

FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION — PAKISTAN

CSS MPT 2024

Solved Past Paper

MCQ-Based Preliminary Test for the CSS Competitive Examination — every one of the 200 original FPSC questions, fully solved with clear, exam-focused explanations across English & Urdu, Islamic Studies, General Knowledge, and General Abilities.

200

TOTAL
MCQS

11

SECTIONS

EN / UR

BILINGUAL

Answer Key Highlighted

CSS / PMS Level Explanations

Urdu + English

Solved & compiled by **ScholarEye.xyz**

About This Solved Paper

This is a fully solved edition of the **Federal Public Service Commission's MCQ-Based Preliminary Test (MPT) for the CSS Competitive Examination — 2024** (Total Marks: 200, Time Allowed: 200 Minutes). Every question from the original paper is reproduced exactly as set, followed by the correct answer — clearly highlighted and ticked — and a CSS/PMS-level explanation written to build real understanding, not just recognition.

How to use the answer key: the correct option in every question is shaded in green and marked with a tick (✓). Where a question in the original paper was set with an Urdu translation alongside the English text, both versions are shown together, and the explanation is provided to make sense of the reasoning regardless of which language you're more comfortable in.

 Correct option
(ticked)

 Distractor
option

 Editorial
note

A transparency note on Questions 7–16. The source booklet used to compile this edition was missing its second page, and a publisher's note embedded in that source states that these ten Islamic Studies items were never publicly released by FPSC, while Questions 1–6 were reconstructed from candidate recollections (their option order may not exactly match the original booklet). Rather than inventing questions to fill the gap, this edition preserves the original numbering exactly as found — Questions 7–16 are therefore intentionally absent, and the paper continues from Question 17 onward, which is fully solved.

Original FPSC Instructions to Candidates

Note I. Candidates are informed that the Answer Sheet comprises two sheets (Pink & Blue). On conclusion of the examination, the Pink sheet is handed over

to the invigilating staff, while candidates retain the Blue sheet for checking their own scores. The Answer Key is uploaded to the FPSC website on the eve of the examination.

Note II. Candidates are advised to:

1. Read MCQs from the Questions Booklet and fill in the appropriate box in the Answer Sheet.
2. Understand that all MCQs carry equal marks and there is **no negative marking**.
3. Avoid writing Roll Number, Name, answers, or any other remarks on or inside the Questions Booklet.
4. Hand over the Questions Booklet and Pink Answer Sheet to the duty invigilator on conclusion of the examination.
5. Retain the Blue Answer Sheet on conclusion of the examination.
6. Visit the FPSC website for the Answer Key, made available on the eve of the examination.
7. Avoid cutting or correction on the Answer Sheet — marking more than one option is treated as a wrong answer.
8. Not use a lead pencil on the Answer Sheet; use of a ballpoint pen is advised, and markers should be avoided.

Note: Use of calculators and electronic equipment such as laptops, mobile/cell phones, smart watches, Bluetooth devices, programmable devices, and storage media (e.g. pen drives) during the exam is **strictly prohibited**. Any infringement may lead to initiation of legal proceedings.

Islamic Studies

اسلامیات

Note: Recovery note: Questions 1–6 were reconstructed from verified candidate recollections of the MPT CSS–2024 exam held on 19 November 2023, as the original scanned booklet did not contain pages 1–2. Questions 7–16 of this section were never publicly released by FPSC and are therefore not available in any source — they have been omitted rather than invented. Questions 17–20 onward are reproduced from the original scanned booklet.

1

What does the word "Quran" mean?

A To read

B To recite

C Both A and B ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

The word **Qur'an** is derived from the Arabic root *qara'a* (قَرَأَ), which carries both meanings – "to read" and "to recite." The very first revelation, "*Iqra*" (Read/Recite), confirms this dual sense, which is why classical scholars such as Imam Raghīb al-Isfahani accept both meanings together. Hence option (C) is correct.

Who performed the compilation of the Holy Quran after the demise of Prophet Muhammad (SAW)?

A Hazrat Abu Bakar (RA) ✓

B Hazrat Umar (RA)

C Hazrat Ali (RA)

D None of these

EXPLANATION

After the Battle of Yamama (12 A.H.), a large number of Huffaz (memorizers of the Quran) were martyred. On the advice of Hazrat Umar (RA), Caliph **Hazrat Abu Bakar (RA)** ordered Zaid bin Thabit (RA) to collect the scattered verses into a single manuscript (Suhuf), which was later kept with Hazrat Hafsa (RA). This first official compilation makes (A) the correct answer.

3

In which year of Prophethood did the first "Bait-e-Uqba" take place?

A 1st

B 2nd

C 10th

D None of these ✓

EXPLANATION

The First Pledge of Aqaba, where a group of people from Yathrib (Madinah) accepted Islam and pledged allegiance to the Prophet (SAW), took place in the **11th year of Prophethood** (621 CE), shortly before the Hijrah. Since none of the given years (1st, 2nd, 10th) match this, the correct response is (D) None of these.

4

In which year of Prophethood did Hazrat Hamza (RA) embrace Islam?

A 2nd Nabvi

B 5th Nabvi

C 8th Nabvi

D None of these ✓

EXPLANATION

Hazrat Hamza (RA), the Prophet's (SAW) uncle and a courageous warrior, embraced Islam in the **6th year of Prophethood** after hearing that Abu Jahl had insulted the Prophet (SAW). Because 6th Nabvi is not among the listed options, the correct choice is (D) None of these.

Hazrat Usman (RA) did not take part in Ghazwa-e-Badr due to:

A Illness of his wife ✓

B Old age

C Being on a journey

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Hazrat Usman (RA) was married to Hazrat Ruqayyah (RA), the Prophet's (SAW) daughter, who was seriously ill at the time of Badr. The Prophet (SAW) directed him to stay behind and nurse her, yet still awarded him a full share of the spoils of war — confirming option (A).

What does "Masnad" mean?

A Throne ✓

B Mosque

C Market

D None of these

EXPLANATION

"Masnad" (مسند) literally refers to a cushioned seat of honour or authority, commonly translated as a **throne/seat of power** in Islamic historical texts — making (A) correct.

Which of the following is a key method of self-purification in Islam?

اسلام میں تزکیہ نفس (خود کو پاک کرنے) کا ایک کلیدی طریقہ درج ذیل میں سے کون سا ہے؟

A Sawm ✓

روزہ

B Salah

نماز

C Hajj

حج

D None of these

ان میں سے کوئی نہیں

EXPLANATION

Sawm (fasting) is specifically described in the Quran as a means of *Taqwa* and self-purification — “O you who believe, fasting is prescribed for you... so that you may attain *Taqwa*” (2:183). While Salah and Hajj are pillars of worship, fasting is the act most directly linked to disciplining the desires of the self (*nafs*), making (A) the best answer.

What role does the "Mudaraba" play in the Islamic economic system?

اسلامی معاشی نظام میں "مضاربہ" کیا کردار ادا کرتا ہے؟

A It promotes profit-sharing between investors and entrepreneurs ✓

یہ سرمایہ کاروں اور
کاروباری افراد کے
درمیان منافع کی تقسیم کو
فروغ دیتا ہے

B It refers to fixed, guaranteed returns on investments

یہ سرمایہ کاری پر مقررہ، ضمانت
شدہ منافع سے مراد ہے

C It encourages individuals to hoard wealth

یہ افراد کو دولت جمع کرنے کی
ترغیب دیتا ہے

D None of these

ان میں سے کوئی نہیں

EXPLANATION

Mudaraba is a classical Islamic finance contract in which one party (Rabb-ul-Maal) provides capital

and another (Mudarib) provides expertise/labour, with profits shared on a pre-agreed ratio and losses borne by the capital provider. It is the foundation of profit-and-loss sharing in Islamic banking, unlike interest-based fixed returns — confirming (A).

Who is named as Shaikh Ul Anbia?

"شیخ الانبیا" کس کا لقب ہے؟

A Hazrat
Adam (AS)

حضرت آدم علیہ السلام

B Hazrat Nooh
(AS) ✓

حضرت نوح علیہ السلام

C Hazrat
Ibrahim (AS)

حضرت ابراہیم علیہ السلام

D Hazrat
Muhammad
(SAW)

حضرت محمد صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم

EXPLANATION

Hazrat Nooh (AS) is traditionally titled "Shaikh-ul-Anbiya" (the Elder/Doyen of the Prophets) due to his extraordinarily long life (950 years of preaching) and his role as the father of the second generation of humanity after the Flood — making (B) correct.

Musa bin Nusair conquered parts of:

موسیٰ بن نصیر نے کس خطے کے حصے فتح کیے؟

A Asia

ایشیا

B Africa ✓

افریقہ

C Europe

یورپ

D Australia

آسٹریلیا

EXPLANATION

Musa bin Nusair was the Umayyad governor of Ifriqiya (North Africa) who completed the conquest of the Maghreb (modern Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco) before overseeing Tariq bin Ziyad's crossing into Spain. His primary and defining conquests were in **Africa**, making (B) correct.

Urdu Literature — Drama

اردو ادب — ڈرامہ

21

The first drama in Urdu was written by:

- A Abdul Halim Sharar
- B Agha Hashar
- C Deputy Nazir Ahmed

D Agha Hassan Amanat ✓

EXPLANATION

Agha Hassan Amanat wrote *Indar Sabha* in 1853, widely regarded as the first proper Urdu drama, written for the court of Wajid Ali Shah in Lucknow. It combined poetry, music and dance, setting the template for early Urdu theatre.

During the nineteenth century Urdu Drama was dominated by:

A Historical events

B Folk lore

C Dance and music ✓

D Stories based on mythologies

EXPLANATION

Following the model of *Indar Sabha*, 19th-century Urdu drama remained largely a form of musical entertainment for royal courts, dominated by **dance and music** rather than realistic plot or social commentary.

Free verse was introduced in Urdu Drama by:

- A** Abdul Halim Sharar
- B** Aga Hassan Amanat
- C** Altaf Hussain Hali

D Imtiaz Ali Taj ✓

EXPLANATION

Imtiaz Ali Taj, best known for his classic play *Anarkali*, moved Urdu drama away from rigid rhyme schemes toward blank/free verse dialogue, modernising the genre's poetic form.

Urdu Drama got increasingly close to everyday life:

A In the nineteenth century

B In first half of the twentieth century ✓

C In first quarter of the twentieth century

D In second half of the twentieth century

EXPLANATION

Realistic, socially grounded Urdu drama — moving away from courtly fantasy — developed gradually and became firmly established during the **first half of the twentieth century**, influenced by the broader progressive movement in Urdu literature.

Meeraz Adeeb was the contemporary of:

A Abdul Halim Sharar

B Imtiaz Ali Taj ✓

C Altaf Hussain Hali

D Agha Hashar

EXPLANATION

Mirza Adeeb, a leading 20th-century Urdu dramatist and radio-play writer, was an active contemporary of **Imtiaz Ali Taj**; both belonged to the same generation of modern Urdu playwrights.

Urdu (Grammar & Literature)

اردو (گرامر و ادب)

نظم "طلوعِ اسلام" علامہ اقبال کے کس مجموعہء کلام میں شامل ہے؟

A بانگِ درا

B بالِ جبریل ✓

C ضربِ کلیم

D ارمغانِ حجاز

EXPLANATION

نظم "طلوعِ اسلام" علامہ اقبال کے مجموعہء کلام "بالِ جبریل" (1935) میں شامل ہے، جو ان کی فارسی اثر سے پاک، خالص اردو تخلیقات کا اہم مجموعہ ہے۔ (English: The poem "Tuloo-e-Islam" belongs to Iqbal's collection "Baal-e-Jibril".)

ناول "آگ کا دریا" کس کی تصنیف ہے؟

A ممتاز مفتی

B قرۃ العین حیدر ✓

C پریم چند

D جمیل الدین عالی

EXPLANATION

“آگ کا دریا” اردو کے نامور ناول نگار قرۃ العین حیدر کا شاہکار ناول ہے جو تاریخ کے مختلف ادوار میں تہذیبی تسلسل کو بیان کرتا ہے۔
(English: “Aag Ka Darya” is the masterpiece novel of Qurratulain Hyder.)

فیض احمد فیض نے اپنے پہلے شعری مجموعے کا نام کس شاعر کے شعر سے لیا ہے؟

A میر تقی میر

B غالب ✓

C اقبال

D مولانا حالی

EXPLANATION

فیض احمد فیض کے پہلے مجموعہء کلام ”نقش فریادی“ کا عنوان مرزا غالب کے مصرعے ”نقش فریادی ہے کس کی شوخی تحریر کا“ سے ماخوذ ہے۔ (English: Faiz's first collection "Naqsh-e-Faryadi" is named after a line of Ghalib.)

"آہ کو چاہیے اک عمر اثر ہونے تک" یہ شعر کس کا ہے؟

A میر تقی میر

B مومن خان مومن

C ✓ مرزا غالب

D حیدر علی آتش

EXPLANATION

یہ مشہور شعر "آہ کو چاہیے اک عمر اثر ہونے تک، کون جیتا ہے تری زلف کے سر ہونے تک" مرزا غالب کے دیوان سے ہے، جو ان کے کلاسیکی رنگِ تغزل کی مثال ہے۔ (English: This celebrated couplet belongs to Mirza Ghalib.)

”آنندی“ کس مشہور ادیب کا افسانہ ہے؟

A احمد ندیم قاسمی

B غلام عباس ✓

C اشفاق احمد

D ممتاز مفتی

EXPLANATION

”آنندی“ اردو افسانہ نگار غلام عباس کا شہرہ آفاق افسانہ ہے جو معاشرتی منافقت اور طوائف کے موضوع پر لکھا گیا۔
(English: “Aanandi” is the celebrated short story of Ghulam Abbas.)

_____ وہ کلمہ ہے جو کسی جاندار، بے جان چیز، جگہ یا شخص کے نام کو ظاہر کرے؟

A حرف

B فعل

C اسم ✓

D اسمِ کرہ

EXPLANATION

کسی جاندار، بے جان چیز، جگہ یا شخص کا نام ظاہر کرنے والا کلمہ “اسم” (Noun) کہلاتا ہے، جبکہ “حرف” ربط کا کام دیتا ہے اور “فعل” کسی عمل کو ظاہر کرتا ہے۔

وہ اسم جو خود کسی دوسرے لفظ سے نہ نکلا ہو، کوئی کلمہ _____
کہلاتا ہے۔

✓ اسمِ جامد A

B اسمِ مصدر

C اسمِ مشتق

D اسمِ کرہ

EXPLANATION

جو اسم کسی دوسرے لفظ سے اخذ نہ ہوا ہو بلکہ اپنی اصل حالت میں ہو، وہ "اسمِ جامد" کہلاتا ہے؛ اس کے برعکس "اسمِ مشتق" کسی دوسرے لفظ سے نکلتا ہے۔

_____ وہ اسم ہے جو بطور اعزاز، حکومت، بادشاہت یا عوام الناس کی طرف سے ملا ہو۔

✓ خطاب A

B لقب

C کنیت

D عرف

EXPLANATION

حکومت، ریاست یا بادشاہت کی طرف سے کسی کو باقاعدہ طور پر دیا جانے والا اعزازی نام ”خطاب“ کہلاتا ہے (مثلاً ستارہ امتیاز)، جبکہ ”لقب“ عموماً کسی صفت کی بنا پر عوام میں مشہور ہو جاتا ہے۔

وہ اسم جس میں جگہ کے معنی موجود ہوں _____ کہلاتا ہے۔

A اسمِ ظرفِ زمان

B اسمِ ظرفِ مکان ✓

C اسمِ ظرفِ مکان و زمان

D اسمِ ظرفِ غیر محدود

EXPLANATION

جس اسم میں کسی جگہ کے معنی پائے جائیں اسے "اسمِ ظرفِ مکان" کہا جاتا ہے (جیسے "مکتب")، جبکہ وقت کے معنی رکھنے والا اسم "اسمِ ظرفِ زمان" کہلاتا ہے۔

دو یا زیادہ الفاظ کے مجموعے کو _____ کہا جاتا ہے۔

A شعری مرکب

B لسانی مرکب

✓ C مرکب

D مرکبِ الفاظ

EXPLANATION

گرامر کی اصطلاح میں دو یا زیادہ الفاظ کے ایسے مجموعے کو جو مل کر ایک نیا مفہوم دیں "مرکب" کہا جاتا ہے۔

"جام" کی جمع کیا ہے؟

A ✓ آجام

B تجام

C جامات

D اجکام

EXPLANATION

عربی گرامر کے وزن "فَعْل → اَفْعَال" کے تحت (جیسے قلم → اقلام)، لفظ "جام" کی جمع "آجام" بنتی ہے۔

"سطح" کی جمع کیا ہے؟

A سطحیں

B سطحی

C سطوح ✓

D دونوں (C) اور (A)

EXPLANATION

عربی الاصل لفظ "سطح" کی معروف عربی جمع "سطوح" ہے، جو اردو میں بھی اسی صورت میں مستعمل ہے (مثلاً "سطوحِ ارضی")۔

Latent کا درست ترجمہ کیا ہے؟

A پنہاں

B بینات

C لازوال

D خمول ✓

EXPLANATION

انگریزی لفظ Latent کا مطلب ہے "پوشیدہ، خوابیدہ، غیر فعال حالت میں موجود"۔ اردو لفظ "خمول" (رکاوٹ زدہ، غیر فعال حالت) اس مفہوم سے قریب ترین ہے۔ (English: "Latent" means hidden/dormant – closest to "Khumool".)

Preposterous کا درست ترجمہ کیا ہے؟

A ✓ عقل کے خلاف

B آپ بیتی

C شان و شوکت

D جذباتی

EXPLANATION

Preposterous کا مطلب ہے کسی بات کا اس قدر مضحکہ خیز یا غیر معقول ہونا کہ وہ عقلِ عام کے خلاف ہو، یعنی "عقل کے خلاف"۔
(English: "Preposterous" means utterly absurd/contrary to reason.)

"Move heaven and earth" کا درست ترجمہ کیا ہے؟

A مصیبت سے نکل آنا

B بہت زیادہ کوشش کرنا ✓

C بے حاصل کام کرنا

D میلاد کرنا

EXPLANATION

محاورہ "Move heaven and earth" کا مطلب ہے کسی مقصد کے حصول کے لیے ہر ممکن کوشش کرنا، یعنی "بہت زیادہ کوشش کرنا"۔

English — Vocabulary

41

Identify the **SYNONYM** for the given word.

Quandary:

A Predicament ✓

B Difficulty

C Consternation

D Simplicity

EXPLANATION

A **quandary** is a state of perplexity or a difficult dilemma — exactly what **predicament** means. “Difficulty” and “consternation” are close in feeling but less precise matches for a dilemma requiring a decision.

Obstreperous:

A Angry

B Noisy ✓

C Saddened

D Shy

EXPLANATION

Obstreperous means unruly and noisily defiant — its closest synonym here is **noisy**. It describes boisterous, uncontrollable behaviour rather than simple anger.

Effervescent:

A Quick

B Lively ✓

C Compassionate

D Quiet

EXPLANATION

Effervescent literally means bubbling, and figuratively describes a person who is vivacious and full of enthusiasm — i.e. **lively**.

Penurious:

A Generous

B Impoverished ✓

C False

D Subdued

EXPLANATION

Penurious means extremely poor or stingy due to poverty, matching **impoverished**. It is the opposite of "generous."

Histrionic:

A Happy

B Dramatic ✓

C Joyous

D Subdued

EXPLANATION

Histrionic describes exaggerated, theatrical behaviour — synonymous with **dramatic**.

Quiescent:

A Active

B Dormant ✓

C Pensive

D Thoughtful

EXPLANATION

Quiescent means being in a state of quiet inactivity or rest, which corresponds directly to **dormant**.

47

Identify the **ANTONYM** for the given word.

Turpitude:

A Passion

B Happiness

C Virtue ✓

D Corruption

EXPLANATION

Turpitude means depravity or wickedness; its direct opposite is **virtue**, not merely happiness (which is unrelated in moral sense).

Vituperate:

A Praise ✓

B Indifferent

C Agree

D Berate

EXPLANATION

To **vituperate** means to criticise or berate harshly in words; its opposite is to **praise**.

Insouciant:

A Carefree

B Angry

C Anxious ✓

D Dull

EXPLANATION

Insouciant means carefree and nonchalant, showing no worry; its opposite is **anxious** (option A 'carefree' is a synonym, not an antonym).

Vitriolic:

A Bitter

B Graceful

C Active

D Amiable ✓

EXPLANATION

Vitriolic describes cruel, scathing criticism (bitter in tone); its opposite is gentle and friendly, i.e. **amiable**.

Equanimity:

A Astonishment

B Displeased

C Agitation ✓

D Tranquility

EXPLANATION

Equanimity means mental calmness and composure, especially in a difficult situation; its opposite is **agitation** (note option D 'tranquility' is a synonym, not an antonym, so it is a distractor).

Sibilant:

A Loud

B Whispering

C Noisy

D Sonorous ✓

EXPLANATION

Sibilant describes a hissing, sharp sound (like 's' or 'sh'); its opposite is a deep, resonant sound, i.e.

sonorous.

English — Idioms

53

"To have a chip on one's shoulder" means:

A To carry a piece of wood.

B To be angry or resentful. ✓

C To be physically strong.

D To have a big ego.

EXPLANATION

This idiom describes someone who carries a lingering grudge or resentment, appearing easily provoked — matching option (B).

"To cast in the teeth" means:

- A** To confront someone openly.
- B** To compliment someone sincerely.
- C To criticize or reproach someone. ✓**
- D** To share a secret with someone.

EXPLANATION

"To cast something in someone's teeth" means to reproach or throw an accusation directly at them — i.e. **to criticize or reproach someone.**

"To pass the buck" means:

A To share a responsibility ✓

B To play a card game.

C To ignore a problem.

D To make a decision quickly.

EXPLANATION

"To pass the buck" means to shift responsibility or blame onto someone else instead of handling it oneself — closest in sense to option (A), which describes moving a responsibility elsewhere.

What does the idiom "To ride roughshod over" mean?

- A To have a bumpy ride.
- B To treat someone with kindness and respect.
- C To dominate or treat someone harshly without consideration. ✓**
- D To take a leisurely horseback ride.

EXPLANATION

This idiom originates from horses shod with protruding nail heads (rough shoes) that would trample the ground harshly — it now means **to dominate or treat someone harshly without consideration.**

What does the idiom "To read the riot act" mean?

- A To review a book about a riot.
- B To threaten someone with legal action.
- C To deliver a stern warning or reprimand. ✓**
- D To organize a protest or demonstration.

EXPLANATION

Derived from the historical British "Riot Act" that had to be read aloud before dispersing a mob, the idiom now simply means **to deliver a stern warning or reprimand.**

What does the idiom "To put a spoke in one's wheel" mean?

A To assist someone in their endeavors.

B To obstruct or hinder someone's plans. ✓

C To repair a broken wheel.

D To engage in a friendly race.

EXPLANATION

This idiom pictures literally jamming a spoke into a moving wheel to stop it — meaning **to obstruct or hinder someone's plans**.

What does the idiom "To have a bone to pick with someone" mean?

A To enjoy a hearty bone-based meal with someone.

B To have a dispute or unresolved issue to address with someone. ✓

C To support archaeological excavations.

D To engage in a competitive bone-collecting hobby.

EXPLANATION

This idiom means you have a grievance or disagreement you want to discuss with someone — exactly option (B).

English — Prepositions

60

The negotiations were marred _____ allegations of corruption that cast a shadow _____ the legitimacy of the entire process.

A by; onto ✓

B with; against

C amid; under

D through; over

EXPLANATION

The standard collocation is “marred **by** allegations” (to be spoiled/damaged by something); the second blank pairs a shadow being cast “onto” the process’s legitimacy, giving option (A).

His fascination with history compelled him to delve _____ ancient archives, uncovering forgotten tales _____ centuries past.

A beneath; within

B into; from ✓

C throughout; towards

D amidst; about

EXPLANATION

“Delve **into**” archives is the standard collocation for researching deeply; the tales are said to originate “from” centuries past, giving option (B).

The architect designed the futuristic skyscraper to blend seamlessly _____ the existing structures, harmonizing _____ the urban landscape.

A with; through

B within; along ✓

C amidst; towards

D into; against

EXPLANATION

Among the given pairings, “blend seamlessly **within**” the surrounding structures and “harmonizing **along**” the urban landscape produce the smoothest overall reading, giving option (B).

The renowned philosopher delved deep _____ the intricacies of human consciousness, shedding light _____ the enigma of self-awareness.

A within; towards

B through; onto ✓

C amidst; against

D onto; with

EXPLANATION

“Delved deep **through**” the intricacies and “shedding light **onto**” a subject are the most natural pairings among the options, giving (B).

She embarked _____ a quest to decipher the cryptic symbols etched _____ the ancient artifact, unraveling its hidden secrets.

A beneath; within

B towards; amidst

C onto; through ✓

D about; within

EXPLANATION

“Embarked **onto**” a quest and symbols etched **“through”** the artifact’s surface form the best-fitting pair among the given options, giving (C).

“The architect’s vision seamlessly integrated the futuristic skyscraper _____ the existing cityscape, harmonizing _____ its historical architecture.”

A with; into ✓

B amidst; towards

C within; alongside

D under; throughout

EXPLANATION

“Integrated **with**” the cityscape and harmonizing **“into”** the historical architecture give the most coherent sense among the four options, giving (A).

The negotiations were conducted _____ utmost confidentiality, shrouding the details _____ the prying eyes of the media.

A amidst; in

B with; from ✓

C beneath; towards

D beyond; about

EXPLANATION

“Conducted **with** utmost confidentiality” is a standard collocation, and details are typically “shrouded/hidden **from**” prying eyes — giving option (B).

English — Choose the Grammatically Correct Sentence

None

A Amidst the cacophony of the bustling metropolis, there exists an oasis of tranquility where the weary souls find respite. ✓

B Amidst the cacophonies of the bustling metropolis, there exists an oasis of tranquility where the weary soul finds respite.

C Amidst the cacophony of the bustling metropolis, there exists an oasis of tranquilities where the weary souls find respite.

D Amidst the cacophony of the bustling metropolises, there exists an oasis of tranquility where the weary soul finds respite.

EXPLANATION

“Cacophony,” “metropolis” and “tranquility” are all uncountable/singular here and must stay singular, while “weary souls find respite” correctly uses a plural subject with a plural verb. Only option (A) keeps every noun and verb consistently matched.

None

A Irrespective of the diverse opinions, the committee has convened to discuss the pressing issues. ✓

B Irrespective of the diverse opinion, the committee has convened to discuss the pressing issues.

C Irrespective of the diverse opinions, the committee have convened to discuss the pressing issues.

D Irrespective of the diverse opinion, the committee have convened to discuss the pressing issues.

EXPLANATION

“Diverse” implies multiple viewpoints, so “opinions” must be plural; and “committee,” a collective noun treated as a single unit, correctly takes the singular verb “has convened.” Option (A) is fully consistent.

None

A Within the convoluted corridors of bureaucracy, myriad regulations often impede progress. ✓

B Within the convoluted corridor of bureaucracies, myriad regulation often impedes progress.

C Within the convoluted corridors of bureaucracies, myriads regulations often impede progress.

D Within the convoluted corridor of bureaucracy, myriads regulations often impedes progress.

EXPLANATION

“Myriad” functions correctly as an adjective directly before a plural noun (“myriad regulations,” no ‘of’ or ‘s’ needed), and the plural subject “regulations” takes the plural verb “impede.” Option (A) alone is fully correct.

None

A Despite her exhaustion, the dedicated scientist continued to meticulously analyze the intricate data sets. ✓

B Despite her exhaustion, the dedicated scientists continued to meticulously analyze the intricate data set.

C Despite her exhaustion, the dedicated scientist continued to meticulously analyze the intricacies data sets.

D Despite her exhaustion, the dedicated scientists continue to meticulously analyze the intricacies data set.

EXPLANATION

The pronoun “her” requires a singular subject (“scientist,” not “scientists”), the tense must stay past (“continued”), and “intricate data sets” is the correct adjective + noun form (“intricacies data

sets" is not valid English). Only (A) satisfies all three checks.

None

A The enigmatic nature of dark matter continues to baffle cosmologists, as its properties remain elusive. ✓

- B** The enigmatic natures of dark matters continue to baffle cosmologists, as their properties remains elusive.
- C** The enigmatic natures of dark matter continue to baffle cosmologists, as their properties remains elusive.
- D** The enigmatic nature of dark matter continue to baffle cosmologists, as its properties remains elusive.

EXPLANATION

“Nature” (singular) matches “continues” (singular verb) and “its” (singular possessive referring to dark matter); “properties” (plural) correctly takes “remain” (plural verb). Only option (A) keeps this chain of agreement intact.

None

A Amidst the relentless march of technology, ethical dilemmas arising from artificial intelligence and automation demand thoughtful consideration. ✓

B Amidst the relentless marches of technologies, ethical dilemmas arising from artificial intelligences and automations demand thoughtful considerations.

C Amidst the relentless march of technologies, ethical dilemmas arising from artificial intelligences and automations demand thoughtful consideration.

D Amidst the relentless march of technology, ethical dilemmas arising from artificial intelligence and automation demands thoughtful consideration.

EXPLANATION

The subject "ethical dilemmas" is plural, so it must take the plural verb "demand" (not "demands" as in option D); "technology," "artificial intelligence" and "automation" are uncountable and stay singular. Only (A) is fully correct.

None

A The intricate interplay of genetics and epigenetics, along with the influence of environmental factors, shape an individual's health outcomes. ✓

B The intricacies interplays of genetics and epigenetics, along with the influences of environmental factors, shapes an individual's health outcome.

C The intricacies interplays of genetics and epigenetic, along with the influence of environmental factors, shapes an individual's health outcomes.

D The intricate interplays of genetics and epigenetic, along with the influences of environmental factors, shape an individual's health outcome.

EXPLANATION

Options (B) and (C) invent the ungrammatical double-plural “intricacies interplays,” and (D) incorrectly drops the ‘s’ from “epigenetics.” Option (A) uses the correct singular technical terms “interplay” and “epigenetics,” making it the best (most nearly correct) choice.

None

A Regardless of the myriad challenges, the dedicated team is determined to pursue their ambitious goals. ✓

B Regardless of the myriad challenge, the dedicated team are determined to pursue their ambitious goals.

C Regardless of the myriads challenges, the dedicated team is determined to pursue their ambitious goals.

D Regardless of the myriads challenges, the dedicated team are determined to pursue their ambitious goals.

EXPLANATION

“Myriad” should directly precede the plural noun “challenges” without an ‘s’ of its own, and “team” (a collective noun) is treated singularly with “is” consistent with the rest of this test’s style. Only (A) avoids all errors.

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Identify the sentence with a grammatical error.

None

A The physicist, along with her team, are conducting groundbreaking research. ✓

B Despite the challenging conditions, he persevered in his quest for knowledge.

C The book, which has been read by millions, remains a classic.

D Their commitment to excellence is evident in all that they do.

EXPLANATION

The subject is “the physicist” (singular); “along with her team” is a parenthetical phrase that does not change the number of the subject, so the verb must be “is conducting,” not “are conducting.” This makes (A) the sentence with the error.

None

A The phenomenon of quantum entanglement bewilders even seasoned physicists.

B Neither the professor nor her students have received their assignments yet.

C The committee, consisting of experts in their respective fields, were divided. ✓

D The team's performance has been consistently excellent.

EXPLANATION

“Committee” is a singular collective noun and, consistent with the agreement pattern used throughout this paper, should take a singular verb — “was divided,” not “were divided.” (Note: option B is correct as written because with ‘neither...nor’ the verb agrees with the nearer subject, ‘her students,’ which is plural.)

None

- A** The herculean effort required to complete the task was undeniable.
- B** The cacophonous symphony of the city streets was oddly soothing.
- C** The scientist's groundbreaking discovery left the world in a state of awe.

D Her altruistic disposition was as clear as a cloudy day. ✓

EXPLANATION

A simile should reinforce the quality being described, but comparing something “clear” to “a cloudy day” is self-contradictory — a cloudy day is, by definition, not clear. This internal contradiction is the clearest semantic error among the options.

None

- A** My favorite hobbies include reading knitting and cooking.
- B** It's raining outside, however, I brought my umbrella.
- C** The concert was amazing – I've never heard such talented musicians.

D The professor's lecture was long; therefore, it was informative. ✓

EXPLANATION

A semicolon correctly joins two independent clauses connected by a conjunctive adverb ("therefore"), which must always be preceded by a semicolon, not a comma. Option (B) is a comma splice, and option (A) is missing list commas.

None

- A** My hobbies include: reading, knitting, and cooking.
- B** She was tired, nevertheless, she decided to finish the project.
- C** The conference has been postponed, thus we have more time to prepare.

D He enjoys playing the guitar; he finds it relaxing. ✓

EXPLANATION

Two related independent clauses can be correctly joined with a semicolon alone, as in (D). A colon should not directly follow a verb like “include” (option A), and “nevertheless”/“thus” (options B, C) require a semicolon before them, not a comma.

None

A I have three goals for the year, lose weight, save money and travel more.

B The ingredients for the cake are: flour, sugar, eggs, and vanilla extract.

C She had one question: when is the deadline?



D He enjoys various outdoor activities: such as hiking, camping, and fishing.

EXPLANATION

A colon must follow a complete independent clause. "She had one question" is a full sentence, correctly followed by a colon introducing the question. Option (B) misuses the colon directly after the linking verb "are," and option (D) wrongly combines a colon with "such as."

English — Reading Comprehension

PASSAGE NO. 1

Plato, the famous Greek philosopher, taught that the things of the world around us are merely copies or “shadows” of greater, eternal realities. He used a metaphor of people living inside a cave to convey his ideas. The people inside the cave could not see the world outside the cave; they could only see shadows of people and animals as they passed by. Plato was suggesting that the shadows would seem very real and alive to the people inside the cave, because that was all they had ever known of the outside world. But these shadows were not the real, living creatures of the outside world, they were merely reflections of them. Plato’s point was that this temporal world is a _____ of some greater, eternal reality.

The word that would most accurately fit the blank at the end of the second paragraph is:

A Shadow ✓

B Picture

C Contradiction

D Reversal

EXPLANATION

The entire passage builds the metaphor of shadows representing imperfect copies of true reality, so the blank logically completes with **“shadow”**, echoing the cave allegory.

The underlined word 'convey', as used in this passage, most accurately means:

A Give birth to

B Rationalize

C Experiment

D Explain ✓

EXPLANATION

"Convey his ideas" means to communicate or **explain** them clearly to others, matching option (D).

What is the main idea of Plato's cave analogy?

A This world is not all there is. ✓

B Mankind cannot hope to see the truth.

C Humans are stupid.

D Real things cast shadows.

EXPLANATION

Plato's central point is that the physical world we perceive is only a partial, shadow-like reflection of a deeper, eternal reality — i.e. **"this world is not all there is."**

Which of the following would be the best title for this passage?

- A Life in a Cave
- B Making Shadow Puppets
- C Perception and Reality ✓**
- D Is There Life After Death

EXPLANATION

The passage is fundamentally about the gap between what we perceive (shadows) and what is truly real, best captured by the title **“Perception and Reality.”**

The underlined word ‘temporal’, as used in the passage, most nearly means:

- A Imaginary
- B Hypothetical
- C Old-fashioned

D Temporary ✓

EXPLANATION

“Temporal” means relating to time-bound, transient existence, as opposed to the “eternal reality” it is contrasted with – hence **“temporary.”**

PASSAGE NO. 2

Yesterday, I was exposed to what has been called “a dining experience like no other.” At lunchtime, Dilly’s Deli is so crowded, I wondered when the fire marshal had last visited the establishment. The line snaked out of the door to the corner, and by the time I reached the counter, I was freezing. I decided on the hamburger steak special; the other specials being liver and onions or tuna casserole. Each special is

offered with two side dishes, but there was no potato salad left and the green beans were cooked nearly beyond recognition. I chose the gelatin of the day and what turned out to be the blandest coleslaw I have ever eaten. At Dilly's, you sit at one of four long tables. The truck driver next to me had more to say about highway taxes than I wanted to know. The couple sitting across from me was having an argument. After I had tasted all of the food on my plate, I rose to leave, whereupon one of the people working behind the counter yelled at me to clean up after myself. Throwing away that plate of food was the most enjoyable part of dining at Dilly's.

If you go to lunch at Dilly's Deli, you could expect to see:

A Couples dining together

B The fire marshal

C A long line of customers ✓

D Homemade pie

EXPLANATION

The passage opens by describing the line “snaking out of the door,” making **a long line of customers** the safest expectation.

The passage suggests that if you eat lunch at Dilly's Deli, you should expect to:

A Be called out by the restaurant's staff ✓

B Place your order with the waiter who comes to your table

C Dress warmly

D Carry your own food to your table

EXPLANATION

The narrator is directly yelled at by staff for not clearing their own plate, illustrating the brusque service style — i.e., a customer should expect to **be called out by staff**.

Which of the following illustrates the restaurant critic's opinion of the food at Dilly's Deli?

- A** "At Dilly's, you sit at one of four long tables."
- B** "At lunchtime, Dilly's Deli is so crowded, I wondered when the fire marshal had last visited the establishment."
- C** "After I had tasted all of the food on my plate, I rose to leave, whereupon one of the people working behind the counter yelled at me to clean up after myself."

D "Throwing away that plate of food was the most enjoyable part of dining at Dilly's." ✓

EXPLANATION

This closing line is sarcastic — saying the best part of the meal was throwing the food away directly reveals the critic's negative opinion of the food's quality.

The main purpose of the restaurant review is to:

- A Tell people about the presence of truck drivers at Dilly's Deli.
- B Make fun of couples who argue in public.
- C Recommend the hamburger steak special.

D Warn people that Dilly's Deli tends to be crowded. ✓

EXPLANATION

Among the given choices, the review's emphasis on the long wait, cold queue and cramped seating best supports the purpose of **warning readers about overcrowding** at Dilly's Deli.

Role of the 'fire marshal' (underlined), as mentioned in the passage, appears to be:

A Checking the hygienic condition in the restaurant.

B Checking overcrowding at public places. ✓

C Ensuring disciplined conduct of restaurant's staff.

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Fire marshals are responsible for enforcing occupancy limits and fire-safety codes; the narrator invokes this image specifically because of the overwhelming crowd, i.e. **checking overcrowding at public places.**

General Abilities (Quantitative & Analytical Reasoning)

91

Evaluate: $4^{(1/2)} \times 4^2 - 4^0$

A 24

B 28

C 31 ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

$4^{(1/2)} = 2$, $4^2 = 16$, $4^0 = 1$. So $2 \times 16 - 1 = 32 - 1 = \mathbf{31}$.

What is k , given $27^k = 9$?

A $1/3$

B $2/3$ ✓

C $4/3$

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Write both sides with base 3: $27=3^3$ and $9=3^2$, so
 $(3^3)^k = 3^2 \rightarrow 3k=2 \rightarrow k=\mathbf{2/3}$.

Several cows on a farm consume the food in 150 days. If we reduce the number of cows by 10, then the food lasts for 10 more days. How many cows were there on the farm in the beginning?

A 150

B 160 ✓

C 100

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Let n = original cows. Total food = $n \times 150$ cow-days.
After removing 10 cows: $(n-10) \times 160 = n \times 150 \rightarrow$
 $160n - 1600 = 150n \rightarrow 10n = 1600 \rightarrow n = \mathbf{160}.$

A train of length 99m takes 11 seconds to pass completely through a station of length 231m. What is the speed of the train in km/hr?

A 108 ✓

B 75.6

C 30

D None of these

EXPLANATION

To completely clear the station the train covers its own length plus the station's length: $99+231=330\text{m}$ in 11s $\rightarrow$ speed = $330/11 = 30 \text{ m/s} = 30 \times 3.6 = \mathbf{108 \text{ km/hr.}}$

A, B and C share \$112. B receives \$12 less than A and C gets twice as much as B. How much does C get?

A \$34

B \$44

C \$50 ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Let $B=x$, then $A=x+12$ and $C=2x$. Sum:

$(x+12)+x+2x=112 \rightarrow 4x=100 \rightarrow x=25$. So $C=2(25)=$ **\$50**.

Find an integer such that four times the number subtracted from two times the square of the number gives 15.

A 3

B -3

C $-5/3$

D None of these ✓

EXPLANATION

The equation is $2n^2 - 4n = 15$. Testing (A) $n=3$: $2(9) - 12 = 6 \neq 15$. Testing (B) $n=-3$: $18 + 12 = 30 \neq 15$. Testing (C) $n=-5/3$: $2(25/9) + 20/3 = 110/9 \approx 12.2 \neq 15$. None of the given values satisfy the equation (solving $2n^2 - 4n - 15 = 0$ gives an irrational root, ≈ -1.42 or ≈ 3.42), so the correct answer is **(D) None of these**.

Zaid is six times as old as his daughter Zoya. How old was Zaid when Zoya was born, if the sum of their ages will be 49 in 7 years?

A 25 ✓

B 35

C 42

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Let Zoya = z , Zaid = $6z$ now. In 7 years:

$(z+7) + (6z+7) = 49 \rightarrow 7z = 35 \rightarrow z = 5$, Zaid = 30. Zaid's age when Zoya was born = $30 - 5 = \mathbf{25}$.

Find two consecutive positive numbers such that the sum of their squares is 7 less than 120.

A 7, 8 ✓

B 8, 9

C 7, 9

D None of these

EXPLANATION

$n^2 + (n+1)^2 = 113 \rightarrow 2n^2 + 2n - 12 = 112 \rightarrow n^2 + n - 56 = 0 \rightarrow$
 $(n-7)(n+8) = 0 \rightarrow n = 7$. The numbers are **7 and 8**
($49 + 64 = 113 = 120 - 7$ ✓).

A light shop sells lights; they sold 25 percent of the lights and still had 1500 lights left. How many lights were there in the beginning?

A 2500

B 2250

C 2000 ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

75% of the original stock = 1500 $\rightarrow$ original = $1500 \div 0.75 = \mathbf{2000}$.

Given: $x^2 - 11x + 10 = 0$, then x is:

A -1, -10

B -1, +10

C +1, -10

D None of these ✓

EXPLANATION

Factorising: $(x-1)(x-10)=0 \rightarrow x=1$ or $x=10$ (both positive). Since none of the listed pairs correctly give two positive roots, the answer is **None of these**.

Total cost of 5 markers and 1 pencil is Rs.245, and total cost of 3 markers and 3 pencils is Rs.327.
What is the cost of one marker?

A Rs. 32

B Rs. 34 ✓

C Rs. 74

D None of these

EXPLANATION

$5m + p = 245$ and $3m + 3p = 327 \rightarrow m + p = 109 \rightarrow$
 $p = 109 - m$. Substituting: $5m + 109 - m = 245 \rightarrow 4m = 136$
 $\rightarrow m = \text{Rs. 34}$.

The first term in a sequence is 1 and the second term is 5. From the third term onwards, each term is the average (arithmetic mean) of all preceding terms. What is the 27th term in the sequence?

A 2.5

B 3 ✓

C 5.5

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Term 3 = average(1,5) = 3. Once a term equal to the running average is added, the average of the whole set never changes again — so every term from the 3rd onward stays exactly **3**, including the 27th term.

A baker sells different types of cakes in his shop. Every small cake costs \$ x and every large cake costs \$ $(2x+3)$. The cost of 3 small lemon cakes and 2 large lemon cakes is \$16.36. What is the cost of one small lemon cake?

A \$1.91

B \$1.48 ✓

C \$2.34

D None of these

EXPLANATION

$$3x + 2(2x + 3) = 16.36 \rightarrow 3x + 4x + 6 = 16.36 \rightarrow 7x = 10.36 \rightarrow x = \mathbf{\$1.48}.$$

If one angle of an isosceles triangle is 68° , then the possible values of the second angle are:

- A Any value between 68° and 180°
- B Any value between 68° and 112°
- C Any value between 1° and 112°

D None of these ✓

EXPLANATION

Only three specific triangles are possible: $\{68^\circ, 68^\circ, 44^\circ\}$ (68° is a base angle) or $\{68^\circ, 56^\circ, 56^\circ\}$ (68° is the apex angle). The second angle can therefore only be 44° , 56° or 68° — a discrete set, not a continuous range — so the correct choice is **None of these**.

The total perimeter of a semicircle is 20.6 cm. What is the approximate radius of the semicircle?

A 4 cm ✓

B 5 cm

C 6.6 cm

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Perimeter of a semicircle = $\pi r + 2r = r(\pi + 2)$. So $20.6 = r(5.14) \rightarrow r \approx \mathbf{4 \text{ cm}}$.

A water tank in the shape of a cuboid has length 1.5 metres and width 1.0 metre. How many litres of water are in the tank if the water is 60 centimetres deep?

A 9000 litres

B 900 litres ✓

C 90 litres

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Volume = $1.5 \times 1.0 \times 0.6 = 0.9 \text{ m}^3$. Since $1 \text{ m}^3 = 1000$ litres, the volume of water = **900 litres**.

The inner circumference of a circular race track is 440m. If the width of the track is 14m, what is the radius of the outer circle?

A 70m

B 77m

C 84m ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Inner radius = $440/(2\pi) \approx 70\text{m}$. Outer radius = inner radius + track width = $70+14 = \mathbf{84\text{m}}$.

In a group of 200 people, 90 like tennis, 108 like cricket and 46 people like both tennis and cricket. How many people like neither tennis nor cricket?

A 44

B 48 ✓

C 62

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Like at least one sport = $90 + 108 - 46 = 152$
(inclusion-exclusion). Neither = $200 - 152 = \mathbf{48}$.

450 visitors visit a museum on each Monday, while only 120 visit on each of the remaining six days of the week. How many visitors are there on a daily average basis in a month of 30 days beginning on a Monday?

A 164

B 160

C 175 ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

A 30-day month starting on Monday contains 5 Mondays (days 1,8,15,22,29) and 25 other days.
Total visitors = $5 \times 450 + 25 \times 120 = 2250 + 3000 = 5250$.
Average per day = $5250 \div 30 = \mathbf{175}$.

A is B's daughter, C is B's mother, D is B's sister and E is D's son. Then how is A related to E?

A Uncle

B Grand daughter

C Cousin ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

A and E are children of siblings B and D respectively, which makes A and E first **cousins**.

Pointing to a photograph, a man said, "I have no brother, and that girl's father is my father's son." Whose photograph was it?

A His father

B His own

C His daughter ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Since the speaker has no brothers, "my father's son" can only refer to the speaker himself. So the girl in the photo is the speaker's own child — specifically **his daughter**.

A bus for Islamabad leaves after every fifty-two minutes. An enquiry officer told a passenger that the bus had already left sixteen minutes ago and the next bus will leave at 08:15 pm. At what time did the enquiry officer give the information to the passenger?

A 07:23 pm

B 07:39 pm ✓

C 07:49 pm

D None of these

EXPLANATION

If the next bus leaves at 08:15 pm and buses run every 52 minutes, the previous bus left at $08:15 - 0:52 = 07:23$ pm. Since that bus had “already left sixteen minutes ago” at the moment the officer spoke, the information was given at $07:23 \text{ pm} + 16 \text{ minutes} = \mathbf{07:39 \text{ pm}}$.

Pearl Tower is taller than Sky Tower but shorter than Ocean Tower. Ocean Tower and MCB Tower are of the same height. Pearl Tower is shorter than Bahria Tower. Which one is the second shortest among all the buildings?

A Pearl Tower ✓

B Sky Tower

C Ocean Tower

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Sky Tower is shorter than Pearl Tower, and nothing is stated to be shorter than Sky Tower, so Sky Tower is the shortest. Pearl Tower, being taller than only Sky Tower among the given comparisons, is the **second shortest**.

Peter is in the East of Tom and Tom is in the North of John. Mike is in the South of John. In which direction of Peter is Mike?

A South-East

B South-West ✓

C South

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Placing John at the origin: Tom is north of John, Peter is east of Tom (so north-east of John), and Mike is south of John. Relative to Peter, Mike lies to the west (opposite of east) and south (opposite of north) — i.e. **South-West**.

On a particular school day, a student will take classes of six subjects — Geography, History, Jurisprudence, Kinetics, Literature, and Mechanics. Each class is taken only once on that day and their order is subject to: (A) Geography must be immediately after History. (B) Kinetics must be earlier than Geography. (C) Mechanics must be earlier than Literature. (D) Mechanics must be either immediately before or immediately after Jurisprudence. If Literature is earlier than Kinetics, then History must be in which position?

A First

B Third

C Fifth ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Mechanics < Literature < Kinetics < Geography, with History immediately before Geography, forces at least 4 subjects before Geography — so Geography

must be 6th and History 5th. The remaining four (Mechanics, Literature, Kinetics, Jurisprudence) can then be validly arranged in positions 1–4 while keeping Mechanics adjacent to Jurisprudence (e.g. Jurisprudence, Mechanics, Literature, Kinetics). Hence History is **Fifth**.

Six girls are sitting in a circle facing towards the centre of the circle. R is between N and S. P is next to the left of V. R is 4th to the right of P. What is the position of T?

A To the immediate right of V ✓

B Second to the left of P

C Second to the right of R

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Placing P at position 1 and moving clockwise, R (4th to the right of P) is at position 5, and V (P's neighbour on the left) is at position 2. N and S occupy R's two neighbouring seats (4 and 6), leaving T at position 3 — which sits immediately clockwise (to the right) of V. Hence T is **to the immediate right of V**.

Roni and Willy had a 100m race. Roni covered the distance in 45 secs and Willy covered the distance in 36 secs. Willy beats Roni by how much distance?

A 20m ✓

B 22.5m

C 25m

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Roni's speed = $100/45$ m/s. In the 36 seconds it takes Willy to finish, Roni covers $(100/45) \times 36 = 80\text{m}$. So Willy beats Roni by $100 - 80 = \mathbf{20\text{m}}$.

What is a and b in the given sequence? a, 13, 9, 3, -5, -15, b

A 15, -25

B 15, -27 ✓

C 16, -28

D None of these

EXPLANATION

The differences between consecutive terms are -4, -6, -8, -10 — an arithmetic sequence decreasing by 2 each time. Working backwards, the difference before -4 must be -2, so $a = 13 - (-2) = \mathbf{15}$. Working forward, the next difference after -10 is -12, so $b = -15 - 12 = \mathbf{-27}$.

What is the sum of prime numbers less than 21?

A 58

B 64

C 77 ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

The primes below 21 are 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19. Their sum = **77**.

Old generation people were born between 1965 and 1981. They can do most tasks independently. Some people call them the Entrepreneurial generation. The conclusion which follows logically from the above statements is:

- A They have a natural tendency of being self-employed
- B They work harder than any recent generation
- C They require some assistance to do tasks

D None of these ✓

EXPLANATION

The passage only states that this generation can work independently and is nicknamed 'Entrepreneurial' — it does not logically establish self-employment tendencies (A), comparative work ethic (B), or a need for assistance (C, which actually contradicts the premise). So **None of these** follows strictly.

The expression $3(-4 \times 5 - 6)$ would be equal to:

A 12

B -78 ✓

C -15

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Inside the bracket: $-4 \times 5 - 6 = -20 - 6 = -26$. Then $3 \times (-26) = \mathbf{-78}$.

Arrange in order of size, smallest to largest: (i) 0.5^2 (ii) 0.5 (iii) 0.5^3 (iv) $\sqrt[3]{0.5}$

A iv, ii, i, iii

B iii, i, ii, iv ✓

C ii, i, iii, iv

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Evaluating: $0.5^3=0.125$, $0.5^2=0.25$, $0.5=0.5$, $\sqrt[3]{0.5}\approx 0.79$.
Smallest to largest: **iii (0.125), i (0.25), ii (0.5), iv (0.79).**

The forest workers plant 200 trees in one month (30 days). When 20 workers were sent away, 200 trees were planted in 40 days by this second group. How many workers were there in the first group?

A 60

B 70

C 80 ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Let n = original workers and k = each worker's daily rate. $n \cdot k \cdot 30 = 200 \rightarrow nk = 20/3$. $(n-20) \cdot k \cdot 40 = 200 \rightarrow (n-20)k = 5$. Dividing: $n/(n-20) = (20/3)/5 = 4/3 \rightarrow 3n = 4n - 80 \rightarrow n = \mathbf{80}$.

The temperature measured in Murree at noon was 16.6°C . At midnight the temperature was 20.4°C lower. What was the temperature at midnight?

A -4.8°C

B -4.2°C

C -3.8°C ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

$$16.6 - 20.4 = \mathbf{-3.8^{\circ}\text{C}}.$$

Roni has 25 sweets and Tony has 55 sweets. How many sweets should Roni give to Tony so that Tony has four times as many sweets as Roni?

A 5

B 7

C 9 ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Let x = sweets transferred. $55+x = 4(25-x) \rightarrow$
 $55+x=100-4x \rightarrow 5x=45 \rightarrow x=9$.

How can the number 45 be divided into two parts such that four times one part is 9 less than five times the other?

A 20, 25

B 21, 24 ✓

C 19, 26

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Let the parts be a and b with $a+b=45$ and $4a=5b-9$. Substituting $a=45-b$: $4(45-b)=5b-9 \rightarrow 180-4b=5b-9 \rightarrow 189=9b \rightarrow b=21, a=24$ and **21**.

A man is 5 times as old as his son now. Four years ago, the product of their ages was 52. What are their present ages?

A 8 and 40

B 7 and 35

C 6 and 30 ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Let son= s , man= $5s$. Four years ago: $(s-4)(5s-4)=52$
 $\rightarrow 5s^2-24s+16=52 \rightarrow 5s^2-24s-36=0$. Solving gives $s=6$, so present ages are **6 and 30**.

John is 4 years older than David and Joe is 2 years younger than David. If the sum of their ages is 41, how old will John be in 8 years' time?

A 24

B 25 ✓

C 17

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Let David = d . John = $d+4$, Joe = $d-2$. Sum: $d + (d+4) + (d-2) = 41 \rightarrow 3d+2=41 \rightarrow d=13$. John now = 17; in 8 years John will be $17+8 = \mathbf{25}$.

What integer values can n have, given the inequality $-7 < 4n \leq 8$?

A $-1, 0, 1, 2$ ✓

B $-2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8$

C $-6, -5, -4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8$

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Dividing throughout by 4: $-1.75 < n \leq 2$. The only integers in this range are **$-1, 0, 1, 2$** .

A student spends 15% of his scholarship grant on food and 45% on tuition. After spending 50% of the remaining amount on his hostel fee, he is left with Rs. 8,000. How much is his scholarship grant?

A 32,000

B 40,000 ✓

C 45,000

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Food+tuition use 60%, leaving 40% of the grant.
Hostel fee takes half of that remaining 40%, i.e. 20% of the grant, leaving the other 20% = Rs. 8,000. So the total grant = $8,000 \div 0.20 = \text{Rs. } 40,000$.

Find the value of a^2+b^2 , when $a+b=5$ and $ab=6$.

A 37

B 25

C 13 ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

$$a^2+b^2 = (a+b)^2 - 2ab = 25 - 12 = \mathbf{13}.$$

When the equation $y=x^2+8x-5$ is written in the form $(x+a)^2+b$, then a is:

A 8

B 5

C 4 ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Completing the square: $x^2+8x-5 = (x+4)^2-16-5 = (x+4)^2-21$. So $a=4$ (and $b=-21$).

Find the value of x , when $A = (2\pi + y)x^2$, where $A = 36$ and $y = 2.77$.

A 3

B 4

C 2 ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

$2\pi + 2.77 \approx 9.05$. So $x^2 = 36/9.05 \approx 3.98 \rightarrow x \approx \mathbf{2}$.

At a football match, the price of a child ticket is Rs. 240 less than the adult ticket. There are 18,500 adults and 2500 children attending the match. Total amount paid for tickets is Rs.41,400,000. What is the price of one adult ticket?

A Rs. 2460

B Rs. 1940

C Rs. 2000 ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Let adult price = a . $18500a + 2500(a - 240) = 41,400,000 \rightarrow 21000a - 600,000 = 41,400,000 \rightarrow 21000a = 42,000,000 \rightarrow a = \text{Rs. 2000}.$

Name the regular polygon that has an exterior angle of 36° .

A Pentagon

B Hexagon

C Decagon ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Exterior angles of a regular polygon sum to 360° , so the number of sides = $360/36 = 10$, which is a **Decagon**.

What is the perimeter of a semi-circle lake having a radius of 700m?

A 127.4 km

B 3.6 km ✓

C 2.9 km

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Perimeter = $\pi r + 2r = r(\pi + 2) = 700 \times 5.14 \approx 3599\text{m} \approx$
3.6 km.

What is the total surface area of a cylinder having a radius of 3.5 cm and height 5.5 cm?

A 211.5 cm²

B 198 cm² ✓

C 121 cm²

D None of these

EXPLANATION

TSA = $2\pi r(r+h)$. Using $\pi \approx 22/7$: $2 \times (22/7) \times 3.5 = 22$, then $22 \times (3.5 + 5.5) = 22 \times 9 = \mathbf{198 \text{ cm}^2}$.

The lights and brakes of 30 bicycles were tested. 27 bicycles passed the lights test and 21 passed the brakes test. The light and brakes both failed on one bicycle. How many bicycles passed both tests?

A 19 ✓

B 21

C 20

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Bicycles failing lights = 3, failing brakes = 9. Failing at least one test = $3+9-1$ (both failed) = 11. Passing both tests = $30-11 = \mathbf{19}$.

A box contains 8 red, 6 green and 7 blue toys. One of the toys is randomly picked; what is the probability that the toy picked is neither red nor green?

A $7/21$ ✓

B $14/21$

C $7/14$

D None of these

EXPLANATION

“Neither red nor green” means blue. There are 7 blue toys out of 21 total, giving a probability of **$7/21$** ($= 1/3$).

P is the brother of Q and R. S is the mother of R, and T is the father of P. Which of the following statements is not exactly true?

- A T is Q's father
- B P is S's son
- C S is P's mother

D Q is T's son ✓

EXPLANATION

Since P, Q and R are siblings sharing parents S and T, statements A, B and C all follow necessarily. However, Q's gender is never specified — Q could be a sister, not a brother — so “Q is T's son” is **not exactly (necessarily) true**.

Arrange the given words in the order that they occur in the dictionary: 1. Apparent 2. Apostate 3. Appoint 4. Apparel

A 2, 1, 4, 3

B 2, 3, 4, 1

C 4, 1, 2, 3

D 2, 4, 1, 3 ✓

EXPLANATION

Alphabetically: Apostate < Apparel < Apparent < Appoint, giving the order **2, 4, 1, 3**.

Adil, Badar, Salma, Dawood and Mehak each have a different amount of money. Salma has more money than only Mehak; Badar has more money than Dawood but less than Adil. Who among them has the highest amount of money?

A Badar

B Dawood

C Adil ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Salma outranks only Mehak, so everyone else (Dawood, Badar, Adil) has more than Salma. Combined with $\text{Dawood} < \text{Badar} < \text{Adil}$, the full order is $\text{Mehak} < \text{Salma} < \text{Dawood} < \text{Badar} < \text{Adil}$, making **Adil** the richest.

A got more points than B but less than C. D got less points than E but more than A. If C gets less than D, then who gets the highest points?

A D

B E ✓

C C

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Combining the clues: $B < A < C < D < E$. The highest scorer is therefore **E**.

Given: PQS, QRT, RSU, STV... What should follow?

A TUW ✓

B SUV

C STU

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Each letter position increases by one from term to term: first letters run P,Q,R,S→T; second letters Q,R,S,T→U; third letters S,T,U,V→W. The next term is therefore **TUW**.

A clock is placed on a table such that at 6:00 pm the hour hand points to North-East. In which direction will the minute hand point at 9:15 pm?

A South-East

B North-West ✓

C South-West

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Normally the 6:00 hour hand points South; here it points North-East instead, meaning the whole clock face is rotated 135° anticlockwise from normal. At 9:15, the minute hand normally points East (the '3' mark); rotating this by the same 135° anticlockwise offset gives **North-West**.

The weights of 4 boxes are 20 kg, 30 kg, 50 kg and 70 kg. If a combination of boxes is made using each box only once, then the total weight of the combination cannot be:

A 170 kg

B 160 kg ✓

C 150 kg

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Listing every possible subset sum of $\{20, 30, 50, 70\}$ gives: 20, 30, 50, 70, 80, 90, 100, 120, 140, 150, 170. The value **160 kg** never appears among these achievable combinations.

The positions of the first and sixth digits in the number 5109238674 are interchanged. Similarly, the positions of the second and seventh digits are interchanged, and so on. Which one will be the third digit from the right end after the rearrangement?

A 9

B 0 ✓

C 6

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Swapping digit-pairs (1,6),(2,7),(3,8),(4,9),(5,10) of 5 1 0 9 2 3 8 6 7 4 produces the new sequence 3 8 6 7 4 5 1 0 9 2. The third digit from the right is the 8th digit from the left, which is **0**.

16 men and 12 women can complete a work in 20 days. 18 women can complete the same work in 40 days. In how many days will 12 men and 27 women complete the same work?

A 16 ✓

B 18

C 21

D None of these

EXPLANATION

From the data, one woman's daily rate $w = 1/720$ and one man's daily rate $m = 1/480$. The combined rate of 12 men and 27 women $= 12/480 + 27/720 = 1/40 + 27/720 = 45/720 = 1/16$, so the work takes **16 days**.

Statement: "Research reports that though Vitamin C present in fresh fruits and vegetables is beneficial for the human body, capsule Vitamin C does not have the same effect on the human body." Which of the following would logically come next? (i) The sale of capsule Vitamin C should be banned. (ii) People should be encouraged to take fresh fruits and vegetables to meet the body's requirement of Vitamin C.

A Only (i) follows

B Only (ii) follows ✓

C Neither (i) nor (ii) follows

D Both (i) and (ii) follow

EXPLANATION

The statement only shows that capsules are less effective than natural sources — it gives no grounds for a ban (i), but it does support encouraging fresh fruit and vegetable consumption (ii). So **only (ii) follows**.

What is the next term in the series? 11, 20, 35, 56, 83

A 108

B 116 ✓

C 122

D None of these

EXPLANATION

The differences between consecutive terms are 9, 15, 21, 27 — increasing by 6 each time. Following this pattern, the next difference is $27+6=33$, so the next term is $83+33=$ **116**.

General Knowledge (Science, Current Affairs & Pakistan/ International Studies)

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If output voltage is greater than input voltage, then the transformer is a:

A Step up ✓

B Step down

C Faulty

D None of these

EXPLANATION

A transformer that increases (steps up) the voltage from primary to secondary coil is called a **step-up transformer**.

The voltage signal which is generated by a microphone is called:

A Digital

B Analogue ✓

C Hybrid

D None of these

EXPLANATION

A microphone converts sound waves into a continuously varying electrical signal – an **analogue** signal – which must be sampled to become digital.

The third most common gas found in the air we breathe is called:

A Hydrogen

B Neon

C Argon ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

By volume, dry air is about 78% nitrogen, 21% oxygen, and roughly 0.93% **argon** — making argon the third most abundant atmospheric gas.

Electromagnetic radiation with the maximum wavelength is:

A Ultraviolet

B Radio waves ✓

C Infrared

D None of these

EXPLANATION

On the electromagnetic spectrum, wavelength increases as frequency decreases; **radio waves** sit at the low-frequency, longest-wavelength end, far beyond infrared, visible light, and ultraviolet.

The most dangerous type of radiation is:

A Alpha radiation

B Beta radiation

C Gamma radiation ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Gamma radiation is highly penetrating electromagnetic radiation that can pass through the body and damage tissue/DNA even from outside, making it the most dangerous of the three for external exposure (alpha and beta are far less penetrating).

The solar energy is radiated in the form of:

A Electromagnetic waves ✓

B Transverse waves

C Infrared waves

D None of these

EXPLANATION

The sun radiates energy across the whole spectrum (UV, visible, infrared, etc.), which are collectively **electromagnetic waves**; infrared alone is only part of the spectrum, and 'transverse' just describes wave orientation, not the type of radiation.

The study of human body cells is called:

A Physiology

B Cytology ✓

C Mycology

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Cytology is the branch of biology specifically dealing with the structure and function of cells; Physiology studies body functions broadly and Mycology studies fungi.

Excessive bleeding during an injury is a deficiency of:

A Vitamin B

B Vitamin K ✓

C Vitamin E

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Vitamin K is essential for synthesising clotting factors in the liver; its deficiency impairs blood clotting and causes excessive bleeding.

Which fuel is used in gas welding?

A Acetylene ✓

B Methane

C Ethylene

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Oxy-**acetylene** welding uses acetylene gas burned with oxygen to produce the very high flame temperature ($\sim 3200^{\circ}\text{C}$) needed to melt metal for welding/cutting.

Drum printers belong to which of the following categories?

A Ink jet printer

B Laser printer

C Line printer ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Drum printers print an entire line of characters in one pass using a rotating drum, classifying them as a type of **line printer**.

Machine learning is a sub-area of:

A Hardware Engineering

B Artificial Intelligence ✓

C Cyber forensics

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Machine learning is the branch of **Artificial Intelligence** concerned with algorithms that learn patterns from data rather than being explicitly programmed.

Which of the following can be classified as a renewable energy source?

A Geothermal energy

B Tidal energy

C Biomass energy

D All of these ✓

EXPLANATION

Geothermal, tidal and biomass energy are all naturally replenished over short time-scales, making them all valid renewable energy sources — **All of these.**

How do scientists know that the Earth's core is made up of metal?

- A The density of the surface layer of Earth is much less than its average density ✓**
- B** The Earth's rotation speed indicates its core structure
- C** The density of surface layer of Earth is greater than its total density
- D** None of these

EXPLANATION

Since the Earth's overall average density ($\sim 5.5 \text{ g/cm}^3$) is much higher than the density of its surface rocks ($\sim 2.7\text{--}3 \text{ g/cm}^3$), scientists infer a much denser material — metal, chiefly iron-nickel — must make up the core.

Maintenance of soil fertility without the addition of extra nutrition is due to:

A Floods

B Crop residue

C Microbial activity ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Soil **microbial activity** naturally recycles organic matter and nutrients (nitrogen fixation, decomposition), helping to sustain fertility even without added fertiliser.

Nanocomposite materials are useful in food industry as they prevent packaged food from damage due to:

- A** Oxygen
- B** Carbon dioxide
- C** Moisture

D All of these ✓

EXPLANATION

Nanocomposite packaging creates barrier layers that reduce the permeability of oxygen, moisture, and other gases including carbon dioxide, protecting food quality — hence **All of these**.

Which of the following statements is true?

- A** Water-soluble vitamins cannot be stored in the body
- B** Fat-soluble vitamins can be stored in the body
- C** Body can absorb more of fat-soluble vitamins than required

D All of these ✓

EXPLANATION

All three statements are accurate: water-soluble vitamins (B, C) are not stored and must be replenished regularly, while fat-soluble vitamins (A, D, E, K) are stored in fatty tissue and the liver and can build up beyond immediate need — so **All of these**.

What global agreement, signed in 2015, aimed to limit global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels?

A Kyoto Protocol

B Paris Agreement ✓

C Copenhagen Accord

D None of these

EXPLANATION

The **Paris Agreement**, adopted at COP21 in December 2015, is the landmark accord committing signatories to keep global warming well below 2°C, pursuing efforts to limit it to 1.5°C.

Which international organization or group is responsible for the implementation of the B3W (Build Back Better World) initiative?

A United Nations (UN)

B Group of Seven (G7) ✓

C NATO

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Build Back Better World (B3W) was launched by the **G7** in June 2021 as a G7-led infrastructure initiative to counter China's Belt and Road Initiative (it was later rebranded as the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment).

China gave a Peace Plan for the Ukraine war in 2023. How many points were included in China's peace plan?

A 6

B 10

C 12 ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

China's position paper on the Ukraine crisis, released in February 2023, contained **12 points**, including calls for ceasefire, sovereignty respect, and resumption of peace talks.

What term describes the use of information warfare, disinformation, and other means to manipulate and undermine the influence of other countries?

A Soft power

B Sharp power ✓

C Smart power

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Sharp power specifically refers to the manipulative use of information, disinformation, and covert influence operations to undermine rival states — distinct from the benign attraction of ‘soft power.’

The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) is a free trade agreement among the nations of:

A North America

B Europe

C Asia-Pacific ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

RCEP, signed in 2020, links ASEAN members with China, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand, making it an **Asia-Pacific** trade bloc — the world's largest by population/GDP.

The AIIB (Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank) was established by:

- A** Asian Development Bank
- B** ASEAN
- C** Group of Seven (G7) countries

D China and some other Asian countries ✓

EXPLANATION

The AIIB was proposed and founded by **China, together with a group of other Asian founding members**, in 2016, as a multilateral bank to fund infrastructure across Asia.

What does the "I2-U2" alliance stand for?

A India-Israel-Ukraine-US

B India-Israel-US-UAE ✓

C Italy-Israel-Ukraine-UK

D None of these

EXPLANATION

The I2U2 grouping (informally called the 'West Asian Quad') brings together **India, Israel, the United States and the UAE** to cooperate on trade, technology and infrastructure.

"G-2" or "Group of Two" is an informal diplomacy between:

A Germany and Greece

B US and China ✓

C Germany and Ghana

D None of these

EXPLANATION

The term "G-2" (or Chimerica) refers informally to the world's two largest economies, **the United States and China**, cooperating/competing on the most consequential global issues.

Which country hosted the regular meeting of the SCO Foreign Ministers Council in 2023?

A China

B India ✓

C Uzbekistan

D None of these

EXPLANATION

India held the rotating chairmanship of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation in 2023 and hosted the SCO Council of Foreign Ministers meeting that year (in Goa, May 2023).

The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) consists of two main components: the Silk Road Economic Belt and:

A The Desert Oasis Corridor

B The Himalayan Trade Route

C The 21st Century Maritime Silk Road ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

China's BRI rests on two pillars: the overland **Silk Road Economic Belt** and the sea-based **21st Century Maritime Silk Road**.

When was the "Made in China 2025" strategic plan initiated?

A 2010

B 2015 ✓

C 2020

D None of these

EXPLANATION

"Made in China 2025" is a state-led industrial policy unveiled by China's State Council in **2015**, aiming to upgrade China's manufacturing into high-tech sectors.

Djibouti is strategically located at the mouth of which sea?

A Mediterranean Sea

B South China Sea

C Red Sea ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Djibouti sits at the southern entrance of the **Red Sea**, on the Bab-el-Mandeb strait — one of the world's busiest and most strategic shipping chokepoints.

The Horn of Africa (Hoa) is located in which part of the African continent?

A Eastern Africa ✓

B Western Africa

C Northern Africa

D None of these

EXPLANATION

The Horn of Africa — Somalia, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Djibouti — projects into the Indian Ocean/Gulf of Aden from **Eastern Africa**.

The Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) formally came to an end in:

A 1977 ✓

B 1988

C 1991

D None of these

EXPLANATION

SEATO, formed in 1954 as a Cold War collective-defence pact, was formally dissolved in **1977** after losing relevance following the Vietnam War.

What does "CARICOM" stand for?

A Canada, Austria, Romania, India-Community

B Caribbean Community ✓

C Canada, Argentina, Russia, Italy-Community

D None of these

EXPLANATION

CARICOM (Caribbean Community) is a regional organisation of Caribbean nations promoting economic integration and cooperation, established in 1973.

What does BECA stand for?

A Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement ✓

B Bilateral Exchange and Cooperation Accord

C Basic Economic and Cultural Agreement

D None of these

EXPLANATION

BECA (Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement) is a US defence pact (signed with India in 2020) enabling the sharing of sensitive geospatial and satellite intelligence.

Which nation holds the distinction of being the top investor in Africa by 2023?

A United States ✓

B China

C Russia

D None of these

EXPLANATION

By stock of foreign direct investment, the **United States** has remained the largest single-country investor in Africa in recent years, even as China leads in trade and infrastructure lending.

Which important shipping lane, connecting the Arabian Sea to the Persian Gulf, passes through Pakistani waters and is vital for international trade?

A Strait of Hormuz ✓

B Gulf of Aden

C The Bab-el-Mandeb

D None of these

EXPLANATION

The **Strait of Hormuz** links the Persian Gulf to the Arabian Sea/Gulf of Oman close to Pakistani coastal waters and is one of the world's most critical oil-shipping chokepoints.

Which U.S. military operation in 2011 resulted in the death of Osama bin Laden in Pakistan?

- A** Operation Enduring Freedom
- B** Operation Eradicating Terrorism
- C** Operation Neptune Spear ✓
- D** None of these

EXPLANATION

Operation Neptune Spear was the codename of the US Navy SEAL raid on Abbottabad, Pakistan, on 2 May 2011, that killed Osama bin Laden.

The world's highest battlefield, the Siachen Glacier, is located in which mountain range?

A Himalayas

B Karakoram ✓

C Hindu Kush

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Siachen Glacier lies in the eastern **Karakoram** range, near the Pakistan-India Line of Control, and is often called the world's highest battlefield.

In 2017, Pakistan became a full member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). What is the primary purpose of the SCO?

- A To facilitate trade amongst member countries
- B To establish a common currency for member states
- C To promote regional cooperation and stability in Eurasia ✓**
- D None of these

EXPLANATION

The SCO is primarily a political, security and economic bloc created to **promote regional cooperation, security and stability across Eurasia**, alongside economic and trade cooperation.

Which Pakistani diplomat served as the President of the United Nations (UN) General Assembly?

A Feroz Khan Noon

B Zulfikar Ali Bhutto

C Muhammad Zafrulla Khan ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan, Pakistan's first foreign minister, served as President of the UN General Assembly for its 17th session (1962–63) — the first, and so far only, Pakistani to hold that post.

What is the length of the Batura Glacier, making it one of the largest and longest glaciers outside the polar regions?

A 57 kilometers

B 61 kilometers

C 64 kilometers ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

The Batura Glacier in Gilgit-Baltistan is roughly **64 kilometres** long, ranking among the longest glaciers found outside the polar regions.

Which island is known as Pakistan's largest island and is sometimes referred to as "Jazira Haft Talar," meaning the island of seven mountains?

A Manora Island

B Astola Island ✓

C Churna Island

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Astola Island (also called Jazira Haft Talar / Satadip), off the Balochistan coast, is Pakistan's largest island and is protected as a wildlife sanctuary.

How many members of the National Assembly must sign the notice of no-confidence for it to be valid?

- A At least five percent (5%)
- B At least ten percent (10%)
- C At least twenty percent (20%) ✓**
- D None of these

EXPLANATION

Under Article 95 of the Constitution of Pakistan, a resolution for a vote of no-confidence against the Prime Minister must be moved/signed by **at least 20% of the total membership** of the National Assembly.

Pakistan's position on the Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT) is that:

A Pre-existing stockpiles should be included in the draft of the FMCT before negotiations ✓

B Ban on nuclear testing be lifted before signing of the draft

C A criteria-based approach should be applied to the NSG before finalizing the FMCT

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Pakistan has consistently insisted that any FMCT must also address **existing fissile-material stockpiles** (not just future production), given the regional stockpile asymmetry with India — this has been the core reason for its holdout at the Conference on Disarmament.

As of 2023, Pakistan is included in the roster of FATF as:

A Black

B Grey

C White ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Pakistan was removed from the FATF grey list in October 2022 after completing its action plans, and by 2023 it is on the FATF's regular (**white/compliant**) list, not the grey or black list.

The Muslim League observed "Direct Action Day" on August 16, 1946, which led to communal violence in:

A Delhi

B Lahore

C Kolkata ✓

D Mumbai

EXPLANATION

Direct Action Day, called by the All-India Muslim League on 16 August 1946, triggered severe communal riots most infamously in **Kolkata (Calcutta)**, known as "The Great Calcutta Killings."

Who wrote the book "Train to Pakistan," which is set during the Partition of India in 1947?

A Bapsi Sidhwa

B Amrita Pritam

C Khushwant Singh ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Khushwant Singh wrote the acclaimed 1956 novel "Train to Pakistan," depicting Partition-era violence in a fictional Punjab border village.

In the Bogra Formula, the proposed lower house of parliament was named as:

A The House of Commons

B The House of People ✓

C National Assembly

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Prime Minister Muhammad Ali Bogra's 1953 constitutional formula proposed a bicameral legislature whose lower house was to be called the **House of People**, with a House of Units as the upper chamber.

Lenin prize was awarded to:

A Habib Jalib

B Ahmed Faraz

C Faiz Ahmed Faiz ✓

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Renowned Urdu poet **Faiz Ahmed Faiz** was awarded the Soviet Union's Lenin Peace Prize in 1962, becoming the first Asian poet to receive it.

After India's Independence, Moulana Abdul Kalam Azad was appointed as:

A Minister of Education ✓

B Speaker of the Lok Sabha

C Minister of Finance

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad became independent India's first **Minister of Education** (1947–1958), shaping the country's early education policy.

Mujeeb-ur-Rehman presented his six points in:

A 1966 ✓

B 1959

C 1968

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman announced his famous **Six Points** demanding provincial autonomy for East Pakistan at a conference in Lahore in **1966**.

The Chief Justice of Supreme Court of Pakistan is appointed by the:

A President ✓

B Prime Minister

C Majority vote in the Parliament

D None of these

EXPLANATION

Under Article 175A/177 of the Constitution, the **President of Pakistan** appoints the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, normally the most senior judge, per the constitutional seniority convention.