that threats disappear.

Q23. The BBNJ Agreement was negotiated as an implementing agreement under which foundational convention?

(a) Convention on Biological Diversity

(b) United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

(c) Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

(d) Antarctic Treaty

Q24. Which issue is directly covered by the BBNJ treaty's substantive architecture?

(a) Tariff ceilings on imported fishery products

(b) Sovereign title to all disputed islands

(c) Marine genetic resources and benefit sharing

(d) Territorial-sea baselines of every coastal state

Q25. Which institution is most directly responsible for administration of the international seabed area mineral resources under the UNCLOS regime?

(a) International Seabed Authority

(b) International Maritime Organization

(c) Food and Agriculture Organization

(d) International Hydrographic Organization

Q26. Which distinction between signing and ratifying a treaty is most accurate?

(a) Signature always produces all treaty obligations immediately.

(b) Ratification automatically binds every state in the international community to a treaty, including those that have never consented to it.

(c) Signature means the treaty is permanently immune from withdrawal.

(d) Ratification normally expresses a state's consent to be legally bound through its constitutional process.

Q27. Which legal principle most directly describes a state's authority over waters up to its territorial-sea limit, in contrast to high seas freedoms?

(a) Exclusive global jurisdiction over international waters

(b) Sovereignty in the territorial sea subject to relevant law-of-the-sea rules

(c) Ownership of all marine genetic resources in the ocean

(d) Permanent jurisdiction over the entire continental shelf water column

PASSAGE 2 (Q28 TO Q32)

The relationship between genetic resources, traditional knowledge and patent systems has moved from academic debate to formal treaty-making. Researchers may develop products based on plants, microorganisms or information associated with communities that have cultivated or studied them over generations. Patent applications, however, typically emphasise technical claims rather than the pathway by which underlying material or knowledge was obtained. A multilateral treaty adopted through a specialised intellectual-property organisation addresses disclosure, aiming to increase transparency without itself replacing national systems of access and benefit sharing. The distinction between disclosure and a claim that ownership has been transferred is important. International instruments may complement each other even when they operate at different stages of research, commercialisation and patent examination.

Q28. The treaty linking patent disclosure to genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge was adopted under the auspices of which organisation?

(a) WIPO

(b) WTO

(c) UNEP

(d) UNESCO

Q29. Which existing international agreement is especially associated with access to genetic resources and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from utilisation?

(a) Montreal Convention

(b) Nagoya Protocol

(c) Chicago Convention

(d) Berne Convention

Q30. In the patent context, which is the most accurate distinction between a patent and a geographical indication?

(a) Both are granted only to authors of literary texts.

(b) Geographical indications protect every original technical invention.

(c) A patent protects a qualifying invention; a geographical indication links qualifying goods to geographical origin and associated qualities or reputation.

(d) A patent automatically grants its holder ownership of the source country and physical land where an invention's underlying genetic material was found.

Q31. The TRIPS Agreement is administered within the institutional framework of which body?

(a) International Labour Organization

(b) United Nations Development Programme

(c) International Monetary Fund

(d) World Trade Organization

Q32. Why is the distinction between traditional knowledge and an already-patented invention significant?

(a) All traditional knowledge is automatically patentable without novelty.

(b) Existing community knowledge can be relevant prior art even when no community member holds a patent.

(c) A patent office cannot consider any non-written evidence.

(d) Registration of a patent automatically transfers sovereign ownership of genetic material from its country of origin to the private applicant.

PASSAGE 3 (Q33 TO Q37)

International recognition of cultural heritage is frequently reported as though all UNESCO lists perform the same function. They do not. Some conventions focus on buildings, landscapes and archaeological properties; others preserve practices, performances and the living skills through which communities understand themselves. A separate programme draws attention to documents and archives whose loss would impoverish the historical record. Recent recognition of Indian classical texts under the documentary programme created an opportunity to explain why a manuscript and the traditions expressed within it may have overlapping but distinct significance. An international inscription is neither a finding that every claim in the document is true nor a transfer of ownership to the international body. It is a framework for recognition, preservation and access.

Q33. The Bhagavadgita and Natyashastra were added to which UNESCO programme's international register?

(a) World Heritage List

(b) Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

(c) Memory of the World Register

(d) Global Geoparks Network

Q34. Which UNESCO convention specifically underpins the World Heritage List?

(a) Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage

(b) Convention on International Civil Aviation

(c) Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

(d) Convention relating to the Status of Refugees

Q35. The concept of 'rasa' is particularly associated with which Indian treatise?

(a) Arthashastra

(b) Natyashastra

(c) Manusmriti

(d) Ashtadhyayi

Q36. Which international programme is intended chiefly to safeguard living expressions such as practices, rituals and performing traditions?

(a) UNESCO World Heritage inscription of monuments

(b) The International Seabed Authority register

(c) WTO Trade Policy Review Mechanism

(d) UNESCO's intangible cultural heritage framework

Q37. Which of the following best distinguishes documentary heritage from tangible architectural heritage?

(a) Documentary heritage must always consist of digital files.

(b) Architectural heritage is never associated with historical records.

(c) Documentary heritage can consist of manuscripts and archival collections, while architectural heritage can concern buildings and sites.

(d) Documentary and architectural heritage are both exclusively governed by the same UNESCO inscription procedure and the same criteria for cultural properties.

PASSAGE 4 (Q38 TO Q42)

Earth-observation technology increasingly joins satellite engineering with public policy. Radar instruments can collect information under conditions that make ordinary optical imaging difficult, and repeated observations support

monitoring of ground movement, vegetation and water systems. A joint Indian-American satellite mission illustrates the institutional work behind such capabilities: different agencies contributed instruments, infrastructure and technical expertise. The value of its measurements will depend on calibration and on how they are integrated with field observations. An image from orbit is not itself a disaster forecast; it is evidence that can improve models and decisions when interpreted correctly. Remote-sensing programmes also raise questions about access, data standards and the public purposes served by their outputs.

Q38. Which pair of agencies jointly developed NISAR?

(a) ESA and JAXA
(b) ISRO and NASA
(c) CNSA and Roscosmos
(d) NASA and EUMETSAT

Q39. Which technology allows NISAR to observe surface properties using transmitted microwave signals?

(a) Synthetic aperture radar
(b) Optical spectroscopy in visible light only
(c) A passive ultraviolet telescope
(d) A gravimeter that detects only tides

Q40. What is a key advantage of radar-based Earth observation compared with ordinary visible-light imagery?

(a) It measures every subsurface mineral reserve with certainty.
(b) It eliminates the need for processing and calibration.
(c) It can obtain observations at night and through many cloud conditions.
(d) It directly predicts every earthquake's exact time.

Q41. Which Indian launch vehicle was used to launch NISAR?

(a) PSLV-C11
(b) SSLV-D1
(c) LVM3-M4
(d) GSLV-F16

Q42. A radar satellite detects displacement between two observations of terrain. Which method is especially associated with using radar phase differences for such measurements?

(a) Polymerase chain reaction
(b) Interferometric synthetic aperture radar
(c) Radiocarbon dating
(d) Optical emission spectroscopy of distant stars

PASSAGE 5 (Q43 TO Q47)

International negotiations about climate change have generated legal questions beyond emissions targets. States debate what due diligence requires when pollution accumulates across borders, how scientific uncertainty affects duties of prevention, and whether general rules of international law coexist with treaty commitments. In a major advisory proceeding, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations examined obligations of states concerning climate change. Such proceedings do not operate like an ordinary damages trial between two private parties. They clarify legal questions posed by an authorised body, though their influence may extend to future negotiations, domestic litigation and the interpretation of international obligations. An advisory opinion should therefore be distinguished both from a binding judgment in a contentious case and from a political declaration adopted by states.

Q43. Which UN organ is designated the principal judicial organ under the UN Charter?

(a) International Criminal Court

(b) Permanent Court of Arbitration
(c) International Court of Justice
(d) UN Human Rights Council

Q44. Which UN body can request an ICJ advisory opinion on any legal question under Article 96 of the Charter?

(a) General Assembly
(b) UNESCO alone without authorisation
(c) IMF Managing Director acting personally
(d) International Committee of the Red Cross

Q45. In contentious proceedings before the ICJ, which entities can be parties?

(a) Any private person or corporation
(b) States
(c) Only UN specialised agencies
(d) Only individuals accused of war crimes

Q46. The principle of 'common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities' is especially associated with which international environmental framework?

(a) Warsaw Convention on air carriage
(b) Geneva Convention on road traffic
(c) Berne Convention on copyright
(d) UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and Paris climate regime

Q47. Which statement best distinguishes an ICJ advisory opinion from a contentious judgment?

(a) Advisory opinions are criminal convictions imposed on individuals.
(b) Contentious judgments can be delivered without a participating state, because private individuals may apply to the Court in their own names.
(c) Advisory opinions provide legal advice to authorised organs and ordinarily lack the binding inter-party force of contentious judgments.
(d) Advisory opinions are drafted solely by the UN Security Council.

PASSAGE 6 (Q48 TO Q52)

Forums of economic coordination increasingly include regional organisations as well as individual states. The widening of participation is politically significant, but membership alone does not turn a consultative forum into a treaty-based world government. Leaders may issue declarations and establish working groups without creating a court that directly enforces each statement. During India's presidency, a continental organisation was admitted to the G20 as a permanent member, broadening the grouping's representation. The development also renewed discussion of other organisations serving different roles: regional development banks, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the institutions of the United Nations. Their mandates often intersect in practice, but their voting procedures and legal powers are distinct.

Q48. Which regional organisation became a permanent G20 member during India's presidency?

(a) ASEAN
(b) African Union
(c) SAARC
(d) Arab League

Q49. Which of the following is a regional body that already participates as a G20 member alongside the African Union?

(a) European Union

(b) International Monetary Fund

(c) World Trade Organization

(d) United Nations Security Council

Q50. Which institution is principally associated with balance-of-payments support and international monetary cooperation?

(a) UNESCO

(b) International Court of Justice

(c) International Monetary Fund

(d) International Labour Organization

Q51. Which financing arm of the World Bank Group is especially associated with concessional support for the poorest eligible countries?

(a) International Finance Corporation

(b) Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency

(c) Bank for International Settlements

(d) International Development Association

Q52. Which claim about G20 leaders' declarations is most accurate?

(a) Every declaration is automatically a treaty enforceable before the ICJ.

(b) Their political commitments do not by themselves create an international court with compulsory jurisdiction over members.

(c) A declaration can be issued only after ratification by every national parliament.

(d) The G20 is a specialised agency of the United Nations under Article 57.

LEGAL REASONING

PASSAGE 1 (Q53 TO Q57)

For this problem, apply only the following hypothetical Public Spaces Code. Rule 1: A council may restrict use of a public meeting hall for a specific event only if it identifies a substantial risk of physical harm arising from that event and records reasons based on particular evidence. Mere disagreement with a speaker's viewpoint is not evidence of physical harm. Rule 2: If a less restrictive measure would adequately address the identified risk, a complete prohibition is invalid. Rule 3: The council must give organisers an opportunity to respond before restricting an event, except when a delay necessary to hear them would itself create an imminent risk of serious physical harm. Rule 4: Where two organisations seek the same hall at the same time, a neutral pre-published priority system may resolve the conflict without invoking Rules 1 to 3. An organiser's past lawful expression cannot count as a ground for adverse priority.

The town's hall is booked by different groups. A student association applies for a debate about dam construction. Police supply a verified report of a specific plan by outsiders to block the only exit; temporary security barriers and an extra steward could keep the exit clear. The council, without consulting organisers, prohibits the debate, citing a risk of public disturbance. Separately, a music society and a farmers' collective apply for the same evening. A written first-application policy has been used consistently for years. The music society applied first, but the mayor dislikes its political songs. The Code contains no other grounds for restricting expression. Consider each question independently and apply the rules as written.

Q53. The council's complete prohibition of the dam debate is most vulnerable because

(a) it cannot rely on any police evidence of the planned blockade without a criminal conviction establishing that named individuals intended the obstruction.

(b) any event involving political disagreement must be permitted without security planning.

(c) Security measures could address the identified risk.

(d) the student association automatically has priority over every other hall user.

Q54. Suppose the exit threat is credible and barriers cannot prevent it, but officials have two days before the event and organisers are contactable. Which is the strongest procedural conclusion?

(a) Hear the organisers before deciding.

(b) The council may dispense with the organisers' hearing whenever the only evidence of the threat is supplied by police officers rather than private witnesses.

(c) The presence of any substantial risk automatically waives all procedure.

(d) The consultation requirement applies only to disputes about hall bookings.

Q55. If the council denies the music society the hall because it dislikes its songs, despite the society applying first, what is the strongest conclusion?

(a) The farmers' collective wins because agricultural events have special status.

(b) The mayor may disregard the priority rule whenever expressive content is involved.

(c) The council may deny the hall on viewpoint grounds only if it first establishes that the political lyrics constitute a criminal offence.

(d) The decision violates the neutral priority system.

Q56. Which additional fact would best justify dispensing with a hearing under Rule 3?

(a) Organisers have publicly criticised the council's conduct in the past and officials reasonably expect the same critical speeches at the next event.

(b) Delay would expose attendees to imminent serious harm.

(c) The official responsible for hearings is on annual leave.

(d) Opponents of the debate disagree sharply with the speaker.

Q57. Suppose the council identifies substantial harm, offers a hearing, and proves no lesser measure will work. Which proposition follows?

(a) The Code compels a prohibition in every such case.

(b) All objections from organisers become legally irrelevant.

(c) A prohibition may be valid, because the specified substantive and procedural conditions can be satisfied.

(d) The council must instead award the hall to an unrelated organisation.

PASSAGE 2 (Q58 TO Q62)

Apply these fictional Contract Rules. Rule A: An offer becomes a contract when a clear acceptance is communicated before the offer expires. A reply that changes an essential term is a counteroffer, ending the original offer unless the offeror expressly renews it. Rule B: An acceptance sent by a method designated as exclusive in the offer is effective only when received at the designated address. If the offer lists a method as preferred but not exclusive, another method that actually communicates acceptance can suffice. Rule C: Where no contract forms, a party that reasonably and foreseeably incurs expense in response to a definite promise may recover verified reliance expenditure if justice requires, but not the profits expected from an unmade contract. A warning not to incur expenditure before signature ordinarily defeats reasonable reliance.

A theatre emails Nila: 'We offer the stage for a recital on 15 August at Rs 40,000. Accept by 5 pm Friday by email to bookings@theatre.test only.' On Thursday Nila replies to the correct address, 'Accepted if you also provide lighting at no charge.' The theatre does not respond. At 4 pm Friday Nila sends an unconditional 'I accept' to the director's personal number. The message is read instantly, but the director does not reply and the designated inbox receives nothing. In a separate negotiation, a gallery tells Omar, 'We will reserve the courtyard for your exhibition. You can safely order printed catalogues now,' but says nothing about final profit sharing. Omar pays a printer; the gallery later withdraws. Unless specified otherwise, treat the expense as genuine and the promise as foreseeable. Consider each case independently.

Q58. Under Rules A and B, what is the best assessment of Nila's Thursday reply?

(a) It is a complete acceptance because the date and price were not disputed.

(b) It is a counteroffer because free lighting changes an essential term.

(c) It creates a contract unless the theatre objects within one hour.

(d) It keeps the original offer alive indefinitely after Friday.

Q59. If the theatre had expressly renewed its original offer on Friday morning, what would be the effect of Nila's 4 pm text to the director?

(a) No contract, because the exclusive email method was not used.

(b) A contract, because any read message satisfies even an exclusive method.

(c) An automatically enforceable promise to provide free lighting.

(d) A contract only if the director later deletes the message.

Q60. Suppose instead the original offer had said 'email preferred' and remained valid through Friday. Nila texts unconditional acceptance to the director, who reads it before expiry. Which result follows?

(a) The contract fails because all business acceptances must be sent by email, even where a proposal explicitly makes email merely preferable rather than exclusive.

(b) The lighting demand is automatically incorporated in the terms.

(c) A contract forms on timely communicated acceptance.

(d) The contract forms only when both parties spend money.

Q61. On the supplied gallery facts, Omar's most plausible claim is

(a) full profits that a completed exhibition might have produced.

(b) ownership of the courtyard until the exhibition date.

(c) contractual damages fixed by an agreed profit-sharing percentage.

(d) verified printing costs incurred in reasonable reliance on the definite assurance.

Q62. If the gallery had added 'do not order anything before signing', and Omar nevertheless printed catalogues, what changes most directly?

(a) The warning makes the expenditure ordinarily unreasonable under Rule C.

(b) The warning automatically creates a signed contract.

(c) Omar becomes entitled to both printing costs and expected profits.

(d) The gallery is barred from withdrawing any proposal.

PASSAGE 3 (Q63 TO Q67)

A fictional Civil Harm Act provides these rules. Rule 1: A person who creates an unreasonable foreseeable risk of physical injury owes a duty to take proportionate precautions. A breach supports liability only for injury that would not have occurred without the breach, except as stated in Rule 2. Rule 2: When two independent negligent acts each would have been sufficient to cause the same indivisible harm at the same time, each actor is treated as a cause. Rule 3: A later independent act breaks the chain for an earlier actor only when that act was so extraordinary that the earlier actor could not reasonably have anticipated its general kind. Rule 4: A claimant's voluntary choice reduces recovery only if the claimant knew the specific material risk and freely encountered it; mere awareness of a general possibility of danger is insufficient.

At a warehouse, Arjun leaves a heavy gate unsecured although it is known to swing in high winds. Meera separately disables a nearby automatic locking mechanism without telling anyone. A storm arrives, and the gate strikes a passer-by. Engineers conclude that either Arjun's omission or Meera's alteration, acting alone under these weather conditions, would have caused the same gate strike at the same moment. In a separate incident, a delivery driver leaves a sharp tool in an open passage. Hours later a visitor trips on it after a cleaner intentionally moves it from one side of the passage to

the other during routine sweeping. Finally, a spectator enters a marked zone after being told that a particular barrier is unstable, and is injured when that barrier falls. Decide the variations independently.

Q63. On the engineers' finding about Arjun and Meera, which conclusion best applies?

(a) Neither is a cause because the other act was independently sufficient.

(b) Only the actor who acted last can be a cause.

(c) Both may be treated as causes under the multiple-sufficient-causes rule.

(d) Liability is impossible whenever the injury is indivisible.

Q64. In the sharp-tool incident, what fact most directly determines whether the cleaner's intervention severs the driver's liability?

(a) Whether the cleaner received a monthly salary

(b) Whether movement during cleaning was foreseeable.

(c) Whether the visitor had a return ticket

(d) Whether the sharp tool was originally purchased by the driver, who placed it in the passage before the cleaner moved it during routine work

Q65. A spectator knew that events sometimes involve falling objects but had not been told about the particular unstable barrier. Under Rule 4, which conclusion is strongest?

(a) General awareness automatically eliminates recovery.

(b) Entering any public venue is an assumption of every hazard.

(c) Organisers may recover damages from the spectator.

(d) The information given is insufficient to establish knowing acceptance of that specific material risk.

Q66. Assume the warehouse injury occurred even when the gate was fully secured, because an unforeseeable meteorite struck it. Under Rule 1 alone, what follows?

(a) The unsecured condition is not a but-for cause on these modified facts.

(b) Every foreseeable risk establishes liability regardless of causation.

(c) Meera alone is necessarily responsible for the meteorite.

(d) The injured passer-by automatically loses the right to sue any defendant because the injury could also have occurred through an unforeseeable external event.

Q67. Which statement most precisely distinguishes Rule 2 from Rule 3?

(a) Rule 2 requires that the claimant have consented to injury; Rule 3 forbids all defences.

(b) Rule 2 concerns contracts, while Rule 3 concerns criminal punishment.

(c) Rule 2 addresses overdetermined causation; Rule 3 addresses a potentially superseding later act.

(d) Both rules say an earlier negligent actor is always liable despite any subsequent conduct.

PASSAGE 4 (Q68 TO Q72)

Use only the hypothetical Benefits Review Act. An agency may deny a subsistence payment when two independently verifiable eligibility conditions are absent. The agency must identify the facts on which it relies and allow the applicant to contest material adverse information before the decision becomes final. The agency may use an automated prediction to prioritise files for human checking, but a probability score alone is not an independently verifiable fact of ineligibility. An urgent provisional suspension without prior hearing is permitted for at most seven days if there is documented evidence of imminent fraudulent withdrawal and a prompt post-suspension review. Where an applicant's evidence contradicts a database entry, the agency must address that contradiction rather than silently treating the database as conclusive. A final refusal lacking the required procedure must be reconsidered even if another properly conducted review might reach the same outcome.

The agency's model flags Leela because she moved addresses twice and withdrew a payment soon after each deposit. It denies her benefit without checking whether she met the income and residence conditions. Farid's file shows a database entry saying he is employed, but he submits an employer's closure certificate. The agency refuses to read the certificate because 'the system is authoritative'. In a third file, investigators have a signed statement and bank evidence of an imminent fraudulent transfer; they suspend payments for six days and schedule a hearing on day four. All other relevant facts must be drawn only from the Act and these descriptions.

Q68. Which reason most directly invalidates the denial to Leela?

(a) The model's risk score does not itself establish the two independently verifiable eligibility failures.

(b) Automated prioritisation is forbidden under all circumstances, even when it merely selects cases for subsequent human verification of the underlying eligibility facts.

(c) Address changes legally guarantee eligibility.

(d) A prediction becomes binding whenever two withdrawals occurred.

Q69. What is the main defect in the treatment of Farid's closure certificate?

(a) The agency was required to accept the certificate as conclusive without assessment.

(b) An employer may never issue evidence of closure.

(c) Every database entry is necessarily fabricated.

(d) The agency failed to consider a material contradiction to its database evidence.

Q70. Which circumstance makes the six-day provisional suspension potentially lawful?

(a) A general desire to reduce the agency's annual expenses

(b) Documented imminent fraud coupled with a prompt review within the permitted provisional period

(c) A model score without any corroboration

(d) The possibility of an indefinite suspension after an initial provisional order, if senior officials consider a longer administrative pause more convenient

Q71. Suppose the final reviewer was denied a hearing but would almost certainly have been rejected on the same facts after a proper hearing. Which conclusion follows?

(a) Procedural failure is harmless whenever officials are confident of the result.

(b) The applicant must automatically be paid forever.

(c) Reconsideration is required notwithstanding the predicted substantive outcome.

(d) The reviewer may replace the hearing with a new algorithmic score.

Q72. Which modification would remove the principal defect in Leela's file without automatically deciding eligibility?

(a) Human verification of the statutory conditions, disclosure of relied-on facts, and an opportunity to contest them

(b) A more complicated model that withholds all adverse information

(c) Denial because frequent movement is socially undesirable

(d) A rule that applicants waive hearings when receiving their first benefit

PASSAGE 5 (Q73 TO Q77)

A hypothetical Land Access Code states: Rule A: An owner may grant a written right of passage across land to benefit an identified neighbouring parcel. Unless the grant says otherwise, the right attaches to the benefiting parcel when it is sold. Rule B: A personal permission to cross land, revocable at will, does not become a parcel-based right merely because it is exercised often. Rule C: A right acquired through long use requires open, continuous and adverse use for twelve years; use expressly permitted by the owner is not adverse. Rule D: Even a valid passage right cannot be enlarged to serve a substantially different parcel or a materially more burdensome purpose without fresh agreement. Rule E: A temporary obstruction justified by an emergency repair is permissible only for the minimum time reasonably necessary and where a practical alternative route is offered if available.

Maya owns Hill Farm. In a signed document she grants a footpath over its eastern edge for access to Orchard Farm. Dev later buys Orchard Farm. At the same time, Maya orally allows Noor to walk across Hill Farm whenever Maya wishes, and Noor uses that route for fifteen years. Dev later acquires a separate industrial plot and begins routing heavy trucks across Maya's path to reach it. During a bridge repair, Maya blocks the Orchard Farm path for one afternoon and gives Dev access by an equally practical temporary track. Apply the Code, not outside property law.

Q73. After Dev buys Orchard Farm, what happens to the written passage right?

(a) It disappears because Maya did not sign a fresh deed with Dev.

(b) It ordinarily continues for the benefiting parcel under Rule A.

(c) It automatically expands to any other parcel Dev may later purchase.

(d) It becomes a revocable personal permission only.

Q74. Noor's fifteen-year use is insufficient to establish a right under Rule C primarily because

(a) the period is shorter than twelve years.

(b) the route has to cross a public rather than private parcel.

(c) the owner expressly permitted use, preventing adversity.

(d) oral permissions are automatically converted into ownership after ten years.

Q75. What most directly limits Dev's heavy-truck access to the industrial plot?

(a) The written grant is automatically criminally void.

(b) Rule E applies to all truck journeys.

(c) Noor's repeated personal use of the pathway over fifteen years creates an exclusive truck-access right that defeats Dev's earlier written grant.

(d) Rule D prohibits enlarging the path to serve a substantially different parcel and burden.

Q76. If the repair obstruction lasted only as long as reasonably necessary and the alternative track was practical, Maya's action is

(a) potentially permitted by Rule E despite the otherwise valid passage right.

(b) automatically unlawful because no temporary closure is ever allowed.

(c) evidence that the Orchard grant was merely oral.

(d) an extinction of Dev's right under Rule A.

Q77. Suppose Maya had signed a grant for 'all forms of access to Orchard Farm', but Dev's trucks served only his separate industrial plot. Which interpretation is strongest?

(a) Broad wording permanently removes the requirement that access benefit the specifically identified parcel, extending the grant to every property the buyer later acquires.

(b) The industrial plot falls outside the original grant.

(c) Dev's ownership makes the entire Hill Farm public property.

(d) The grant becomes void because Orchard Farm has changed hands.

PASSAGE 6 (Q78 TO Q82)

For the following hypothetical Rights and Restrictions Charter, apply this test. A public authority restricting a peaceful civic demonstration must (i) pursue a legitimate, specifically articulated public objective, (ii) show that the restriction has a rational connection to that objective, (iii) demonstrate that a materially less restrictive effective option is not reasonably available, and (iv) show that the remaining public benefit outweighs the serious impairment of the right. General public disagreement with a message is not itself a legitimate objective. Where a rule treats two comparable groups differently, the authority must give a relevant, evidence-based reason for that distinction. A restriction may be valid in principle yet invalid in its breadth or duration.

A city permits a weekend food market in the central square but bans a peaceful gathering of disability-rights campaigners, saying that the message is controversial. Later it cites an engineering report showing that the square's north stairway can accommodate only small groups. The campaigners propose using the wide southern entrance and a designated area away from the stairs; the city's engineers concede that the arrangement would address the identified danger. Another gathering seeks the square at a time when evacuation routes are completely occupied by emergency vehicles responding to a major fire. Officials impose a temporary closure limited to the period required for emergency access. In each question evaluate only the described restriction and stated grounds.

Q78. The ban based solely on the campaigners' controversial message fails first at which stage?

(a) The legitimacy of the objective
(b) The availability of a less restrictive location
(c) The relative number of people in the food market
(d) The length of the city's annual budget

Q79. After the engineering report, the organisers' southern-entrance proposal most directly challenges

(a) whether the rally's slogan is popular with local residents.
(b) whether the city has legal title to the square.
(c) whether an effective, materially less restrictive solution is available.
(d) whether food merchants can operate on weekdays.

Q80. Why does differential treatment of the food market and campaigners require further justification?

(a) Any different permit result is automatically unconstitutional regardless of facts.
(b) The Charter requires a relevant evidence-based reason when comparable groups are treated differently.
(c) A market must always be banned before a demonstration.
(d) Public demonstrations can be permitted only on non-market days.

Q81. What is the best evaluation of the temporary closure during the fire?

(a) Invalid because all demonstrations are immune from safety restrictions
(b) Invalid unless officials can predict the precise ending minute
(c) Automatically permanent once any emergency begins
(d) Potentially valid because emergency access is specific and the closure is narrowly timed

Q82. Suppose the city instead forbids every peaceful gathering for a year because one stairway needs a two-day repair. What most directly undermines this rule?

(a) It uses a temporary, local hazard to justify an extremely broad and prolonged restriction.
(b) It cites engineering evidence rather than anonymous rumours.
(c) It includes gatherings whose messages are unpopular.
(d) It allows people to gather somewhere beyond the square.

LOGICAL REASONING

PASSAGE 1 (Q83 TO Q88)

A school district introduced a breakfast programme at twenty schools and reported that average examination scores rose the following year. The director argued that the meals had caused the improvement because hungry pupils concentrate less effectively. A local economist pointed out that the programme schools had been selected partly because they had recently hired additional teachers. Moreover, the district compared their new scores with their own previous scores, rather than with similar schools that did not receive breakfast. A severe flood had disrupted several schools in the earlier year, and attendance later returned to normal.

The director replied that the mechanism connecting nutrition to attention was biologically plausible and that parents reported better morning behaviour. The economist agreed that the mechanism was plausible but insisted that a plausible mechanism is not evidence of the size of the programme's actual effect. If teacher recruitment and post-flood recovery independently improved performance, a before-and-after comparison would attribute their contribution to the meals.

A subsequent evaluation compared schools randomly offered breakfast with schools scheduled to receive it a year later. The offered group improved slightly more on average. But not every offered school served breakfast consistently, while some control schools used charity funding to offer meals. The evaluation estimated the effect of being offered the programme, not the effect of actually eating breakfast daily. Those are different causal questions. To estimate the latter, an analyst would need to account for why some pupils ate the offered meal and others did not.

A newspaper headline declared that breakfast 'proved' to raise scores. The economist objected to the strength of the verb, not to the direction of the evidence. She thought the random offer supplied much more credible support than the initial comparison, but believed that the precise claim should track the comparison actually made. The district could reasonably expand the trial while collecting better data; it could not honestly replace one estimand with another in its public explanation.

Q83. The director's original causal claim is most vulnerable because

(a) the proposed biological pathway from nutrition to attention has not been examined or even mentioned in the district's explanation of its programme.

(b) examinations cannot be affected by any school-level intervention.

(c) parent observations are necessarily fabricated.

(d) teacher hiring and recovery from disruption could also explain the observed improvement.

Q84. What does random assignment of a programme offer principally strengthen?

(a) The comparability of groups before the offer, reducing selection confounding

(b) Proof that every assigned child ate breakfast every day

(c) The assumption that no outside charity ever serves meals

(d) The claim that parental reports are identical to exam results

Q85. Which distinction best explains the economist's objection to the newspaper headline?

(a) A programme's popularity is unrelated to whether it is lawful.

(b) Effects of an offer are not necessarily identical to effects of actual daily consumption.

(c) A randomised design must always show no measurable effect.

(d) Only biological experiments may support educational claims.

Q86. Suppose breakfast was offered randomly but teachers in offered schools were also given extra training only after assignment. What new problem arises?

(a) The estimate becomes a measurement solely of students' appetite.

(b) The study automatically measures effects on school finances.

(c) Breakfast and teacher training are confounded.

(d) Assignment stops being random retrospectively once teachers receive any additional support, so the original randomisation no longer existed at the start.

Q87. Which evidence would most directly support the claim that eating breakfast, rather than merely receiving an offer, improves concentration?

(a) A school newspaper prints enthusiastic student interviews.

(b) Programme schools have more classrooms than other schools.

(c) Scores rise after the district changes its grading scale and reports better averages, even though no comparable measure of pupils' learning was retained.

(d) Compare actual consumers while addressing selection.

Q88. What is the most defensible conclusion from the passage?

(a) The initial before-and-after increase by itself proves a large causal benefit of breakfast because the pupils' later results were higher.

(b) Randomised offer evidence is informative but should be described in terms of what it estimated.

(c) The presence of control-group contamination makes every result meaningless.

(d) No programme should expand until all causal uncertainty disappears.

PASSAGE 2 (Q89 TO Q94)

A company claims that requiring its designers to use an automated suggestion system will increase originality. Its evidence is that teams using the system produce more proposals per week. The research director objects that proposal count is an output measure, whereas originality concerns whether an idea departs meaningfully from familiar solutions. A system that generates twenty variations of a common idea could increase production while narrowing the range of thought.

The chief executive replies that a greater number of candidates raises the chance of finding an exceptional one. The director accepts that this can occur, but only if the candidates are sufficiently different and if reviewers can distinguish unusual value from superficial novelty. Otherwise additional proposals increase evaluation costs without expanding the creative frontier. She describes a phenomenon she calls anchoring: when an early suggestion is shown to a team, later discussion may stay close to it even when alternatives would have been viable.

Another executive proposes an experiment. Half the teams will receive machine-generated starting points, while the other half will brainstorm without them. External reviewers, blind to the teams' methods, will rate originality and practical value. The director supports the design but asks for two further safeguards. First, reviewers should examine the range of ideas within a team, not only the single strongest proposal, since one excellent idea could coexist with an otherwise narrow collection. Second, project briefs must be equally difficult; otherwise a team assigned a simpler problem might appear more innovative.

The chief executive calls these safeguards expensive. He says the existing count metric already proves productivity and that a separate originality measure is unnecessary. The director responds that productivity and creativity might both matter, but one cannot stand in for the other without additional evidence. Her position is not that automated tools necessarily diminish human invention. It is that a management dashboard can make a proposition appear established by selecting a measure that is easier to count than the thing the company claims to value.

Q89. What assumption is necessary for the chief executive's argument from greater proposal count to greater originality?

(a) Evaluation expenses must be identical across all teams.

(b) An increase in number has some meaningful chance of adding genuinely distinct and valuable candidates.

(c) Every automated proposal must be patented.

(d) Human-only teams must produce no original ideas.

Q90. Which observation would most directly weaken the executive's inference?

(a) More proposals but less conceptual diversity.

(b) Automated teams consistently finish more proposals earlier in the week than unaided teams, even though reviewers have not assessed originality.

(c) Both groups comply with an identical administrative deadline.

(d) Designers report that the tool is easy to install.

Q91. Why does the director demand equal difficulty of project briefs?

(a) So that every team must generate exactly the same number of ideas

(b) To ensure reviewers know which teams used automation

(c) To guarantee that every project can produce a patent

(d) To prevent differences in task difficulty from masquerading as differences in creativity

Q92. What would be the most serious defect in evaluating only each team's single best idea?

(a) The best idea cannot be written down without revealing the team's identity.

(b) Every proposal other than the single top-rated idea must be excluded from all productivity and diversity assessments once the strongest proposal is identified.

(c) One strong idea may conceal a narrow collection.

(d) Blind reviewers are legally prohibited from selecting one best proposal.

Q93. Which of the following is closest to the director's central criticism of the company's dashboard?

(a) Proposal counts are not originality measures.

(b) It relies on too many independent measures rather than one.

(c) It demonstrates conclusively that automated suggestions have already reduced the originality of human work across every department in the company.

(d) It treats novelty and practical value as necessarily identical.

Q94. Suppose the blind trial finds higher originality scores but unchanged within-team idea diversity among automated teams. What follows most securely?

(a) The trial proves that anchoring is impossible in all future settings.

(b) The company's claim of greater originality receives support, although the mechanism need not be greater diversity.

(c) The executive's original proposal count was a perfect measure of originality.

(d) The reviewers must have detected the team assignments.

PASSAGE 3 (Q95 TO Q100)

Six research presentations, A, B, C, D, E and F, occupy six consecutive slots, one presentation per slot. Every presentation is given exactly once. The scheduling committee applies these rules:

1. C is immediately before E. 2. A is earlier than D. 3. D takes place after E. 4. B is either in the first slot or the last slot. 5. F is not in a slot immediately adjacent to C.

The rules do not determine a single unique timetable. In answering the questions, treat 'must' as true in every valid timetable and 'could' as true in at least one valid timetable. A claim about what is possible cannot be established by a timetable that violates even one rule. Treat each question independently unless it expressly changes a rule.

Q95. Which statement must be true in every valid schedule?

(a) B immediately precedes A.

(b) F occurs after D.

(c) C occurs before D.

(d) A must occupy the first slot.

Q96. If B is in the first slot, which must be true?

(a) D occurs no earlier than the fifth slot.

(b) F immediately follows B.

(c) A is in the third slot.

(d) C is in the second slot.

Q97. Which of the following complete schedules satisfies every rule?

(a) B A E C F D

(b) C E D F A B

(c) B C E F A D

(d) F C E A D B

Q98. If C occupies the fourth slot, which presentation must be in the second slot?

(a) A
(b) B
(c) D
(d) F

Q99. If B is in the last slot, which position could F occupy?

(a) Second, but not first
(b) First, but not second
(c) Sixth, but not fifth
(d) Second, but not fourth

Q100. Suppose Rule 5 is removed but all others remain. Which statement is still necessarily true?

(a) B must be first.
(b) F must be separated from C by two slots.
(c) E must immediately precede A.
(d) C must occur before D.

PASSAGE 4 (Q101 TO Q105)

A medical study reports that patients taking a new medicine were less likely to return to hospital within a month. The authors used records from several clinics rather than randomly assigning treatment. The new medicine was more commonly prescribed in clinics with specialist teams, and those clinics also used a different discharge protocol. A critic says the results cannot isolate the medicine's effect. The study's lead investigator answers that the researchers adjusted statistically for clinic type, age and initial diagnosis, making the groups more similar on measured characteristics.

The critic accepts that adjustment matters, but notes that records may omit illness severity and a patient's ability to obtain follow-up care. If more seriously ill patients were systematically denied the medicine, a lower readmission rate among treated patients could arise without any treatment benefit. The investigator proposes a sensitivity analysis asking how strong an unmeasured factor would need to be to explain the observed difference. This, she says, would not eliminate uncertainty but would expose how much confidence rests on untested assumptions.

A journalist suggests comparing two medicines in a laboratory for chemical similarity and declaring their clinical outcomes equivalent. Both researchers reject that move. Similarity in composition can motivate a hypothesis, but patients' outcomes also depend on dosage, metabolism, adherence and contextual care. Another critic claims that because observational evidence is imperfect it should never inform policy. The lead investigator rejects this too: decisions often must be made before ideal experiments are possible, but the degree of confidence should reflect the quality of evidence, not the urgency of the decision. The real dispute is not whether the data contain information. It is about which causal conclusion the information warrants.

Q101. The main inferential problem with the initial comparison is that

(a) every hospital record necessarily contains fabricated values.
(b) differences in clinics and patient selection may explain the apparent treatment effect.
(c) readmission is never a meaningful health outcome.
(d) the medicine cannot be chemically analysed.

Q102. Which finding would most strengthen the causal interpretation after adjustment?

(a) Treated patients had a different average shoe size.
(b) The medicine was advertised heavily in specialist clinics.
(c) A plausible unmeasured severity difference would need to be implausibly large to erase the estimated benefit.
(d) Patients reported liking the medicine's packaging.

Q103. The critic's concern about missing severity primarily attacks which assumption?

(a) All outcome-relevant differences were adequately controlled.

(b) That clinic names were recorded using uniform spelling

(c) That the medicine cannot act differently at different dosages in patients whose underlying illness severity and follow-up access are unlike those recorded.

(d) That hospital readmission can be counted by calendar month

Q104. Why do both researchers reject chemical similarity as sufficient proof of clinical equivalence?

(a) Because the medicines were necessarily manufactured by different firms

(b) Because all drugs with similar molecules are illegal

(c) Because laboratory chemistry plays no legitimate role in studying medicines, even in identifying mechanisms that might later be tested clinically.

(d) Because clinical effects depend on mechanisms and conditions not settled by chemical resemblance alone

Q105. Which policy stance is most consistent with the investigator's reply to the final critic?

(a) Use every observational result as conclusively causal.

(b) Withhold every policy decision that could draw on observational evidence until a perfectly controlled randomised experiment can be completed, however long it takes.

(c) Make decisions using available evidence while explicitly calibrating confidence to its limitations.

(d) Replace scientific assessment with the urgency of political demands.

PASSAGE 5 (Q106 TO Q110)

A city introduces public rankings of restaurants based on online customer reports. The mayor argues that businesses will improve because no restaurant wants a low rank. A consumer group questions the evidence. People who had unusually poor experiences may be more motivated to post reviews than those with ordinary meals, and a coordinated group could submit many comments after a dispute unrelated to food quality. Public scores may therefore combine information about service with information about who chooses to speak.

The mayor replies that large numbers of reviews should cancel out exceptional opinions. That is true only under certain conditions. If the same kind of experience consistently makes a customer more likely to submit a review, adding more reviews can reproduce the bias with greater precision. A precisely estimated biased quantity remains biased. An independent inspection team might supply a different measure of hygiene, but hygiene and service quality are not identical. A restaurant can be safe yet rude, or friendly yet unhygienic.

A policy adviser proposes placing inspection grades alongside customer rankings rather than merging them into one number. He also recommends recording how many customers were invited to review, what proportion responded and whether invitations occurred before or after a dispute. The mayor worries that extra detail will confuse diners. The adviser responds that simplicity can be useful, but not when it hides important differences between evidence sources. The aim is not to ban public rankings; it is to prevent the city from presenting a contested signal as an objective measure of everything that makes a restaurant good. The same problem arises whenever an institution promotes a convenient proxy into a verdict about a wider quality.

Q106. Which flaw most directly undermines the mayor's claim that a large review count eliminates bias?

(a) Every online review must be false.

(b) An increase in the number of reviews must always lower the average score because customers with the least favourable experiences are overrepresented.

(c) Hygiene inspectors are always biased toward large chains.

(d) A systematic tendency to review after particular experiences can persist as sample size grows.

Q107. What is the strongest reason to publish inspection grades separately from customer rankings?

(a) They assess partly different qualities and should not be assumed interchangeable.

(b) A restaurant can legally receive only one numerical assessment.

(c) A hygiene inspection necessarily captures customer courtesy.

(d) Customer reports cannot convey any useful information.

Q108. If a coordinated campaign creates negative reviews after a parking dispute, which claim becomes less secure?

(a) The city has a central government.

(b) Customer rankings reliably represent diners' ordinary food and service experiences.

(c) Parking disputes can be emotionally important to customers, so comments about a parking controversy should be given the same evidentiary weight as food experiences.

(d) Online submissions require internet access.

Q109. What assumption underlies the mayor's argument that rankings will improve restaurants?

(a) Customers will always prefer lower-ranked establishments.

(b) Inspectors will abandon their professional standards.

(c) Businesses care sufficiently about rankings and can respond by improving relevant practices.

(d) All restaurants already maintain identical standards of hygiene, service and quality, so the public ranking cannot motivate any improvement in their practices.

Q110. Which finding would best support the adviser's proposal to show response rates?

(a) The ratings interface uses a distinctive blue font.

(b) Most restaurant owners live near the city centre.

(c) Inspection reports are published on the same website.

(d) Establishments with similar inspected quality have sharply different review scores when response rates differ.

QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

PASSAGE 1 (Q111 TO Q115)

Two treatment plants supply water to a town. Plant P can process at most 240 kilolitres (kL) of raw water daily and delivers 80% of the raw volume as treated water at the central distribution point. Plant Q processes at most 180 kL daily and delivers 90%. Their treated outputs are pooled before dispatch. Water dispatched to Zone A suffers a 10% distribution loss; water dispatched to Zone B suffers a 20% loss. A minimum emergency reserve of 35 kL must be retained at the central point before water is dispatched to either zone.

On a standard day, Zone A requires 144 kL actually received and Zone B requires 120 kL actually received. Water losses occur only at the stages stated above. Fractional dispatch is allowed unless a question specifies whole kilolitres of raw water. Neither plant can exceed its processing capacity. Treat all deliveries and percentages as exact and ignore storage from earlier days.

For questions about sufficiency, use this response convention: (a) Statement I alone is sufficient; (b) Statement II alone is sufficient; (c) both together are sufficient but neither alone is; (d) even together they are insufficient.

Q111. With Plant Q at full capacity, what minimum whole number of raw kL must Plant P process to meet both zone targets and maintain the reserve?

(a) 227 kL

(b) 229 kL

(c) 231 kL

(d) 225 kL

Q112. If both plants run at capacity and Zone A receives exactly its target, what is the maximum net water Zone B can receive while preserving the reserve?

(a) 127.2 kL
(b) 129.6 kL
(c) 159 kL
(d) 125.0 kL

Q113. Suppose P processes 220 raw kL while Q runs at full capacity. How much additional treated water at the central point is needed to satisfy the original targets and reserve?

(a) 9 kL
(b) 3 kL
(c) 5 kL
(d) 7 kL

Q114. With both plants at full capacity, Zone B's required net receipt rises by 8 kL; everything else remains unchanged. Which statement is correct?

(a) The reserve can rise by 10 kL without reducing any delivery.
(b) Treated output exceeds the new requirement by 1 kL.
(c) The central supply falls short by 1 kL.
(d) No change in central dispatch is needed because B's loss is already included.

Q115. Can the original targets and reserve be met on a day when the plants' raw throughputs are unknown? Statement I: P processes at least 230 raw kL. Statement II: Q processes at least 180 raw kL.

(a) Statement I alone is sufficient.
(b) Statement II alone is sufficient.
(c) Both together are sufficient but neither alone is.
(d) Both together are insufficient.

PASSAGE 2 (Q116 TO Q120)

A municipal innovation board may fund up to three of five indivisible projects. The total budget is 36 units. The projects have the following costs and expected successful outcomes before the interaction adjustments below:

Project A: cost 9 units; 18 outcomes. Project B: cost 12 units; 27 outcomes. Project C: cost 15 units; 37 outcomes. Project D: cost 18 units; 44 outcomes. Project E: cost 7 units; 12 outcomes.

Rules: (1) C may be selected only if A is also selected. (2) B and D may not be selected together. (3) E may be selected only if D is selected. (4) If B and C are both selected, B contributes only 20 outcomes instead of 27 because some beneficiaries overlap. (5) If D and E are both selected, E contributes 15 outcomes instead of 12 because of a shared delivery system. The listed contributions are otherwise additive. The board must select at least two projects, cannot borrow and cannot select partial projects. In a question mentioning a different budget or a modified rule, all unspecified information remains unchanged.

For the data-sufficiency question, use the same response convention as in Passage I.

Q116. What is the maximum number of expected outcomes achievable under the original budget and rules?

(a) 75
(b) 74
(c) 77
(d) 82

Q117. If the budget falls to 30 units, which is the greatest feasible outcome total?

(a) 62
(b) 67
(c) 75
(d) 59

Q118. If the overlap penalty between B and C disappears but every other condition stays, what becomes the maximum outcome total under the original budget?

(a) 77
(b) 80
(c) 79
(d) 82

Q119. Let the synergy increment to E when paired with D be an unknown nonnegative whole number s instead of 3, so its contribution is 12+s. Can the maximum outcome total exceed 75? Statement I: s is at least 2. Statement II: s is at most 3.

(a) Statement I alone is sufficient.
(b) Statement II alone is sufficient.
(c) Both together are sufficient but neither alone is.
(d) Both together are insufficient.

Q120. Suppose Project E's cost increases to 10 units while every outcome and rule remains unchanged. What is the maximum achievable outcome total?

(a) 77
(b) 75
(c) 62
(d) 82

CLAT 2027 | MOCK NO. 40

ANSWER KEY AND DETAILED SOLUTIONS

ANSWER KEY

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE

PASSAGE 1

Reading and reasoning guide: Read the family-house narrative as a conflict among monetary value, formally recognised heritage and ordinary remembered life. The passage never establishes one perfectly reliable record or a universal hierarchy of objects.

Q1. The contrast between the auctioneer and the grandfather chiefly concerns what?

Correct answer: (a) One sees objects as saleable assets, while the other assigns them familial significance.

Reasoning walkthrough: Compare the auctioneer's market-language with the grandfather's attempt to identify an object through the family's experience of it. The question is about different criteria of value, not a factual contest over who is truthful.

Option (a) | **Correct:** One sees objects as saleable assets, while the other assigns them familial significance. Why it works: This identifies the different purposes guiding their descriptions.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** One knows the objects' origins, while the other knowingly falsifies them. Why it fails: Neither man's certainty about provenance is established, and deliberate falsehood is denied.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** The grandfather rejects historical evidence, but the auctioneer verifies every attribution. Why it fails: The text does not portray a complete verification by the auctioneer.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** The auctioneer values photographs, whereas the grandfather values clocks. Why it fails: The contrast is about descriptions of the desk and portrait, not photographic preferences.

Q2. Which interpretation best explains Renu's preference for blurred photographs?

Correct answer: (c) She wants evidence of lives and moments that formal family memory neglects.

Reasoning walkthrough: Renu chooses ordinary, imperfect photographs rather than the formal portraits already preserved in the family narrative. Infer the kind of history she wants kept, then reject claims about commercial value or photography techniques that the story never establishes.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** She is convinced informal pictures have higher commercial value. Why it fails: Sale value is not her criterion; she counters neglected memory.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** She distrusts every picture in which somebody looks directly at a camera. Why it fails: Nothing suggests a rule against subjects facing a camera.

Option (c) | **Correct:** She wants evidence of lives and moments that formal family memory neglects. Why it works: The photographs preserve otherwise unrepresented ordinary experiences.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** She thinks poor photographic quality guarantees the scene was candid. Why it fails: Blur does not establish authenticity, and she makes no such claim.

Q3. The narrator's response to the stopped station clock is most consistent with which idea?

Correct answer: (a) A failed instrument can still retain significance through its former social function.

Reasoning walkthrough: Separate an object's present utility from the social role it used to play. A stopped clock cannot perform its original task, yet its place in the remembered household can survive that failure.

Option (a) | **Correct:** A failed instrument can still retain significance through its former social function. Why it works: The clock matters because it once coordinated the household, not because it now measures time.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Broken objects should be preserved ahead of objects that remain usable. Why it fails: No ranking of all broken objects is offered.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** The station clock establishes which corridor clock was always accurate. Why it fails: It cannot verify the corridor clocks after having stopped.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** The narrator secretly believes the station clock can be repaired without cost. Why it fails: Repair is neither contemplated nor relevant.

Q4. Which assumption underlies Renu's warning that some moments may become events that "never happened"?

Correct answer: (b) What survives in records influences what later generations believe occurred.

Reasoning walkthrough: Work backwards from Renu's fear that undocumented moments may later be treated as if they never occurred. That fear only makes sense if available records shape later beliefs; it does not assume that records are perfectly accurate.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** A family photograph can prove every detail of an event beyond dispute. Why it fails: She does not claim photographs are exhaustive or infallible proof.

Option (b) | **Correct:** What survives in records influences what later generations believe occurred. Why it works: Her concern presupposes that absence from the surviving record can erase visibility.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Auctions are legally required to destroy images without formal inscriptions. Why it fails: No rule about auctions is mentioned.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** The servants' names were deliberately erased by the grandfather. Why it fails: Deliberate erasure by the grandfather is not alleged.

Q5. Which statement most accurately describes the narrator's final intellectual position?

Correct answer: (d) He recognises that preservation entails choosing among competing kinds of value.

Reasoning walkthrough: The narrator encounters financial, sentimental and historical criteria and finds that none automatically decides the issue. The end is an acknowledgment of competing valuations, not a declaration that one person's collection is objectively superior.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** He decides monetary valuation is the only stable basis for preservation. Why it fails: He explicitly distinguishes different kinds of survival and worth.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** He embraces Renu's choices as objectively correct in every case. Why it fails: He says Renu's box is not a correction to the others, rejecting a single objective hierarchy.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** He abandons the task because all personal memory must be false. Why it fails: Uncertainty about value does not entail that memory is false.

Option (d) | **Correct:** He recognises that preservation entails choosing among competing kinds of value. Why it works: The closing acknowledges selection and its implications without resolving them into one rule.

PASSAGE 2

Reading and reasoning guide: Separate the means used by a transport authority from the ends residents actually care about. Vehicle counts, kilometres built and average speed may be relevant, but access and distributional fairness remain distinct outcomes.

Q6. The author would most likely challenge which conclusion?

Correct answer: (b) Falling car entries alone establish that urban mobility has improved.

Reasoning walkthrough: The author criticises treating the metric chosen by a scheme as proof of its ultimate success. Falling car counts can coexist with lost access for people who cannot drive or afford alternative travel.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Road capacity may change where people choose to live and work. Why it fails: The passage supports induced effects of capacity.

Option (b) | **Correct:** Falling car entries alone establish that urban mobility has improved. Why it works: Reduced entries are an intermediate metric, not proof of improved access.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Transport schemes can produce benefits and burdens for different groups. Why it fails: Distributional consequences are central to the argument.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Whether journeys are worthwhile depends partly on their purposes. Why it fails: The passage explicitly distinguishes worthwhile mobility from vehicle minimisation.

Q7. A bridge creates new trips by giving residents access to a previously distant hospital. How would this affect the author's assessment of induced demand?

Correct answer: (d) It illustrates why added journeys cannot automatically be treated as policy failure.

Reasoning walkthrough: Induced demand describes extra journeys arising after capacity expands; it does not tell us whether those journeys are good or bad. Access to a hospital is a reason to distinguish useful new travel from wasteful traffic.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** It shows that induced demand never occurs when bridges are constructed to connect communities previously separated by a long journey. Why it fails: The example does not deny induced demand; it questions its evaluation.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** It requires the planners to stop measuring congestion at all. Why it fails: Congestion remains relevant alongside accessibility.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** It proves that road widening always outperforms charging schemes. Why it fails: No universal comparative superiority is claimed.

Option (d) | **Correct:** It illustrates why added journeys cannot automatically be treated as policy failure. Why it works: The added travel serves a socially valuable access function.

Q8. Which evidence would most directly test the equity concern about congestion pricing?

Correct answer: (c) Changes in affordable journey times for lower-income shift workers

Reasoning walkthrough: The stated equity concern is that charges may disadvantage people with few alternatives. Evidence about the time and affordability of commuting for those people addresses the concern directly; publicity and vehicle totals do not.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Average daily temperature before and after the charge Why it fails: Temperature does not test whether disadvantaged users retain access.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** The number of journalists attending the transport announcement Why it fails: Media attention is not a distributional outcome.

Option (c) | **Correct:** Changes in affordable journey times for lower-income shift workers Why it works: This tracks whether vulnerable commuters can still reach essential destinations.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** The percentage of motorists who know the price of the fee Why it fails: Awareness of the fee cannot establish its access effects.

Q9. The author distinguishes a policy's "instrument" from its "purpose" primarily to show that

Correct answer: (a) improving a target indicator can fail to deliver the underlying public benefit.

Reasoning walkthrough: The author's larger contrast is between a policy instrument and a public objective. An agency can improve a measurable output and still make the underlying outcome, such as access, less fair.

Option (a) | **Correct:** improving a target indicator can fail to deliver the underlying public benefit. Why it works: The indicator can improve while accessibility or fairness deteriorates.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** no public agency should record output measures in its annual accounts. Why it fails: The text calls intermediate measures useful, not forbidden.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** traffic policy must be judged by pollution alone. Why it fails: Multiple legitimate objectives are identified, not pollution alone.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** political choices are inherently beyond empirical evaluation. Why it fails: The author advocates better measurement, not abandonment of evidence.

Q10. Suppose a city opens a new road and reports that average journey speed rose, while poorer neighbourhoods lost nearby bus routes. What follows most securely from the passage?

Correct answer: (b) Speed improvement is insufficient to establish better access for all residents.

Reasoning walkthrough: Average speed is not a comprehensive welfare measure. Poor neighbourhoods losing bus service is an independent reason to examine access, even if average road speed improved.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** The new road necessarily increased total emissions. Why it fails: Emissions require independent evidence.

Option (b) | **Correct:** Speed improvement is insufficient to establish better access for all residents. Why it works: Access also depends on availability and affordability of transport options.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Loss of bus routes proves all driving trips are wasteful. Why it fails: The loss of buses does not establish that all driving is pointless.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** The city's transport department must have manipulated its speed data. Why it fails: Accurate data can still measure the wrong outcome.

Q11. Which additional finding would most weaken the claim that charging made travel fairer?

Correct answer: (d) Low-wage employees without viable alternatives faced substantially higher commuting costs.

Reasoning walkthrough: A fairness claim is most seriously tested by outcomes for people least able to adjust. Documented higher commuting costs for workers without alternatives bear directly on who carries the burden.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Bus services became more punctual but fares also fell. Why it fails: Better and cheaper buses could improve fairness.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** The number of drivers entering the centre declined after the fee. Why it fails: This measures vehicle counts rather than fairness.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Most local newspapers praised the charge's environmental ambition. Why it fails: Editorial approval is not direct evidence about affected groups.

Option (d) | **Correct:** Low-wage employees without viable alternatives faced substantially higher commuting costs. Why it works: The result directly burdens people whom the policy is supposed to consider.

PASSAGE 3

Reading and reasoning guide: The argument neither rejects administrative archives nor treats them as complete. Their useful evidence is shaped by the purposes, categories and omissions of the bodies that created them.

Q12. What is the strongest reason the author rejects treating every gazetteer claim as false?

Correct answer: (b) Rejecting all claims prevents inquiry into both useful evidence and systematic omissions.

Reasoning walkthrough: The writer warns against both blind trust in an archive and wholesale rejection of it. Useful records may preserve information while their categories and omissions reflect the priorities of the institution that created them.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Some colonial records contain no numerical information at all. Why it fails: The passage says such records may contain indispensable figures.

Option (b) | **Correct:** Rejecting all claims prevents inquiry into both useful evidence and systematic omissions. Why it works: Blanket dismissal bypasses investigation of both evidence and institutional priorities.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Historians have already reconstructed every relevant perspective omitted from the district's official archives through entirely independent and comprehensive evidence. Why it fails: No such complete reconstruction is claimed.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Digital catalogues ensure the original authors' intentions are irrelevant. Why it fails: Institutional purpose remains central to interpretation.

Q13. The archivist's map analogy implies that

Correct answer: (a) recorded categories are useful within limits shaped by their makers' interests.

Reasoning walkthrough: Treat the map analogy as a caution about boundaries of knowledge. A map can orient its user without depicting every feature; an archive can help while failing to record some people or activities.

Option (a) | **Correct:** recorded categories are useful within limits shaped by their makers' interests. Why it works: The map guides inquiry while leaving unrepresented areas unknown.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** every geographical map, because it shows actual locations, gives a more complete and truthful account than any written historical archive. Why it fails: The analogy is not a literal comparison of media reliability.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** digitising a text changes the historical boundaries of the district. Why it fails: Digitisation does not alter historical geography.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** unrecorded experiences can be reconstructed without further evidence. Why it fails: Other sources are needed to investigate absences.

Q14. Why might retaining an objectionable historical term be defensible?

Correct answer: (c) Because the original terminology reveals how administrative power classified people

Reasoning walkthrough: Keeping a historical label visible can reveal how the administration organised and controlled social life. Recording that label is not endorsing it, and does not prevent adding perspectives from other sources.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Because the archivist believes the term remains socially appropriate Why it fails: The passage does not endorse past categories as socially suitable.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Because editing historical records is prohibited under every archival law Why it fails: No universal legal prohibition is invoked.

Option (c) | **Correct:** Because the original terminology reveals how administrative power classified people Why it works: The original label is evidence about a system of classification.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Because researchers should avoid reading local-language sources Why it fails: The team actively adds local-language sources.

Q15. A researcher finds no reference to informal women's labour in the digitised gazetteer. Which conclusion best follows?

Correct answer: (d) The absence may reflect what officials considered worth recording.

Reasoning walkthrough: The author asks us to treat silence in archives cautiously. Non-recording is compatible with an event having occurred if officials had reasons or routines that excluded it from the record.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Such labour certainly did not exist in the district. Why it fails: Silence is not proof of nonexistence.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** It was insignificant relative to every documented economic activity. Why it fails: The record's priorities cannot establish relative importance.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** The digitised copy has necessarily omitted pages from the original. Why it fails: There is no evidence of a technical omission.

Option (d) | **Correct:** The absence may reflect what officials considered worth recording. Why it works: Administrative selection provides a plausible explanation of archival absence.

Q16. Which criticism of the phrase "democratisation of the archive" is most faithful to the passage?

Correct answer: (a) It describes increased access but risks overstating the completeness of available knowledge.

Reasoning walkthrough: Digitisation changes access to documents, not the completeness or neutrality of the underlying collection. The right evaluation acknowledges better retrieval without confusing searchability with exhaustive historical knowledge.

Option (a) | **Correct:** It describes increased access but risks overstating the completeness of available knowledge. Why it works: Access expands, while epistemic limitations remain.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** It is false because rural students still cannot open any historical files. Why it fails: The passage says rural access improves.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** It demonstrates that archival research has become unnecessary. Why it fails: Interpretation remains necessary.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** It proves that records were written exclusively for modern search engines. Why it fails: Historical records obviously predate digital search.

PASSAGE 4

Reading and reasoning guide: The scientific issue is how estimates are justified and revised. Distinguish random uncertainty from shared systematic error and numerical precision from warranted confidence.

Q17. Which statement best captures the author's view of revisions to astronomical estimates?

Correct answer: (c) A revised estimate can reflect improved evidence rather than a failure of scientific method.

Reasoning walkthrough: Scientific revision is not the same thing as methodological failure. When evidence or calibration improves, changing an estimate can be the rational outcome of a functioning scientific method.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** A revision establishes that the earlier researchers were dishonest. Why it fails: No dishonesty follows from revision.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Repeated revisions of the same distance estimate demonstrate that no quantitative knowledge about remote celestial objects can ever be established. Why it fails: The author distinguishes uncertainty from arbitrary guessing.

Option (c) | **Correct:** A revised estimate can reflect improved evidence rather than a failure of scientific method. Why it works: Updating estimates is compatible with disciplined inquiry.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Astronomers should stop publishing estimates until uncertainty disappears. Why it fails: Eliminating all uncertainty is not presented as possible or desirable.

Q18. Why would averaging two distance estimates sometimes be misleading?

Correct answer: (a) Both estimates might depend on a common mistaken assumption.

Reasoning walkthrough: Ask whether averaging two estimates cancels their errors. If both inherit the same faulty calibration or assumption, agreement or averaging may preserve the common mistake.

Option (a) | **Correct:** Both estimates might depend on a common mistaken assumption. Why it works: Shared systematic errors may survive averaging and even create apparent agreement.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Telescopes are unable to record light from distant objects. Why it fails: Telescopes register patterns of light, as stated.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Arithmetic averages can never be useful in scientific research. Why it fails: Only averaging without checking error structure is criticised.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Astronomers normally use identical instruments for every observation. Why it fails: The passage explicitly discusses different methods.

Q19. The phrase "precision in presentation" warns against

Correct answer: (d) displaying more digits than the evidence can justify.

Reasoning walkthrough: The issue is apparent precision versus warranted precision. Extra decimals can create an impression of certainty that the measurements, methods and error bars do not support.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** reporting any result that includes decimal notation. Why it fails: Decimal notation is not inherently a problem.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** comparing a new estimate with an older one. Why it fails: Comparison is central to scientific improvement.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** distinguishing direct observations from inferred quantities. Why it fails: The distinction should be made, not avoided.

Option (d) | **Correct:** displaying more digits than the evidence can justify. Why it works: Excess digits can falsely imply greater certainty.

Q20. A second team finds almost the same distance as the first, but both use the same disputed calibration stars. The closest inference is that

Correct answer: (b) agreement provides weaker confirmation than if their uncertainties were independent.

Reasoning walkthrough: Agreement is strongest evidence when the methods have independent sources of error. Shared calibration makes their estimates partly dependent, so agreement alone gives less additional confirmation.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** both estimates must be right because they agree numerically despite using the same disputed standard stars to calibrate their observations. Why it fails: Shared calibration may produce the same error.

Option (b) | **Correct:** agreement provides weaker confirmation than if their uncertainties were independent. Why it works: Dependence limits the evidentiary value of agreement.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** the galaxy must have changed its distance between observations. Why it fails: Nothing suggests a physical distance change.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** the telescope readings can be ignored in future studies. Why it fails: Telescope data remains relevant despite calibration limits.

Q21. Which discovery would most directly challenge a distance estimate based on standard brightness?

Correct answer: (c) The supposed standard objects systematically differ in actual luminosity.

Reasoning walkthrough: Distance estimates from standard candles depend on knowing their intrinsic luminosity. If the supposedly standard objects are not uniformly bright, the inference from apparent brightness to distance shifts systematically.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** The galaxy has an unusually poetic name. Why it fails: Names are irrelevant to brightness inference.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** More observers attended the public lecture than expected. Why it fails: Attendance does not test the measurement.

Option (c) | **Correct:** The supposed standard objects systematically differ in actual luminosity. Why it works: Incorrect intrinsic brightness changes the inferred distance.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** A new telescope photographed the same galaxy in colour. Why it fails: A colour image alone does not establish a revised calibration.

Q22. The author most strongly endorses which response to a precise scientific claim?

Correct answer: (a) Inspect its method, uncertainties and vulnerability to further evidence.

Reasoning walkthrough: The conclusion recommends evaluating methods, assumptions and uncertainty rather than choosing between uncritical trust and total scepticism. A careful reader asks how the number was obtained and what could revise it.

Option (a) | **Correct:** Inspect its method, uncertainties and vulnerability to further evidence. Why it works: Methodological scrutiny is the concluding recommendation.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Trust it only if it has never been revised. Why it fails: Invariance is not a condition of reliability.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Prefer the most visually impressive number without further inquiry. Why it fails: Visual precision is criticised as potentially misleading.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Reject all inferred quantities as inferior to direct observation. Why it fails: Inference is a legitimate scientific practice when critically evaluated.

CURRENT AFFAIRS INCLUDING GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

PASSAGE 1

Reading and reasoning guide: Distinguish law-of-the-sea treaty institutions from global biodiversity bodies, and distinguish signature from state consent to be legally bound.

Q23. The BBNJ Agreement was negotiated as an implementing agreement under which foundational convention?

Correct answer: (b) United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

Concept and context: UNCLOS provides the legal architecture for the agreement. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Convention on Biological Diversity Why it fails: CBD concerns biodiversity broadly, but the BBNJ legal framework is under UNCLOS.

Option (b) | **Correct:** United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea Why it works: UNCLOS provides the legal architecture for the agreement.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Ramsar Convention on Wetlands Why it fails: Ramsar governs wetlands, not the high-seas implementing framework.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Antarctic Treaty Why it fails: The Antarctic Treaty regulates a distinct geographical system.

Q24. Which issue is directly covered by the BBNJ treaty's substantive architecture?

Correct answer: (c) Marine genetic resources and benefit sharing

Concept and context: Genetic-resource benefit sharing is one core component. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Tariff ceilings on imported fishery products Why it fails: Tariffs belong to trade regimes.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Sovereign title to all disputed islands Why it fails: Sovereignty disputes are not the treaty's central mechanism.

Option (c) | **Correct:** Marine genetic resources and benefit sharing Why it works: Genetic-resource benefit sharing is one core component.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Territorial-sea baselines of every coastal state Why it fails: Baseline rules derive principally from existing law-of-sea provisions.

Q25. Which institution is most directly responsible for administration of the international seabed area mineral resources under the UNCLOS regime?

Correct answer: (a) International Seabed Authority

Concept and context: ISA is the UNCLOS institution for mineral-related activities in the Area. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Correct:** International Seabed Authority Why it works: ISA is the UNCLOS institution for mineral-related activities in the Area.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** International Maritime Organization Why it fails: IMO primarily handles shipping safety and pollution standards.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Food and Agriculture Organization Why it fails: FAO addresses agriculture and fisheries-related work, not Area mineral administration.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** International Hydrographic Organization Why it fails: IHO focuses on hydrography and charting.

Q26. Which distinction between signing and ratifying a treaty is most accurate?

Correct answer: (d) Ratification normally expresses a state's consent to be legally bound through its constitutional process.

Concept and context: Ratification is a recognised means of consent to be bound. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Signature always produces all treaty obligations immediately. Why it fails: Signature alone generally does not equal full treaty consent.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Ratification automatically binds every state in the international community to a treaty, including those that have never consented to it. Why it fails: Treaty obligations do not attach indiscriminately to non-parties.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Signature means the treaty is permanently immune from withdrawal. Why it fails: Signature does not guarantee permanent participation.

Option (d) | **Correct:** Ratification normally expresses a state's consent to be legally bound through its constitutional process. Why it works: Ratification is a recognised means of consent to be bound.

Q27. Which legal principle most directly describes a state's authority over waters up to its territorial-sea limit, in contrast to high seas freedoms?

Correct answer: (b) Sovereignty in the territorial sea subject to relevant law-of-the-sea rules

Concept and context: Coastal states exercise sovereignty over their territorial sea, subject to rules such as innocent passage. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Exclusive global jurisdiction over international waters Why it fails: High seas are not globally owned by a single state.

Option (b) | **Correct:** Sovereignty in the territorial sea subject to relevant law-of-the-sea rules Why it works: Coastal states exercise sovereignty over their territorial sea, subject to rules such as innocent passage.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Ownership of all marine genetic resources in the ocean Why it fails: Genetic resources in all oceans do not belong to one coastal state.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Permanent jurisdiction over the entire continental shelf water column Why it fails: Continental shelf rights concern seabed resources and do not confer sovereignty over all superjacent waters.

PASSAGE 2

Reading and reasoning guide: Separate international health-law functions from unrelated humanitarian and medical organisations. Pay attention to the powers and mandates of each institution.

Q28. The treaty linking patent disclosure to genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge was adopted under the auspices of which organisation?

Correct answer: (a) WIPO

Concept and context: WIPO is the UN-specialised agency for intellectual property treaties. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Correct:** WIPO Why it works: WIPO is the UN-specialised agency for intellectual property treaties.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** WTO Why it fails: WTO administers trade agreements including TRIPS but did not adopt this treaty.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** UNEP Why it fails: UNEP focuses on environmental cooperation.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** UNESCO Why it fails: UNESCO's remit covers education, science and culture.

Q29. Which existing international agreement is especially associated with access to genetic resources and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from utilisation?

Correct answer: (b) Nagoya Protocol

Concept and context: Nagoya Protocol supplements the CBD on access and benefit sharing. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Montreal Convention Why it fails: Montreal Convention chiefly concerns international air carriage liability.

Option (b) | **Correct:** Nagoya Protocol Why it works: Nagoya Protocol supplements the CBD on access and benefit sharing.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Chicago Convention Why it fails: Chicago Convention concerns civil aviation.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Berne Convention Why it fails: Berne Convention protects literary and artistic works.

Q30. In the patent context, which is the most accurate distinction between a patent and a geographical indication?

Correct answer: (c) A patent protects a qualifying invention; a geographical indication links qualifying goods to geographical origin and associated qualities or reputation.

Concept and context: This describes the separate objects of the two rights. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Both are granted only to authors of literary texts. Why it fails: Literary copyrights, not these two mechanisms, address authorship of texts.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Geographical indications protect every original technical invention. Why it fails: Geographical indications are not general invention patents.

Option (c) | **Correct:** A patent protects a qualifying invention; a geographical indication links qualifying goods to geographical origin and associated qualities or reputation. Why it works: This describes the separate objects of the two rights.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** A patent automatically grants its holder ownership of the source country and physical land where an invention's underlying genetic material was found. Why it fails: Patent protection is not real-property ownership.

Q31. The TRIPS Agreement is administered within the institutional framework of which body?

Correct answer: (d) World Trade Organization

Concept and context: TRIPS is one of the WTO agreements. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** International Labour Organization Why it fails: ILO establishes international labour standards.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** United Nations Development Programme Why it fails: UNDP is a development programme.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** International Monetary Fund Why it fails: IMF addresses monetary stability.

Option (d) | **Correct:** World Trade Organization Why it works: TRIPS is one of the WTO agreements.

Q32. Why is the distinction between traditional knowledge and an already-patented invention significant?

Correct answer: (b) Existing community knowledge can be relevant prior art even when no community member holds a patent.

Concept and context: Prior knowledge can undermine novelty even without a patent owned by its holders. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** All traditional knowledge is automatically patentable without novelty. Why it fails: Patentability ordinarily requires criteria such as novelty.

Option (b) | **Correct:** Existing community knowledge can be relevant prior art even when no community member holds a patent. Why it works: Prior knowledge can undermine novelty even without a patent owned by its holders.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** A patent office cannot consider any non-written evidence. Why it fails: Patent authorities may consider recognised forms of prior art; absolute exclusion is false.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Registration of a patent automatically transfers sovereign ownership of genetic material from its country of origin to the private applicant. Why it fails: A patent right does not automatically assign sovereign ownership of source material.

PASSAGE 3

Reading and reasoning guide: Identify missions and technical mechanisms by what they do, not by dates or memorised numerical specifications.

Q33. The Bhagavadgita and Natyashastra were added to which UNESCO programme's international register?

Correct answer: (c) Memory of the World Register

Concept and context: Memory of the World recognises documentary heritage. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** World Heritage List Why it fails: World Heritage List concerns designated cultural and natural properties.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity Why it fails: This list addresses living practices and expressions, not the cited manuscript registration.

Option (c) | **Correct:** Memory of the World Register Why it works: Memory of the World recognises documentary heritage.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Global Geoparks Network Why it fails: Geoparks recognise geological heritage and sustainable territorial development.

Q34. Which UNESCO convention specifically underpins the World Heritage List?

Correct answer: (a) Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage

Concept and context: This is the World Heritage Convention. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Correct:** Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage Why it works: This is the World Heritage Convention.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Convention on International Civil Aviation Why it fails: Chicago Convention governs civil aviation.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women Why it fails: CEDAW is a human-rights treaty.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Convention relating to the Status of Refugees Why it fails: The Refugee Convention governs refugee protection.

Q35. The concept of 'rasa' is particularly associated with which Indian treatise?

Correct answer: (b) Natyashastra

Concept and context: Natyashastra elaborates aesthetic experience, performance and expression. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Arthashastra Why it fails: Arthashastra discusses statecraft and political economy.

Option (b) | **Correct:** Natyashastra Why it works: Natyashastra elaborates aesthetic experience, performance and expression.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Manusmriti Why it fails: Manusmriti is a dharmashastra text.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Ashtadhyayi Why it fails: Ashtadhyayi systematises Sanskrit grammar.

Q36. Which international programme is intended chiefly to safeguard living expressions such as practices, rituals and performing traditions?

Correct answer: (d) UNESCO's intangible cultural heritage framework

Concept and context: The 2003 Convention framework addresses living intangible heritage. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** UNESCO World Heritage inscription of monuments Why it fails: World Heritage may include associated traditions but centres on properties.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** The International Seabed Authority register Why it fails: ISA concerns seabed resources.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** WTO Trade Policy Review Mechanism Why it fails: WTO reviews trade policy.

Option (d) | **Correct:** UNESCO's intangible cultural heritage framework Why it works: The 2003 Convention framework addresses living intangible heritage.

Q37. Which of the following best distinguishes documentary heritage from tangible architectural heritage?

Correct answer: (c) Documentary heritage can consist of manuscripts and archival collections, while architectural heritage can concern buildings and sites.

Concept and context: The categories recognise different forms of heritage. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Documentary heritage must always consist of digital files. Why it fails: Documents need not be digital.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Architectural heritage is never associated with historical records. Why it fails: Built heritage may have extensive archival records.

Option (c) | **Correct:** Documentary heritage can consist of manuscripts and archival collections, while architectural heritage can concern buildings and sites. Why it works: The categories recognise different forms of heritage.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Documentary and architectural heritage are both exclusively governed by the same UNESCO inscription procedure and the same criteria for cultural properties. Why it fails: Different UNESCO instruments and criteria operate.

PASSAGE 4

Reading and reasoning guide: Separate UNESCO cultural and natural protection frameworks and distinguish designation from legal management and nomination processes.

Q38. Which pair of agencies jointly developed NISAR?

Correct answer: (b) ISRO and NASA

Concept and context: NASA and ISRO developed NISAR. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** ESA and JAXA Why it fails: ESA and JAXA are not NISAR's joint development partners.

Option (b) | **Correct:** ISRO and NASA Why it works: NASA and ISRO developed NISAR.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** CNSA and Roscosmos Why it fails: These were not the joint developers.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** NASA and EUMETSAT Why it fails: EUMETSAT was not the project's paired agency.

Q39. Which technology allows NISAR to observe surface properties using transmitted microwave signals?

Correct answer: (a) Synthetic aperture radar

Concept and context: SAR processes returning radar echoes to map surface properties. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Correct:** Synthetic aperture radar Why it works: SAR processes returning radar echoes to map surface properties.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Optical spectroscopy in visible light only Why it fails: NISAR uses radar, not exclusively visible-light spectroscopy.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** A passive ultraviolet telescope Why it fails: It is not an ultraviolet telescope.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** A gravimeter that detects only tides Why it fails: This is not its core observation mechanism.

Q40. What is a key advantage of radar-based Earth observation compared with ordinary visible-light imagery?

Correct answer: (c) It can obtain observations at night and through many cloud conditions.

Concept and context: Active microwave sensing works without sunlight and can penetrate clouds to varying degrees. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** It measures every subsurface mineral reserve with certainty. Why it fails: SAR does not guarantee perfect mineral mapping.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** It eliminates the need for processing and calibration. Why it fails: Radar measurements still require processing.

Option (c) | **Correct:** It can obtain observations at night and through many cloud conditions. Why it works: Active microwave sensing works without sunlight and can penetrate clouds to varying degrees.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** It directly predicts every earthquake's exact time. Why it fails: Earthquake timing is not directly predictable from this instrument.

Q41. Which Indian launch vehicle was used to launch NISAR?

Correct answer: (d) GSLV-F16

Concept and context: ISRO used GSLV-F16 for NISAR. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** PSLV-C11 Why it fails: PSLV-C11 was a different mission.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** SSLV-D1 Why it fails: SSLV-D1 is not the NISAR launcher.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** LVM3-M4 Why it fails: LVM3-M4 is associated with Chandrayaan-3.

Option (d) | **Correct:** GSLV-F16 Why it works: ISRO used GSLV-F16 for NISAR.

Q42. A radar satellite detects displacement between two observations of terrain. Which method is especially associated with using radar phase differences for such measurements?

Correct answer: (b) Interferometric synthetic aperture radar

Concept and context: InSAR uses differences in radar phase to infer surface displacement. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Polymerase chain reaction Why it fails: PCR amplifies DNA.

Option (b) | **Correct:** Interferometric synthetic aperture radar Why it works: InSAR uses differences in radar phase to infer surface displacement.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Radiocarbon dating Why it fails: Radiocarbon dates organic material.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Optical emission spectroscopy of distant stars Why it fails: Stellar spectroscopy concerns a different measurement task.

PASSAGE 5

Reading and reasoning guide: The ICJ has advisory and contentious functions with different participants and effects. Keep it distinct from international criminal adjudication and other UN organs.

Q43. Which UN organ is designated the principal judicial organ under the UN Charter?

Correct answer: (c) International Court of Justice

Concept and context: ICJ holds this status under Article 92. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** International Criminal Court Why it fails: ICC prosecutes individuals for specified international crimes.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Permanent Court of Arbitration Why it fails: PCA provides arbitral services but is not the UN principal judicial organ.

Option (c) | **Correct:** International Court of Justice Why it works: ICJ holds this status under Article 92.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** UN Human Rights Council Why it fails: HRC is a political intergovernmental body.

Q44. Which UN body can request an ICJ advisory opinion on any legal question under Article 96 of the Charter?

Correct answer: (a) General Assembly

Concept and context: General Assembly is expressly authorised. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Correct:** General Assembly Why it works: General Assembly is expressly authorised.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** UNESCO alone without authorisation Why it fails: Specialised agencies require General Assembly authorisation and competence limits.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** IMF Managing Director acting personally Why it fails: The officeholder does not possess independent general referral power.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** International Committee of the Red Cross Why it fails: ICRC is not named as a general requesting body under Article 96.

Q45. In contentious proceedings before the ICJ, which entities can be parties?

Correct answer: (b) States

Concept and context: Only states can be parties in contentious cases. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Any private person or corporation Why it fails: Private litigants cannot directly be ICJ contentious parties.

Option (b) | **Correct:** States Why it works: Only states can be parties in contentious cases.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Only UN specialised agencies Why it fails: Agencies may be involved in advisory questions, not contentious party status.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Only individuals accused of war crimes Why it fails: Individual criminal prosecution belongs to different courts.

Q46. The principle of 'common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities' is especially associated with which international environmental framework?

Correct answer: (d) UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and Paris climate regime

Concept and context: CBDR-RC is a core climate-governance principle. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Warsaw Convention on air carriage Why it fails: This concerns air carriage.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Geneva Convention on road traffic Why it fails: This concerns road traffic.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Berne Convention on copyright Why it fails: This concerns copyright.

Option (d) | **Correct:** UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and Paris climate regime Why it works: CBDR-RC is a core climate-governance principle.

Q47. Which statement best distinguishes an ICJ advisory opinion from a contentious judgment?

Correct answer: (c) Advisory opinions provide legal advice to authorised organs and ordinarily lack the binding inter-party force of contentious judgments.

Concept and context: This is the central procedural distinction. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Advisory opinions are criminal convictions imposed on individuals. Why it fails: ICJ does not issue individual criminal convictions.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Contentious judgments can be delivered without a participating state, because private individuals may apply to the Court in their own names. Why it fails: Contentious cases involve states.

Option (c) | **Correct:** Advisory opinions provide legal advice to authorised organs and ordinarily lack the binding inter-party force of contentious judgments. Why it works: This is the central procedural distinction.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Advisory opinions are drafted solely by the UN Security Council. Why it fails: Judges of the ICJ issue advisory opinions, not the Security Council.

PASSAGE 6

Reading and reasoning guide: Separate membership, coordination and development-finance mandates of the G20, IMF and World Bank bodies.

Q48. Which regional organisation became a permanent G20 member during India's presidency?

Correct answer: (b) African Union

Concept and context: African Union was admitted as a permanent member. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** ASEAN Why it fails: ASEAN was not the newly admitted G20 permanent member.

Option (b) | **Correct:** African Union Why it works: African Union was admitted as a permanent member.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** SAARC Why it fails: SAARC has not acquired this membership.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Arab League Why it fails: Arab League was not the admitted body.

Q49. Which of the following is a regional body that already participates as a G20 member alongside the African Union?

Correct answer: (a) European Union

Concept and context: EU is the other regional G20 member. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Correct:** European Union Why it works: EU is the other regional G20 member.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** International Monetary Fund Why it fails: IMF is an international financial institution, not the regional G20 member in question.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** World Trade Organization Why it fails: WTO is a multilateral trade institution.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** United Nations Security Council Why it fails: UNSC is a UN organ.

Q50. Which institution is principally associated with balance-of-payments support and international monetary cooperation?

Correct answer: (c) International Monetary Fund

Concept and context: IMF's mandate includes international monetary stability and balance-of-payments support. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** UNESCO Why it fails: UNESCO concerns education, science and culture.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** International Court of Justice Why it fails: ICJ adjudicates legal disputes between states and gives advice.

Option (c) | **Correct:** International Monetary Fund Why it works: IMF's mandate includes international monetary stability and balance-of-payments support.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** International Labour Organization Why it fails: ILO addresses labour standards.

Q51. Which financing arm of the World Bank Group is especially associated with concessional support for the poorest eligible countries?

Correct answer: (d) International Development Association

Concept and context: IDA provides grants and concessional finance to eligible lower-income countries. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** International Finance Corporation Why it fails: IFC focuses on private-sector investment.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency Why it fails: MIGA provides political-risk guarantees.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Bank for International Settlements Why it fails: BIS supports central-bank cooperation.

Option (d) | **Correct:** International Development Association Why it works: IDA provides grants and concessional finance to eligible lower-income countries.

Q52. Which claim about G20 leaders' declarations is most accurate?

Correct answer: (b) Their political commitments do not by themselves create an international court with compulsory jurisdiction over members.

Concept and context: The G20 has no automatic court mechanism of the kind described. The key is to distinguish the institution, procedure, or legal instrument by its actual mandate rather than by a related subject name.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Every declaration is automatically a treaty enforceable before the ICJ. Why it fails: G20 declarations are not automatically enforceable treaties.

Option (b) | **Correct:** Their political commitments do not by themselves create an international court with compulsory jurisdiction over members. Why it works: The G20 has no automatic court mechanism of the kind described.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** A declaration can be issued only after ratification by every national parliament. Why it fails: Parliamentary ratification is not an invariable condition of issuing a declaration.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** The G20 is a specialised agency of the United Nations under Article 57. Why it fails: G20 is not a UN specialised agency.

LEGAL REASONING

PASSAGE 1

Reading and reasoning guide: Apply the four relevant tests separately: specific evidence of risk, less restrictive alternatives, fair hearing and viewpoint-neutral allocation. Passing one test never dispenses with the others.

Q53. The council's complete prohibition of the dam debate is most vulnerable because

Correct answer: (c) Security measures could address the identified risk.

Reasoning walkthrough: Rule 1 requires a particularised safety basis, while Rule 2 separately asks whether adequate narrower measures are available. Even if the council identifies a genuine risk, a complete ban can still fail the necessity test.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** it cannot rely on any police evidence of the planned blockade without a criminal conviction establishing that named individuals intended the obstruction. Why it fails: The Code requires particular evidence, not a criminal conviction.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** any event involving political disagreement must be permitted without security planning. Why it fails: Political events may be restricted for qualifying safety reasons.

Option (c) | **Correct:** Security measures could address the identified risk. Why it works: Rule 2 invalidates a ban if adequate alternatives exist.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** the student association automatically has priority over every other hall user. Why it fails: No such general priority is supplied.

Q54. Suppose the exit threat is credible and barriers cannot prevent it, but officials have two days before the event and organisers are contactable. Which is the strongest procedural conclusion?

Correct answer: (a) Hear the organisers before deciding.

Reasoning walkthrough: Do not merge the substantive risk threshold with the procedural emergency exception. A hearing may be skipped only if the delay itself creates imminent serious harm; advance notice and reachable organisers matter.

Option (a) | **Correct:** Hear the organisers before deciding. Why it works: Rule 3 requires hearing unless the time needed creates imminent serious harm; two days and contactability undermine that exception.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** The council may dispense with the organisers' hearing whenever the only evidence of the threat is supplied by police officers rather than private witnesses. Why it fails: Police origin of evidence is not an exception.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** The presence of any substantial risk automatically waives all procedure. Why it fails: Substantial risk and imminent harm from delay are distinct tests.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** The consultation requirement applies only to disputes about hall bookings. Why it fails: Rule 3 applies to event restrictions.

Q55. If the council denies the music society the hall because it dislikes its songs, despite the society applying first, what is the strongest conclusion?

Correct answer: (d) The decision violates the neutral priority system.

Reasoning walkthrough: The competing bookings must be compared under a neutral priority rule. A decision made because officials prefer one viewpoint is not justified merely by calling the rival gathering controversial.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** The farmers' collective wins because agricultural events have special status. Why it fails: No agricultural priority is stated.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** The mayor may disregard the priority rule whenever expressive content is involved. Why it fails: Rule 4 bars viewpoint-based departures from priority.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** The council may deny the hall on viewpoint grounds only if it first establishes that the political lyrics constitute a criminal offence. Why it fails: Criminality is not the sole issue; the neutral rule controls.

Option (d) | **Correct:** The decision violates the neutral priority system. Why it works: First application and viewpoint neutrality favour the music society.

Q56. Which additional fact would best justify dispensing with a hearing under Rule 3?

Correct answer: (b) Delay would expose attendees to imminent serious harm.

Reasoning walkthrough: Locate the exact reason Rule 3 permits a hearing to be omitted. It is not administrative convenience or disagreement with speakers; it is demonstrable imminent serious harm caused by the delay.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Organisers have publicly criticised the council's conduct in the past and officials reasonably expect the same critical speeches at the next event. Why it fails: Past criticism is viewpoint-related and irrelevant.

Option (b) | **Correct:** Delay would expose attendees to imminent serious harm. Why it works: This is the express emergency exception.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** The official responsible for hearings is on annual leave. Why it fails: Administrative inconvenience is insufficient.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Opponents of the debate disagree sharply with the speaker. Why it fails: Disagreement is not physical harm evidence.

Q57. Suppose the council identifies substantial harm, offers a hearing, and proves no lesser measure will work. Which proposition follows?

Correct answer: (c) A prohibition may be valid, because the specified substantive and procedural conditions can be satisfied.

Reasoning walkthrough: Follow the rules in sequence: a supported risk, absence of adequate less restrictive alternatives, and the prescribed procedure. Meeting the conditions makes a restriction permissible, not automatically mandatory.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** The Code compels a prohibition in every such case. Why it fails: The language permits rather than commands restriction.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** All objections from organisers become legally irrelevant. Why it fails: Responses remain part of the procedural requirement.

Option (c) | **Correct:** A prohibition may be valid, because the specified substantive and procedural conditions can be satisfied. Why it works: Rules 1 to 3 allow a properly supported necessary restriction.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** The council must instead award the hall to an unrelated organisation. Why it fails: No competing booking is given.

PASSAGE 2

Reading and reasoning guide: Contract formation depends on matching terms and valid acceptance under the prescribed method. Reliance compensation is a separate inquiry and is limited to reasonable induced expenditure.

Q58. Under Rules A and B, what is the best assessment of Nila's Thursday reply?

Correct answer: (b) It is a counteroffer because free lighting changes an essential term.

Reasoning walkthrough: A response that adds free lighting changes an essential bargain term. Under Rule A, that is a counteroffer rather than an unconditional acceptance of the original terms.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** It is a complete acceptance because the date and price were not disputed. Why it fails: A conditional demand concerning services alters terms.

Option (b) | **Correct:** It is a counteroffer because free lighting changes an essential term. Why it works: Rule A makes an essential change a counteroffer.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** It creates a contract unless the theatre objects within one hour. Why it fails: Silence does not produce the proposed automatic acceptance.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** It keeps the original offer alive indefinitely after Friday. Why it fails: An unrenewed original offer is terminated by counteroffer.

Q59. If the theatre had expressly renewed its original offer on Friday morning, what would be the effect of Nila's 4 pm text to the director?

Correct answer: (a) No contract, because the exclusive email method was not used.

Reasoning walkthrough: A renewed offer does not eliminate an express exclusive method of acceptance. A message delivered by some other route does not satisfy Rule B simply because someone associated with the other party saw it.

Option (a) | **Correct:** No contract, because the exclusive email method was not used. Why it works: Even with renewal, Rule B makes the exclusive designated mode mandatory.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** A contract, because any read message satisfies even an exclusive method. Why it fails: Receipt by an individual is not receipt at the specified address.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** An automatically enforceable promise to provide free lighting. Why it fails: The renewed offer contains no lighting promise.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** A contract only if the director later deletes the message. Why it fails: Deletion is not a criterion in the supplied rules.

Q60. Suppose instead the original offer had said 'email preferred' and remained valid through Friday. Nila texts unconditional acceptance to the director, who reads it before expiry. Which result follows?

Correct answer: (c) A contract forms on timely communicated acceptance.

Reasoning walkthrough: The modified offer says email is preferred, not exclusive. The outcome therefore depends on timely communication of unconditional assent, not compliance with a merely preferred channel.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** The contract fails because all business acceptances must be sent by email, even where a proposal explicitly makes email merely preferable rather than exclusive. Why it fails: The hypothetical rules reject a universal email requirement.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** The lighting demand is automatically incorporated in the terms. Why it fails: An unconditional acceptance does not include the earlier extra term.

Option (c) | **Correct:** A contract forms on timely communicated acceptance. Why it works: Preferred is not exclusive; actual timely communication suffices.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** The contract forms only when both parties spend money. Why it fails: Spending is not an acceptance requirement.

Q61. On the supplied gallery facts, Omar's most plausible claim is

Correct answer: (d) verified printing costs incurred in reasonable reliance on the definite assurance.

Reasoning walkthrough: Rule C concerns expenditure induced by a sufficiently definite assurance, despite the absence of a concluded contract. Identify actual foreseeable reliance costs, not profit from a bargain never formed.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** full profits that a completed exhibition might have produced. Why it fails: Rule C excludes expected profit from an unmade contract.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** ownership of the courtyard until the exhibition date. Why it fails: Reliance does not grant title to property.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** contractual damages fixed by an agreed profit-sharing percentage. Why it fails: Profit sharing remained unresolved.

Option (d) | **Correct:** verified printing costs incurred in reasonable reliance on the definite assurance. Why it works: Specific encouragement made printing expenditure foreseeable and potentially recoverable.

Q62. If the gallery had added 'do not order anything before signing', and Omar nevertheless printed catalogues, what changes most directly?

Correct answer: (a) The warning makes the expenditure ordinarily unreasonable under Rule C.

Reasoning walkthrough: A warning that negotiations may fail changes what spending is reasonable. It undermines reliance; it does not itself accept terms, create a permanent offer, or expand compensation.

Option (a) | **Correct:** The warning makes the expenditure ordinarily unreasonable under Rule C. Why it works: Rule C states that such a warning ordinarily defeats reasonable reliance.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** The warning automatically creates a signed contract. Why it fails: A warning is not contract formation.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Omar becomes entitled to both printing costs and expected profits. Why it fails: The rule does not expand damages in response to a warning.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** The gallery is barred from withdrawing any proposal. Why it fails: No irrevocable commitment is supplied.

PASSAGE 3

Reading and reasoning guide: Distinguish multiple sufficient causes, superseding intervening acts, and informed voluntary acceptance of specific risk. Each rule answers a different causal or defence question.

Q63. On the engineers' finding about Arjun and Meera, which conclusion best applies?

Correct answer: (c) Both may be treated as causes under the multiple-sufficient-causes rule.

Reasoning walkthrough: The ordinary but-for test struggles where two independent acts each suffice to cause an indivisible injury. Rule 2 expressly addresses that situation and allows both negligent causes to count.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Neither is a cause because the other act was independently sufficient. Why it fails: Rule 2 specifically addresses independently sufficient causes.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Only the actor who acted last can be a cause. Why it fails: Temporal priority is not the supplied test.

Option (c) | **Correct:** Both may be treated as causes under the multiple-sufficient-causes rule. Why it works: Both negligent acts satisfy the special causation rule.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Liability is impossible whenever the injury is indivisible. Why it fails: Indivisibility is part of the Rule 2 condition, not a bar.

Q64. In the sharp-tool incident, what fact most directly determines whether the cleaner's intervention severs the driver's liability?

Correct answer: (b) Whether movement during cleaning was foreseeable.

Reasoning walkthrough: An intervening act breaks the chain only under the defined foreseeability test. Examine whether the category of subsequent movement or handling was foreseeable, rather than irrelevant details of the cleaner.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Whether the cleaner received a monthly salary Why it fails: Salary has no causal significance under Rule 3.

Option (b) | **Correct:** Whether movement during cleaning was foreseeable. Why it works: Foreseeability of the general type of later act controls whether the chain breaks.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Whether the visitor had a return ticket Why it fails: Travel plans do not determine chain-breaking.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Whether the sharp tool was originally purchased by the driver, who placed it in the passage before the cleaner moved it during routine work Why it fails: Ownership does not resolve the intervening-act question.

Q65. A spectator knew that events sometimes involve falling objects but had not been told about the particular unstable barrier. Under Rule 4, which conclusion is strongest?

Correct answer: (d) The information given is insufficient to establish knowing acceptance of that specific material risk.

Reasoning walkthrough: Rule 4 requires knowing acceptance of the particular material risk. General awareness that a venue or activity carries some danger does not establish consent to the specific danger causing this injury.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** General awareness automatically eliminates recovery. Why it fails: Rule 4 expressly rejects general awareness as sufficient.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Entering any public venue is an assumption of every hazard. Why it fails: No blanket venue waiver is provided.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Organisers may recover damages from the spectator. Why it fails: The rule describes claimant recovery, not organiser damages.

Option (d) | **Correct:** The information given is insufficient to establish knowing acceptance of that specific material risk. Why it works: Knowledge of the particular risk is missing.

Q66. Assume the warehouse injury occurred even when the gate was fully secured, because an unforeseeable meteorite struck it. Under Rule 1 alone, what follows?

Correct answer: (a) The unsecured condition is not a but-for cause on these modified facts.

Reasoning walkthrough: The counterfactual removes the original omission but leaves the meteorite-caused injury unchanged. If injury would occur anyway, the omission is not established as a but-for cause on these facts.

Option (a) | **Correct:** The unsecured condition is not a but-for cause on these modified facts. Why it works: The injury would have happened despite the omission, defeating ordinary but-for causation.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Every foreseeable risk establishes liability regardless of causation. Why it fails: Breach without causation is insufficient under Rule 1.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Meera alone is necessarily responsible for the meteorite. Why it fails: Nothing links Meera to the meteorite.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** The injured passer-by automatically loses the right to sue any defendant because the injury could also have occurred through an unforeseeable external event. Why it fails: A conclusion about one actor does not determine all potential claims.

Q67. Which statement most precisely distinguishes Rule 2 from Rule 3?

Correct answer: (c) Rule 2 addresses overdetermined causation; Rule 3 addresses a potentially superseding later act.

Reasoning walkthrough: Distinguish two different causal problems. Rule 2 handles multiple sufficient causes; Rule 3 tests whether a later act supersedes an earlier causal contribution.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Rule 2 requires that the claimant have consented to injury; Rule 3 forbids all defences. Why it fails: Consent belongs to Rule 4.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Rule 2 concerns contracts, while Rule 3 concerns criminal punishment. Why it fails: Both rules concern civil causation.

Option (c) | **Correct:** Rule 2 addresses overdetermined causation; Rule 3 addresses a potentially superseding later act. Why it works: These are the respective logical tasks.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Both rules say an earlier negligent actor is always liable despite any subsequent conduct. Why it fails: Rule 3 can sever liability in extraordinary unforeseeable cases.

PASSAGE 4

Reading and reasoning guide: The law distinguishes predictive screening from verified eligibility, and final denial from temporary emergency suspension. Procedural reconsideration matters even if the ultimate eligibility decision might be the same.

Q68. Which reason most directly invalidates the denial to Leela?

Correct answer: (a) The model's risk score does not itself establish the two independently verifiable eligibility failures.

Reasoning walkthrough: A risk score can prioritise a human check, but the statute requires independently verifiable eligibility failures before a final denial. Do not turn a prediction into conclusive evidence.

Option (a) | Correct: The model's risk score does not itself establish the two independently verifiable eligibility failures. Why it works: The score is a trigger for review, not proof of statutory ineligibility.

Option (b) | Incorrect: Automated prioritisation is forbidden under all circumstances, even when it merely selects cases for subsequent human verification of the underlying eligibility facts. Why it fails: The Act permits prediction for prioritising human checks.

Option (c) | Incorrect: Address changes legally guarantee eligibility. Why it fails: Moving address does not guarantee entitlement.

Option (d) | Incorrect: A prediction becomes binding whenever two withdrawals occurred. Why it fails: The Act denies conclusive status to predictive scores.

Q69. What is the main defect in the treatment of Farid's closure certificate?

Correct answer: (d) The agency failed to consider a material contradiction to its database evidence.

Reasoning walkthrough: The applicant has provided evidence contradicting the database. The procedural rule requires the agency to confront that contradiction; it need not automatically accept every claim, but cannot simply ignore material evidence.

Option (a) | Incorrect: The agency was required to accept the certificate as conclusive without assessment. Why it fails: The Act requires addressing contradictions, not accepting every applicant claim uncritically.

Option (b) | Incorrect: An employer may never issue evidence of closure. Why it fails: No such restriction is stated.

Option (c) | Incorrect: Every database entry is necessarily fabricated. Why it fails: The database may be accurate in other cases.

Option (d) | Correct: The agency failed to consider a material contradiction to its database evidence. Why it works: Ignoring relevant contradictory evidence violates the express rule.

Q70. Which circumstance makes the six-day provisional suspension potentially lawful?

Correct answer: (b) Documented imminent fraud coupled with a prompt review within the permitted provisional period

Reasoning walkthrough: The provisional suspension exception has cumulative safeguards: documented imminent fraud, short duration and prompt review. A mere alert or preference for savings lacks those safeguards.

Option (a) | Incorrect: A general desire to reduce the agency's annual expenses Why it fails: Budget preference is not the emergency condition.

Option (b) | **Correct:** Documented imminent fraud coupled with a prompt review within the permitted provisional period Why it works: Evidence, imminence, limited duration and prompt review match the exception.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** A model score without any corroboration Why it fails: An unverified score is not documented imminent fraud.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** The possibility of an indefinite suspension after an initial provisional order, if senior officials consider a longer administrative pause more convenient Why it fails: The Act limits provisional suspension to seven days.

Q71. Suppose the final reviewer was denied a hearing but would almost certainly have been rejected on the same facts after a proper hearing. Which conclusion follows?

Correct answer: (c) Reconsideration is required notwithstanding the predicted substantive outcome.

Reasoning walkthrough: The statutory process matters even if the agency might eventually reach the same substantive outcome. The remedy of reconsideration does not predetermine entitlement.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Procedural failure is harmless whenever officials are confident of the result. Why it fails: The Act specifically rejects outcome-based excuses for missing process.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** The applicant must automatically be paid forever. Why it fails: It prescribes reconsideration, not guaranteed lifelong entitlement.

Option (c) | **Correct:** Reconsideration is required notwithstanding the predicted substantive outcome. Why it works: The duty to reconsider remains even if the eventual denial could be justified.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** The reviewer may replace the hearing with a new algorithmic score. Why it fails: A prediction cannot substitute for the prescribed procedure.

Q72. Which modification would remove the principal defect in Leela's file without automatically deciding eligibility?

Correct answer: (a) Human verification of the statutory conditions, disclosure of relied-on facts, and an opportunity to contest them

Reasoning walkthrough: Combine both the evidence requirement and the right to respond. A proper decision verifies the actual statutory conditions, identifies adverse facts and permits a meaningful challenge.

Option (a) | **Correct:** Human verification of the statutory conditions, disclosure of relied-on facts, and an opportunity to contest them Why it works: This provides substantive verification and the required procedural safeguards.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** A more complicated model that withholds all adverse information Why it fails: Complexity does not cure lack of evidence or fairness.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Denial because frequent movement is socially undesirable Why it fails: Social disapproval is not a statutory eligibility condition.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** A rule that applicants waive hearings when receiving their first benefit Why it fails: No waiver rule is supplied.

PASSAGE 5

Reading and reasoning guide: Analyse who or what holds the right, whether use was permissive or adverse, whether a new parcel is being served, and whether a temporary repair exception applies.

Q73. After Dev buys Orchard Farm, what happens to the written passage right?

Correct answer: (b) It ordinarily continues for the benefiting parcel under Rule A.

Reasoning walkthrough: A parcel-attached right differs from personal permission. On a sale, a right benefiting the land ordinarily travels with that land, subject to the original grant's scope.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** It disappears because Maya did not sign a fresh deed with Dev. Why it fails: Rule A attaches the right to the parcel rather than a named original holder.

Option (b) | **Correct:** It ordinarily continues for the benefiting parcel under Rule A. Why it works: The right ordinarily passes with Orchard Farm.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** It automatically expands to any other parcel Dev may later purchase. Why it fails: Rule D restricts expansion to other parcels.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** It becomes a revocable personal permission only. Why it fails: A written parcel grant is different from personal permission.

Q74. Noor's fifteen-year use is insufficient to establish a right under Rule C primarily because

Correct answer: (c) the owner expressly permitted use, preventing adversity.

Reasoning walkthrough: The period alone cannot establish an adverse right where the owner permitted the use. Permission and adversity are opposites under the rule, even after many years.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** the period is shorter than twelve years. Why it fails: Fifteen exceeds the twelve-year period.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** the route has to cross a public rather than private parcel. Why it fails: The Code does not require a public parcel.

Option (c) | **Correct:** the owner expressly permitted use, preventing adversity. Why it works: Permissive use is not adverse.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** oral permissions are automatically converted into ownership after ten years. Why it fails: Nothing transfers ownership on that basis.

Q75. What most directly limits Dev's heavy-truck access to the industrial plot?

Correct answer: (d) Rule D prohibits enlarging the path to serve a substantially different parcel and burden.

Reasoning walkthrough: The original grant benefits a specified parcel and use. Extending it to a different industrial parcel with a materially heavier burden changes the scope, requiring a new entitlement.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** The written grant is automatically criminally void. Why it fails: The original Orchard right is not itself void.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Rule E applies to all truck journeys. Why it fails: Rule E addresses repair obstruction.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Noor's repeated personal use of the pathway over fifteen years creates an exclusive truck-access right that defeats Dev's earlier written grant. Why it fails: Noor's permission creates no exclusive entitlement.

Option (d) | **Correct:** Rule D prohibits enlarging the path to serve a substantially different parcel and burden. Why it works: The new parcel and materially heavier use require fresh agreement.

Q76. If the repair obstruction lasted only as long as reasonably necessary and the alternative track was practical, Maya's action is

Correct answer: (a) potentially permitted by Rule E despite the otherwise valid passage right.

Reasoning walkthrough: Rule E is a narrow temporary exception allowing necessary repairs under safeguards. It does not nullify the underlying passage right or convert a temporary obstruction into permanent extinction.

Option (a) | **Correct:** potentially permitted by Rule E despite the otherwise valid passage right. Why it works: The emergency provision permits narrow temporary obstruction with safeguards.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** automatically unlawful because no temporary closure is ever allowed. Why it fails: Rule E creates an exception.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** evidence that the Orchard grant was merely oral. Why it fails: Repair does not change the form of grant.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** an extinction of Dev's right under Rule A. Why it fails: Temporary interruption does not extinguish the right.

Q77. Suppose Maya had signed a grant for 'all forms of access to Orchard Farm', but Dev's trucks served only his separate industrial plot. Which interpretation is strongest?

Correct answer: (b) The industrial plot falls outside the original grant.

Reasoning walkthrough: Broad wording about modes of access does not remove the limit on which parcel benefits. The industrial plot is a different parcel, so expanded use cannot be inferred from the original Orchard grant.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Broad wording permanently removes the requirement that access benefit the specifically identified parcel, extending the grant to every property the buyer later acquires. Why it fails: Rule D still limits service to different parcels.

Option (b) | **Correct:** The industrial plot falls outside the original grant. Why it works: Broad modes of access do not transfer benefit to a separate industrial plot.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Dev's ownership makes the entire Hill Farm public property. Why it fails: Ownership of one parcel cannot nationalise another.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** The grant becomes void because Orchard Farm has changed hands. Why it fails: Rule A preserves rights after sale.

PASSAGE 6

Reading and reasoning guide: Apply legitimacy, necessity and proportionality in order; also check whether similarly situated groups receive evidence-based equal treatment.

Q78. The ban based solely on the campaigners' controversial message fails first at which stage?

Correct answer: (a) The legitimacy of the objective

Reasoning walkthrough: Proportionality starts with a legitimate aim. A measure targeting expression simply because officials dislike its viewpoint fails before the necessity or balancing stages.

Option (a) | **Correct:** The legitimacy of the objective Why it works: Mere disagreement with expression is expressly not a legitimate objective.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** The availability of a less restrictive location Why it fails: Alternatives matter later, but objective legitimacy fails first.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** The relative number of people in the food market Why it fails: No numbers are supplied to test this.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** The length of the city's annual budget Why it fails: Budget has no stated bearing.

Q79. After the engineering report, the organisers' southern-entrance proposal most directly challenges

Correct answer: (c) whether an effective, materially less restrictive solution is available.

Reasoning walkthrough: Once an effective less restrictive method is available, it becomes difficult to justify a total prohibition as necessary. Test the fit between the safety goal and how much activity is restricted.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** whether the rally's slogan is popular with local residents. Why it fails: Popularity cannot supply the missing proportionality test.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** whether the city has legal title to the square. Why it fails: Title is not disputed.

Option (c) | **Correct:** whether an effective, materially less restrictive solution is available. Why it works: The engineers concede an effective alternative, undermining necessity of a total ban.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** whether food merchants can operate on weekdays. Why it fails: Market schedules do not answer the safety concern.

Q80. Why does differential treatment of the food market and campaigners require further justification?

Correct answer: (b) The Charter requires a relevant evidence-based reason when comparable groups are treated differently.

Reasoning walkthrough: The equality comparison asks whether comparable groups receive different treatment for relevant reasons. Unequal treatment is not automatically unlawful, but unsupported differential treatment fails the stated rule.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Any different permit result is automatically unconstitutional regardless of facts. Why it fails: Different treatment can be justified by relevant evidence.

Option (b) | **Correct:** The Charter requires a relevant evidence-based reason when comparable groups are treated differently. Why it works: The comparator rule expressly demands such reasons.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** A market must always be banned before a demonstration. Why it fails: No market-first hierarchy exists.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Public demonstrations can be permitted only on non-market days. Why it fails: No day-specific rule is supplied.

Q81. What is the best evaluation of the temporary closure during the fire?

Correct answer: (d) Potentially valid because emergency access is specific and the closure is narrowly timed

Reasoning walkthrough: An urgent, evidenced emergency can justify a narrow and temporary restriction. The scale, purpose and duration of the intervention are decisive, not an assertion that all restrictions are forbidden.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Invalid because all demonstrations are immune from safety restrictions Why it fails: Rights may face proportionate safety restrictions.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Invalid unless officials can predict the precise ending minute Why it fails: Exact prediction is not required by the Charter.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Automatically permanent once any emergency begins Why it fails: Duration must remain limited, not permanent.

Option (d) | **Correct:** Potentially valid because emergency access is specific and the closure is narrowly timed Why it works: The emergency objective and narrow duration support proportionality.

Q82. Suppose the city instead forbids every peaceful gathering for a year because one stairway needs a two-day repair. What most directly undermines this rule?

Correct answer: (a) It uses a temporary, local hazard to justify an extremely broad and prolonged restriction.

Reasoning walkthrough: Compare the limited local hazard with the scope of the imposed prohibition. A broad, long-lasting ban responding to a temporary local problem is poorly tailored and disproportionate.

Option (a) | **Correct:** It uses a temporary, local hazard to justify an extremely broad and prolonged restriction. Why it works: Breadth and duration grossly exceed the articulated temporary hazard.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** It cites engineering evidence rather than anonymous rumours. Why it fails: Evidence can strengthen legitimate aims.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** It includes gatherings whose messages are unpopular. Why it fails: Popularity is not the underlying basis here.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** It allows people to gather somewhere beyond the square. Why it fails: Other venues do not alone justify this disproportionality.

LOGICAL REASONING

PASSAGE 1

Reading and reasoning guide: The central distinction is between observational association, random assignment to an offer, and actual treatment consumption. Co-interventions and selection affect which causal claim can safely be drawn.

Q83. The director's original causal claim is most vulnerable because

Correct answer: (d) teacher hiring and recovery from disruption could also explain the observed improvement.

Reasoning walkthrough: Several things happened alongside breakfast provision, including teacher hiring and post-disruption recovery. Without isolating them, observed improvement cannot be assigned exclusively to breakfast.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** the proposed biological pathway from nutrition to attention has not been examined or even mentioned in the district's explanation of its programme. Why it fails: A mechanism is described, but it does not isolate the programme effect.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** examinations cannot be affected by any school-level intervention. Why it fails: No such impossibility is asserted.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** parent observations are necessarily fabricated. Why it fails: Parents may accurately observe behaviour without establishing causality.

Option (d) | **Correct:** teacher hiring and recovery from disruption could also explain the observed improvement. Why it works: The confounding factors undermine exclusive causal attribution.

Q84. What does random assignment of a programme offer principally strengthen?

Correct answer: (a) The comparability of groups before the offer, reducing selection confounding

Reasoning walkthrough: Random allocation reduces baseline differences between those offered breakfast and those offered it later. It does not guarantee that everyone eats breakfast or prevent contamination after assignment.

Option (a) | **Correct:** The comparability of groups before the offer, reducing selection confounding Why it works: Random assignment makes the offered and delayed groups more comparable in expectation.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Proof that every assigned child ate breakfast every day Why it fails: Uptake was incomplete.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** The assumption that no outside charity ever serves meals Why it fails: Control contamination still occurred.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** The claim that parental reports are identical to exam results Why it fails: Parent reports measure a different outcome.

Q85. Which distinction best explains the economist's objection to the newspaper headline?

Correct answer: (b) Effects of an offer are not necessarily identical to effects of actual daily consumption.

Reasoning walkthrough: An offer of breakfast and actual consumption of breakfast are different treatments. If some assigned students decline or miss meals, the offer effect need not equal the daily-consumption effect.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** A programme's popularity is unrelated to whether it is lawful. Why it fails: Lawfulness is not the disputed causal quantity.

Option (b) | **Correct:** Effects of an offer are not necessarily identical to effects of actual daily consumption. Why it works: Imperfect uptake creates the estimand distinction.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** A randomised design must always show no measurable effect. Why it fails: Randomised trials can find effects.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Only biological experiments may support educational claims. Why it fails: Social experiments can support causal claims when properly interpreted.

Q86. Suppose breakfast was offered randomly but teachers in offered schools were also given extra training only after assignment. What new problem arises?

Correct answer: (c) Breakfast and teacher training are confounded.

Reasoning walkthrough: The treatment group received another intervention, teacher training, at the same time. A difference between groups cannot isolate breakfast unless the co-intervention is separately accounted for.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** The estimate becomes a measurement solely of students' appetite. Why it fails: Outcomes are not solely appetite measures.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** The study automatically measures effects on school finances. Why it fails: Finances are not specified.

Option (c) | **Correct:** Breakfast and teacher training are confounded. Why it works: Co-intervention prevents isolation of breakfast's contribution.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Assignment stops being random retrospectively once teachers receive any additional support, so the original randomisation no longer existed at the start. Why it fails: Initial assignment can remain random even with an added treatment component.

Q87. Which evidence would most directly support the claim that eating breakfast, rather than merely receiving an offer, improves concentration?

Correct answer: (d) Compare actual consumers while addressing selection.

Reasoning walkthrough: The claim concerns consuming breakfast itself, not merely being offered it. Estimating consumption effects requires dealing with selection among students who actually eat rather than treating that subgroup as automatically comparable.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** A school newspaper prints enthusiastic student interviews. Why it fails: Interviews are suggestive, not causal isolation.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Programme schools have more classrooms than other schools. Why it fails: School resources are potential confounders.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Scores rise after the district changes its grading scale and reports better averages, even though no comparable measure of pupils' learning was retained. Why it fails: A scale change could create an artefactual rise.

Option (d) | **Correct:** Compare actual consumers while addressing selection. Why it works: Consumption-focused identification addresses the stated causal question.

Q88. What is the most defensible conclusion from the passage?

Correct answer: (b) Randomised offer evidence is informative but should be described in terms of what it estimated.

Reasoning walkthrough: The randomised offer evidence is informative, but the report must state exactly what it identifies. Acknowledge noncompliance and contamination without declaring the experiment worthless.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** The initial before-and-after increase by itself proves a large causal benefit of breakfast because the pupils' later results were higher. Why it fails: The initial comparison has multiple alternative explanations.

Option (b) | **Correct:** Randomised offer evidence is informative but should be described in terms of what it estimated. Why it works: It respects the better design and the precise estimand.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** The presence of control-group contamination makes every result meaningless. Why it fails: Contamination complicates interpretation but does not render all evidence void.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** No programme should expand until all causal uncertainty disappears. Why it fails: The economist explicitly considers expansion of a trial reasonable.

PASSAGE 2

Reading and reasoning guide: Measure originality directly rather than substituting a production count. Distinguish a successful outcome from a proposed mechanism that supposedly produced it.

Q89. What assumption is necessary for the chief executive's argument from greater proposal count to greater originality?

Correct answer: (b) An increase in number has some meaningful chance of adding genuinely distinct and valuable candidates.

Reasoning walkthrough: The claim moves from more proposals to more original ideas. It depends on additional proposals having some chance of adding genuinely different valuable candidates, not just producing more near-duplicates.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Evaluation expenses must be identical across all teams. Why it fails: Equal expense is not necessary for originality probability.

Option (b) | **Correct:** An increase in number has some meaningful chance of adding genuinely distinct and valuable candidates. Why it works: Without additional meaningful candidates, count cannot support improved originality.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Every automated proposal must be patented. Why it fails: Patentability is not part of the premise.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Human-only teams must produce no original ideas. Why it fails: The argument does not need zero creativity in comparison teams.

Q90. Which observation would most directly weaken the executive's inference?

Correct answer: (a) More proposals but less conceptual diversity.

Reasoning walkthrough: The director's concern is originality, not production count. More proposals accompanied by reduced conceptual diversity specifically challenges the assumption that higher count improves originality.

Option (a) | **Correct:** More proposals but less conceptual diversity. Why it works: More outputs with reduced conceptual diversity challenges the assumed route to originality.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Automated teams consistently finish more proposals earlier in the week than unaided teams, even though reviewers have not assessed originality. Why it fails: Earlier completion concerns speed, not necessarily originality.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Both groups comply with an identical administrative deadline. Why it fails: Equal deadlines do not settle creative quality.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Designers report that the tool is easy to install. Why it fails: Installation convenience is irrelevant to novelty.

Q91. Why does the director demand equal difficulty of project briefs?

Correct answer: (d) To prevent differences in task difficulty from masquerading as differences in creativity

Reasoning walkthrough: Differences in task complexity could create apparent creativity differences regardless of the proposed process. Equalising or randomising assignment difficulty guards against that competing explanation.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** So that every team must generate exactly the same number of ideas Why it fails: Equal counts are not the aim.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** To ensure reviewers know which teams used automation Why it fails: Blind review requires concealment of methods.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** To guarantee that every project can produce a patent Why it fails: Patentability is not mentioned.

Option (d) | **Correct:** To prevent differences in task difficulty from masquerading as differences in creativity Why it works: Assignment difficulty is a potential confounder.

Q92. What would be the most serious defect in evaluating only each team's single best idea?

Correct answer: (c) One strong idea may conceal a narrow collection.

Reasoning walkthrough: Judging only the best proposal conceals what happened to the rest of the idea pool. A team could produce one excellent idea while the total set becomes repetitive and narrow.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** The best idea cannot be written down without revealing the team's identity. Why it fails: Anonymous review can still evaluate a best idea.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Every proposal other than the single top-rated idea must be excluded from all productivity and diversity assessments once the strongest proposal is identified. Why it fails: Other proposals remain relevant to diversity and workload.

Option (c) | **Correct:** One strong idea may conceal a narrow collection. Why it works: The director explicitly worries about distribution of ideas, not just the maximum.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Blind reviewers are legally prohibited from selecting one best proposal. Why it fails: There is no legal bar.

Q93. Which of the following is closest to the director's central criticism of the company's dashboard?

Correct answer: (a) Proposal counts are not originality measures.

Reasoning walkthrough: The dashboard measures proposal volume, not conceptual originality. Its failure is not that volume is meaningless, but that one surrogate indicator cannot establish the quality it is supposed to reflect.

Option (a) | **Correct:** Proposal counts are not originality measures. Why it works: Proposal count cannot by itself establish originality.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** It relies on too many independent measures rather than one. Why it fails: The dashboard relies on too few relevant measures.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** It demonstrates conclusively that automated suggestions have already reduced the originality of human work across every department in the company. Why it fails: She explicitly avoids asserting inevitable harm.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** It treats novelty and practical value as necessarily identical. Why it fails: The experiment separates originality and practical value.

Q94. Suppose the blind trial finds higher originality scores but unchanged within-team idea diversity among automated teams. What follows most securely?

Correct answer: (b) The company's claim of greater originality receives support, although the mechanism need not be greater diversity.

Reasoning walkthrough: If originality improves but measured diversity does not, the outcome claim receives support without validating the specific diversity mechanism. Distinguish evidence for the result from evidence for the explanation.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** The trial proves that anchoring is impossible in all future settings. Why it fails: A single result cannot eliminate all anchoring in all contexts.

Option (b) | **Correct:** The company's claim of greater originality receives support, although the mechanism need not be greater diversity. Why it works: Better originality with unchanged diversity supports outcome, not a specific diversity mechanism.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** The executive's original proposal count was a perfect measure of originality. Why it fails: Count does not become a universally valid surrogate.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** The reviewers must have detected the team assignments. Why it fails: Blinding can be preserved with differing scores.

PASSAGE 3

Reading and reasoning guide: Treat the schedule as a constraint-satisfaction problem. Necessary means true in every permitted order; possible means true in at least one. A single example can disprove necessity, but cannot prove it.

Q95. Which statement must be true in every valid schedule?

Correct answer: (c) C occurs before D.

Reasoning walkthrough: From the rules, C must sit immediately before E and E must precede D; transitivity therefore fixes C before D. Other pairwise relations need not be fixed across all admissible orders.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** B immediately precedes A. Why it fails: B need not be adjacent to A; for example, ACEDFB.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** F occurs after D. Why it fails: F can occur before D, as in FACEDB.

Option (c) | **Correct:** C occurs before D. Why it works: C immediately precedes E, and E precedes D.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** A must occupy the first slot. Why it fails: A can be in slot 2 or later in valid schedules.

Q96. If B is in the first slot, which must be true?

Correct answer: (a) D occurs no earlier than the fifth slot.

Reasoning walkthrough: With B first, the remaining A, C, E and D must obey the precedence and adjacency rules. The earliest possible D is fifth; D need not always be sixth, which is the crucial distinction.

Option (a) | **Correct:** D occurs no earlier than the fifth slot. Why it works: Across every valid schedule with B first, the earliest possible D is fifth because C must be immediately before E and both A and E must precede D.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** F immediately follows B. Why it fails: BACEDF has F in slot 5, not second.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** A is in the third slot. Why it fails: BCEADF has A fourth.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** C is in the second slot. Why it fails: BFACED has C fourth.

Q97. Which of the following complete schedules satisfies every rule?

Correct answer: (c) B C E F A D

Reasoning walkthrough: Check every candidate against all restrictions, not just the obvious precedence rules. The correct schedule satisfies C immediately before E, A before D, E before D, and the F–C separation rule.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** B A E C F D Why it fails: C must immediately precede E; here E precedes C.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** C E D F A B Why it fails: A must be before D; here D precedes A.

Option (c) | **Correct:** B C E F A D Why it works: BCEFAD satisfies all five constraints.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** F C E A D B Why it fails: F is immediately adjacent to C, violating Rule 5.

Q98. If C occupies the fourth slot, which presentation must be in the second slot?

Correct answer: (d) F

Reasoning walkthrough: Setting C fourth fixes E fifth and pushes D to sixth. The remaining positions are constrained further by A and B, yielding a single valid arrangement with F second.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** A Why it fails: With C fourth, the only valid order is B F A C E D, so A is third.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** B Why it fails: B is first.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** D Why it fails: D is sixth.

Option (d) | **Correct:** F Why it works: F is second.

Q99. If B is in the last slot, which position could F occupy?

Correct answer: (b) First, but not second

Reasoning walkthrough: Fix B last and examine all valid permutations. F first is possible, but placing F second violates the combined ordering and separation restrictions.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Second, but not first Why it fails: No B-last valid schedule has F second, but first occurs in FACEDB.

Option (b) | **Correct:** First, but not second Why it works: F first is possible; F second is not.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Sixth, but not fifth Why it fails: Sixth is held by B, and F fifth occurs in ACEDFB.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Second, but not fourth Why it fails: Second is impossible; fourth occurs in ACEFDB.

Q100. Suppose Rule 5 is removed but all others remain. Which statement is still necessarily true?

Correct answer: (d) C must occur before D.

Reasoning walkthrough: Removing one condition changes only consequences that depended on it. The chain C immediately before E and E before D still forces C before D after the separation rule disappears.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** B must be first. Why it fails: B may still be last.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** F must be separated from C by two slots. Why it fails: Removing Rule 5 removes the separation condition.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** E must immediately precede A. Why it fails: No E-before-A requirement is introduced.

Option (d) | **Correct:** C must occur before D. Why it works: C is before E, which is before D, regardless of Rule 5.

PASSAGE 4

Reading and reasoning guide: The treatment comparison is observational. Confounding, sensitivity analysis and clinical mechanism provide different kinds of support, none of which alone converts a correlation into certainty.

Q101. The main inferential problem with the initial comparison is that

Correct answer: (b) differences in clinics and patient selection may explain the apparent treatment effect.

Reasoning walkthrough: The medicine was assigned in ordinary clinics, not a randomised experiment. Clinic practices and the kinds of patients receiving it could explain some or all of the outcome difference.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** every hospital record necessarily contains fabricated values. Why it fails: No blanket fraud is claimed.

Option (b) | **Correct:** differences in clinics and patient selection may explain the apparent treatment effect. Why it works: Treatment selection and clinic practices confound the observed association.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** readmission is never a meaningful health outcome. Why it fails: Readmission can be a meaningful outcome.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** the medicine cannot be chemically analysed. Why it fails: Chemistry is not the identification concern.

Q102. Which finding would most strengthen the causal interpretation after adjustment?

Correct answer: (c) A plausible unmeasured severity difference would need to be implausibly large to erase the estimated benefit.

Reasoning walkthrough: A sensitivity result is useful if a hidden severity difference would have to be very large to explain the estimated effect away. It does not prove absence of confounding, but reduces the plausibility of a modest one.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Treated patients had a different average shoe size. Why it fails: Shoe size has no causal link here.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** The medicine was advertised heavily in specialist clinics. Why it fails: Advertising could deepen selection concerns.

Option (c) | **Correct:** A plausible unmeasured severity difference would need to be implausibly large to erase the estimated benefit. Why it works: Robustness to substantial unmeasured confounding supports the inference.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Patients reported liking the medicine's packaging. Why it fails: Packaging preference does not isolate therapeutic effect.

Q103. The critic's concern about missing severity primarily attacks which assumption?

Correct answer: (a) All outcome-relevant differences were adequately controlled.

Reasoning walkthrough: Statistical adjustment eliminates only differences captured well enough by measured variables and assumptions. The argument relies on no remaining outcome-relevant imbalance that would alter the comparison.

Option (a) | **Correct:** All outcome-relevant differences were adequately controlled. Why it works: Residual confounding can survive adjustment of recorded variables.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** That clinic names were recorded using uniform spelling Why it fails: Spelling is unrelated to missing severity.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** That the medicine cannot act differently at different dosages in patients whose underlying illness severity and follow-up access are unlike those recorded. Why it fails: Dose response may matter, but is not the specified missing-variable objection.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** That hospital readmission can be counted by calendar month Why it fails: Calendar recording is not the disputed assumption.

Q104. Why do both researchers reject chemical similarity as sufficient proof of clinical equivalence?

Correct answer: (d) Because clinical effects depend on mechanisms and conditions not settled by chemical resemblance alone

Reasoning walkthrough: Two chemically similar compounds may behave differently in actual patients because mechanisms, dosage, metabolism and clinical context matter. Chemical resemblance motivates investigation, not a guaranteed treatment effect.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Because the medicines were necessarily manufactured by different firms Why it fails: Manufacturer identity is not supplied.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Because all drugs with similar molecules are illegal Why it fails: No legality claim appears.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Because laboratory chemistry plays no legitimate role in studying medicines, even in identifying mechanisms that might later be tested clinically. Why it fails: They accept chemistry can motivate a hypothesis.

Option (d) | **Correct:** Because clinical effects depend on mechanisms and conditions not settled by chemical resemblance alone Why it works: Clinical performance depends on context and biological response.

Q105. Which policy stance is most consistent with the investigator's reply to the final critic?

Correct answer: (c) Make decisions using available evidence while explicitly calibrating confidence to its limitations.

Reasoning walkthrough: The speaker refuses both unwarranted certainty and paralysis until perfect evidence arrives. The intended decision rule is proportional confidence given the available, imperfect evidence.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Use every observational result as conclusively causal. Why it fails: She rejects unqualified inference.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Withhold every policy decision that could draw on observational evidence until a perfectly controlled randomised experiment can be completed, however long it takes. Why it fails: She rejects waiting in every case for ideal trials.

Option (c) | **Correct:** Make decisions using available evidence while explicitly calibrating confidence to its limitations. Why it works: Her stance balances use of evidence with epistemic caution.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Replace scientific assessment with the urgency of political demands. Why it fails: Urgency does not determine evidence quality.

PASSAGE 5

Reading and reasoning guide: A ranking can measure a different construct from an inspection. Evaluate sampling, response bias and whether the proposed feedback incentive actually changes business behaviour.

Q106. Which flaw most directly undermines the mayor's claim that a large review count eliminates bias?

Correct answer: (d) A systematic tendency to review after particular experiences can persist as sample size grows.

Reasoning walkthrough: More observations reduce random sampling error, not selection bias built into who chooses to leave a review. A larger unrepresentative sample may therefore remain systematically misleading.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Every online review must be false. Why it fails: The issue is selection, not universal falsehood.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** An increase in the number of reviews must always lower the average score because customers with the least favourable experiences are overrepresented. Why it fails: There is no fixed direction for numerical averages.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Hygiene inspectors are always biased toward large chains. Why it fails: Inspectors' chain preferences are not alleged.

Option (d) | **Correct:** A systematic tendency to review after particular experiences can persist as sample size grows. Why it works: Increasing sample size does not remove systematic selection bias.

Q107. What is the strongest reason to publish inspection grades separately from customer rankings?

Correct answer: (a) They assess partly different qualities and should not be assumed interchangeable.

Reasoning walkthrough: Official inspections and customer reviews do not necessarily measure the same construct. Hygiene compliance and the lived experience of service can diverge without either dataset being intrinsically useless.

Option (a) | **Correct:** They assess partly different qualities and should not be assumed interchangeable. Why it works: Hygiene and service are distinct dimensions.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** A restaurant can legally receive only one numerical assessment. Why it fails: No such legal restriction is given.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** A hygiene inspection necessarily captures customer courtesy. Why it fails: Hygiene does not determine courtesy.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Customer reports cannot convey any useful information. Why it fails: Reviews can provide information despite selection problems.

Q108. If a coordinated campaign creates negative reviews after a parking dispute, which claim becomes less secure?

Correct answer: (b) Customer rankings reliably represent diners' ordinary food and service experiences.

Reasoning walkthrough: The mayor assumes rankings meaningfully reflect ordinary dining quality. Reviews driven by an unrelated public controversy break the proposed connection between score and service.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** The city has a central government. Why it fails: Government structure is irrelevant.

Option (b) | **Correct:** Customer rankings reliably represent diners' ordinary food and service experiences. Why it works: Reviews influenced by unrelated conflict weaken the assumed link to dining quality.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Parking disputes can be emotionally important to customers, so comments about a parking controversy should be given the same evidentiary weight as food experiences. Why it fails: Emotional importance does not validate ratings as dining measures.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** Online submissions require internet access. Why it fails: Internet access is not the causal issue.

Q109. What assumption underlies the mayor's argument that rankings will improve restaurants?

Correct answer: (c) Businesses care sufficiently about rankings and can respond by improving relevant practices.

Reasoning walkthrough: To change behaviour, rankings must matter to businesses and businesses must be able to improve the measured practice. Without both links, publishing scores might not create the desired incentive.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** Customers will always prefer lower-ranked establishments. Why it fails: The mayor assumes the opposite incentive.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Inspectors will abandon their professional standards. Why it fails: His claim does not require inspector abandonment.

Option (c) | **Correct:** Businesses care sufficiently about rankings and can respond by improving relevant practices. Why it works: An incentive effect needs rankings to matter to decision-makers and actionable behaviour.

Option (d) | **Incorrect:** All restaurants already maintain identical standards of hygiene, service and quality, so the public ranking cannot motivate any improvement in their practices. Why it fails: Identical standards are neither stated nor required.

Q110. Which finding would best support the adviser's proposal to show response rates?

Correct answer: (d) Establishments with similar inspected quality have sharply different review scores when response rates differ.

Reasoning walkthrough: The proposed comparison holds inspected quality approximately constant and varies response rates. If scores differ sharply, who responds may matter and publishing response rates becomes informative.

Option (a) | **Incorrect:** The ratings interface uses a distinctive blue font. Why it fails: Typography does not test selection bias.

Option (b) | **Incorrect:** Most restaurant owners live near the city centre. Why it fails: Residence is irrelevant.

Option (c) | **Incorrect:** Inspection reports are published on the same website. Why it fails: Co-location of reports says little about response bias.

Option (d) | **Correct:** Establishments with similar inspected quality have sharply different review scores when response rates differ. Why it works: A relation between response rates and score disparities makes response information substantively relevant.

QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

PASSAGE 1

Reading and reasoning guide: Write down the given quantities and constraints first. Distinguish gross input from usable output; test feasibility before optimising and show the limiting arithmetic.

Q111. With Plant Q at full capacity, what minimum whole number of raw kL must Plant P process to meet both zone targets and maintain the reserve?

Correct answer: (b) 229 kL

Worked solution: Required dispatch is 144/0.9 + 120/0.8 = 310; plus 35 reserve requires 345. Q gives 162, so P must give 183; 183/0.8 = 228.75, hence at least 229 whole kL.

Q112. If both plants run at capacity and Zone A receives exactly its target, what is the maximum net water Zone B can receive while preserving the reserve?

Correct answer: (a) 127.2 kL

Worked solution: Total treated is 192+162=354. Set aside reserve 35 and dispatch 160 to A, leaving 159 for B. B receives 0.8 ×159 =127.2.

Q113. Suppose P processes 220 raw kL while Q runs at full capacity. How much additional treated water at the central point is needed to satisfy the original targets and reserve?

Correct answer: (d) 7 kL

Worked solution: P supplies 176 and Q supplies 162, total 338. Required central water is 345, leaving a 7 kL deficit.

Q114. With both plants at full capacity, Zone B's required net receipt rises by 8 kL; everything else remains unchanged. Which statement is correct?

Correct answer: (c) The central supply falls short by 1 kL.

Worked solution: B needs 8/0.8 =10 additional central kL, making total need 355 against 354 available.

Q115. Can the original targets and reserve be met on a day when the plants' raw throughputs are unknown? Statement I: P processes at least 230 raw kL. Statement II: Q processes at least 180 raw kL.

Correct answer: (c) Both together are sufficient but neither alone is.

Worked solution: I gives at least 184 central kL; II fixes Q at its 180-kL cap, giving 162. Their combined minimum of 346 exceeds the 345 required.

PASSAGE 2

Reading and reasoning guide: List feasible project combinations under the budget and dependency conditions before comparing their objective values. A tempting high-value combination is invalid if it violates a stated constraint.

Q116. What is the maximum number of expected outcomes achievable under the original budget and rules?

Correct answer: (c) 77

Worked solution: A+D+E costs 34 and yields 18+44+15=77, exceeding A+B+C's 75.

Q117. If the budget falls to 30 units, which is the greatest feasible outcome total?

Correct answer: (a) 62

Worked solution: A+D costs 27 and yields 62; A+D+E costs 34 and A+B+C costs 36, both now infeasible.

Q118. If the overlap penalty between B and C disappears but every other condition stays, what becomes the maximum outcome total under the original budget?

Correct answer: (d) 82

Worked solution: A+B+C costs 36 and now yields 18+27+37=82.

Q119. Let the synergy increment to E when paired with D be an unknown nonnegative whole number s instead of 3, so its contribution is 12+s. Can the maximum outcome total exceed 75? Statement I: s is at least 2. Statement II: s is at most 3.

Correct answer: (a) Statement I alone is sufficient.

Worked solution: A+D+E yields 74+s. Under I, s≥2 yields at least 76, proving yes.

Q120. Suppose Project E's cost increases to 10 units while every outcome and rule remains unchanged. What is the maximum achievable outcome total?

Correct answer: (b) 75

Worked solution: A+B+C remains feasible at cost 36 and contributes 18+20+37=75, now the highest.