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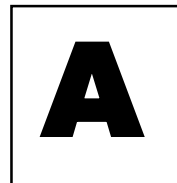


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Test Booklet Series



TEST BOOKLET

GENERAL STUDIES
Paper II

C-A-14-2026

Time Allowed: Two Hours

Maximum Marks: 200

I N S T R U C T I O N S

1. Immediately after the commencement of the examination, you should check that this test booklet does *not* have any unprinted or torn or missing pages or items etc. if so, get it replaced by a complete test book.
2. **Please note that it is the candidate's responsibility to encode and fill in the Roll Number and Test Booklet Series A, B, C or D carefully without any omission or discrepancy at the appropriate places in the OMR Answer Sheet. Any omission/discrepancy will render the Answer Sheet liable for rejection.**
3. This Test Booklet contains **80** items (questions). Each item is printed in **English**. Each item comprises four responses (answers). You will select the response which you want to mark on the Answer Sheet. In case you feel that there is more than one correct response, mark the response which you consider the best. In any case, choose **ONLY ONE** response for each item.
4. You have to mark all your responses **ONLY** on the separate Answer Sheet provided. See directions in the Answer Sheet. **All** items carry equal marks.
5. Before you proceed to mark in the Answer Sheet the response to various items in the Test Booklet, you have to fill in some particulars in the Answer Sheet as per instructions sent to you with your Admit Card.
6. **Penalty for wrong answers:**
THERE WILL BE PENALTY FOR WRONG ANSWERS MARKED BY A CANDIDATE IN THE OBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTION PAPERS.
 - (i) There are four alternatives for the answer to every question. For each question for which a wrong answer has been given by the candidate, **one-third** of the marks assigned to that question will be deducted as penalty.
 - (ii) If a candidate gives more than one answer, it will be treated as a **wrong answer** even if one of the given answers happens to be correct and there will be same penalty as above to that question
 - (iii) If a question is left blank i.e., no answer is given by the candidate, there will be **no penalty** for that question
7. After you have completed filling in all your responses on the Answer Sheet and the examination has concluded, you should hand over to the Invigilator *only* the *Answer Sheet*. You are permitted to take away with you the Test Booklet.

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Directions for the following 4 (four) items:

Read the following **three passages** and answer the items that follow each passage. Your answers to these items should be based on the passage only

PASSAGE 1

The challenge for a welfare state is that its fiscal logic often clashes with the behavioural logic of its citizens. While the state's objective is to use public funds to build a healthy, productive populace—the "social rate of return"—individual household spending may prioritize addictive consumption, a "private cost." High spending on goods like gutkha directly reduces a household's ability to invest in nutrition and education, creating a "human capital penalty." This internal conflict traps the state: it must fund the negative health consequences of private choices while simultaneously trying to finance the positive investments that would break the cycle, creating a toxic fiscal loop.

1. Based on the passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. Household consumption decisions are made based on a rational calculation of 'private cost' which may be wholly detached from long-term social welfare.
2. The state's financial capacity is finite; therefore, resources spent on mitigating health crises are directly diverted from resources available for proactive human capital investment.
3. The existence of a welfare state is itself the primary causal factor that encourages high household spending on harmful addictive substances.

Which of the assumptions given above is/are valid?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

2. Which one of the following most accurately captures the central idea of the passage?

- (a) The passage argues that the welfare state must eliminate all personal choice to function efficiently, as household behavior is inherently irrational and opposed to public good.

(b) It posits that the welfare state is fundamentally trapped in a self-defeating cycle where it must fund both the consequences of detrimental private consumption and the public investments needed to mitigate its effects.

(c) The central argument is a defence of laissez-faire economics, concluding that state welfare creates more problems than it solves by encouraging irresponsible personal behaviour.

(d) The core thesis is that household spending on addictive goods should be legally banned, as it is the only way to align private behaviour with the state's fiscal objectives.

PASSAGE 2

Developing countries argue that climate action cannot be delinked from developmental priorities such as poverty alleviation, infrastructure expansion, and energy access. Financial constraints limit their ability to transition rapidly without external support. Meanwhile, donor countries face domestic political pressures that constrain long term financial commitments, leading to a preference for short-term or project-based funding. Attempts to frame climate finance purely as a technical accounting exercise often obscure its distributive nature. Financial flows are not merely economic transfers; they shape trust, credibility, and cooperation within the international system. Without predictable and adequate finance, climate commitments risk being perceived as aspirational rather than actionable. Sustainable climate cooperation, therefore, depends as much on fulfilling financial responsibilities as on setting ambitious targets.

3. With reference to the above passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. Climate commitments lack credibility in the absence of reliable financial support mechanisms.
2. Developmental needs and climate goals are inherently in tension for developing countries.
3. Short-term or project-based climate finance is insufficient for sustaining long-term international cooperation.
4. Climate finance arrangements influence political and relational outcomes beyond their monetary value.

Which of the above assumptions is/are valid?

- (a) 1 and 4 only
- (b) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

PASSAGE 3

Jean-Paul Sartre, a central figure in existentialist philosophy, declared that for human beings, "existence precedes essence." Unlike a manufactured object (like a knife) whose essence—its purpose and design—is determined before it exists, humans are not created with a predetermined purpose. We first exist, encounter ourselves, and then define our essence through our free choices and actions. This radical freedom entails profound responsibility, as we are the authors of our own values and identities. It also brings anxiety (angst) and forlornness, as there is no divine blueprint or inherent human nature to justify our choices. For Sartre, we are "condemned to be free."

4. Which one of the following most accurately captures the central idea of the passage?

- (a) Human nature is fundamentally fixed and universal; freedom lies only in recognizing this predetermined essence.
- (b) Sartre's principle means humans create their own meaning and identity through free action, lacking any prior, defining purpose.
- (c) The concept of "existence precedes essence" primarily serves to justify moral nihilism and the rejection of all social responsibility.
- (d) Existentialism argues that while individuals are free, their essence is ultimately determined by social and historical forces beyond their control.

5. The ratio of the efficiency of a boy to a girl is 4:3. A group of 2 boys and 2 girls together can complete a piece of work in 16 days.

Quantity I: The number of days a group of a boy and three girls will take to complete the same piece of work.

Quantity II: If the efficiency of boys was increased by 30% and the efficiency of girls was increased by 40%, then the number of days a boy and a girl will take to complete 60% of the same piece of work.

Which of the following is true regarding above two quantities?

- (a) Quantity I > Quantity II
- (b) Quantity I ≥ Quantity II
- (c) Quantity I < Quantity II
- (d) Quantity II ≥ Quantity I

6. In an examination, 300 candidates appeared, and the average score was 101. If the scores of top three candidates are eliminated, the average score decreases by 1 mark. It is known that all the students obtained marks in integers and scores of the three toppers were distinct. If the second highest topper scored more than 200 marks, then the maximum possible score of the third highest topper is:

- (a) 195
- (b) 196
- (c) 198
- (d) 197

7. The probability that A hits a target is $\frac{1}{4}$, and the probability that B hits the target is $\frac{2}{5}$. Both shoot at the target, what is the probability that at least one of them hits the target, i.e., that A or B (or both) hit the target?

- (a) $\frac{3}{5}$
- (b) $\frac{11}{9}$
- (c) $\frac{2}{20}$
- (d) $\frac{11}{20}$

8. Take two long dice (rectangular parallelepiped), each having four rectangular faces labelled as 2, 3, 5, and 7. If thrown, the long dice cannot land on the square faces and has $\frac{1}{4}$ probability of landing on any of the four rectangular faces. The label on the top face of the dice is the score of the throw. If thrown together, what is the probability of getting the sum of the two long dice scores greater than 11?

- (a) $\frac{3}{16}$
- (b) $\frac{1}{16}$
- (c) $\frac{1}{8}$
- (d) $\frac{3}{8}$

9. If 10 identical balls are to be placed in 4 identical boxes, then the probability that one of the boxes contains exactly 2 balls is:

- (a) $35 \times \frac{2^8}{3^{10}}$
 (b) $45 \times \frac{3^8}{4^{10}}$
 (c) $25 \times \frac{3^8}{4^{10}}$
 (d) $15 \times \frac{2^8}{3^{10}}$

10. Out of the 202 countries that participated in the list of the Most Powerful Nations Index prepared by the Ohua Group of Japan, 140 countries had an Army, 120 had an Air Force, and 180 had a Navy. Additionally, 90 countries had both an Army and an Air Force, 75 had both an Air Force and a Navy, and 85 had both an Army and a Navy. Eight countries had all three forces. How many countries had none of these three forces?

- (a) 13
 (b) 4
 (c) 7
 (d) 2

11. If a train $[x + 20]$ metre long passes a pole in 11 seconds, and cross $[x - 20]$ m long bridge in 20 sec.

Find the value of x?

- (a) 200
 (b) 260
 (c) 320
 (d) 240

Directions for the following 3 (three) items:

Read the following **three passages** and answer the items that follow each passage. Your answers to these items should be based on the passage only

PASSAGE 1

Constitutional systems grant executives discretionary authority to respond swiftly during crises. While such flexibility is often justified, repeated reliance on exceptional powers risks normalizing extraordinary governance. Over time, this can weaken institutional checks without any formal constitutional amendment. Legal safeguards exist, but their effectiveness depends on political culture and institutional self-restraint.

When executives repeatedly stretch constitutional limits, legality may persist even as democratic norms erode. The threat lies not in isolated actions but in cumulative precedents that redefine acceptable conduct. Democratic resilience therefore depends not only on written provisions but also on sustained adherence to restraint, proportionality, and accountability.

12. With reference to the above passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. Repeated executive use of discretionary powers can alter democratic practice without formal legal change.
2. Written constitutional safeguards alone are sufficient to preserve democratic resilience during crises.

Which of the above assumptions is/are invalid?

- (a) 1 only
 (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2
 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

PASSAGE 2

Over the past few decades, the rising dependence on chemical fertilizers and pesticides has affected soil fertility, moisture and long-term sustainability. At the same time, farming costs have steadily increased. Natural farming directly addresses these challenges. The use of traditional bio fertilizers such as Panchagavya, Jeevamrit, Beejamrit, and mulching protected soil health, reduced chemical exposure, and lowered input costs while building strength against climate change and erratic weather patterns. If farmers begin with 'one acre, one season', the outcomes from even a small plot can build confidence and inspire larger adoption.

13. Which of the following best sums up the passage above?

- (a) Natural farming offers a low-cost alternative to large-scale chemical agriculture by reviving traditional farming inputs.
 (b) When traditional wisdom, scientific validation and institutional support come together, natural farming can become feasible and transformative.

(c) Gradual adoption of natural farming practices can reduce farmers' risks from climate variability and rising costs.

(d) Excessive reliance on chemical fertilizers has compelled farmers to explore environmentally sustainable cultivation methods.

PASSAGE 3

In many cities, informal waste pickers form the backbone of recycling, providing low-cost waste management. Formalizing this sector through integration into municipal systems can improve wages and safety. However, top-down formalization can also displace pickers through privatization or mechanization, destroying livelihoods without adequate alternatives. The challenge is to recognize the economic value and environmental service provided by informal labor while designing transitions that enhance rights and resilience, rather than eroding an existing, adaptive system.

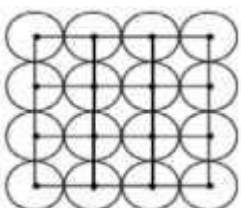
14. Based on the passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. Informal waste pickers provide no economic or environmental value.
2. Formalization policies can have negative livelihood consequences if not carefully designed.
3. Privatization and mechanization always lead to better outcomes for all stakeholders.

Which of the assumptions given above is/are valid?

- (a) 2 only
- (b) 1 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1 and 3 only

15. In the following figure, if the centres of all the circles are joined by horizontal and vertical lines, find the number of squares that can be formed.



- (a) 16
- (b) 24
- (c) 13
- (d) 14

16. Q is a factor of P. Consider the following statements:

- i. $P = 7863a95b2$
- ii. $Q = 11$
- iii. $9 \leq a \leq 1$, and $1 \leq b \leq 9$, where a and b are natural numbers

Which of the following is true regarding the above statements?

- (a) a is more than b.
- (b) b is more than a.
- (c) a and b are the same.
- (d) None of the above

17. A shopkeeper has a traditional weighing balance. One of the pans of the weighing balance weighs 100 grams more than the other pan. When shopkeeper is buying goods for selling in his shop he keeps the goods to be measured on the pan which is lighter than the other pan. When the shopkeeper is selling goods he keeps the weight measure on the lighter pan. Shopkeeper uses only one-kilogram weight to measure the weight of goods. If he sells the goods at the listed cost price, what will be his profit percentage?

- (a) 100/11 %
- (b) 200/9 %
- (c) 1000/11 %
- (d) No profit no loss

18. What will be the remainder, when 7656569874589235905768975894 is divided by 2^5 ?

- (a) 18
- (b) 22
- (c) 24
- (d) 16

19. The numbers 25, 34, 46, 48, $2x+1$, $4x+3$, 105, 110, 114, 122 are written in ascending order and their median is 77. The value of x is:

- (a) 22
- (b) 24
- (c) 28
- (d) 25

20. If the difference of the mode and median of a data is 38, then the difference of the median and mean is:

- (a) 19
- (b) 18
- (c) 22
- (d) 24

Directions for the following 4 (four) items:

Read the following **three passages** and answer the items that follow each passage. Your answers to these items should be based on the passage only

PASSAGE 1

Advances in space technology have renewed interest in the commercial exploitation of outer space, particularly the mining of asteroids and celestial bodies. While existing international agreements prohibit national sovereignty over outer space, they remain ambiguous on the ownership of extracted resources. While the proponents of the commercial exploitation of outer space argue that commercial ownership rights over the extracted resources are necessary to incentivise private investment and innovation, the critics contend that unregulated commercialization could lead to monopolisation, conflict, and unequal access for all. This raises the fundamental question of how to reconcile commercial activity in space with the principle that outer space is a shared domain of humanity.

21. Based on the above passage, the following assumptions have been made:

- I. Clear and commonly accepted rules are necessary to prevent conflict and inequitable outcomes in the commercial exploitation of outer space.
- II. Allowing commercial extraction of space resources is incompatible with the idea of outer space as a shared domain of humanity.

Which of the assumptions given above is/are valid?

- (a) I only
- (b) II only
- (c) Both I and II
- (d) Neither I nor II

22. Which of the following statements represents the most logical and rational inference that can be drawn from the passage?

- (a) Commercial space mining is an inevitable reality in the near future, given technological progress.
- (b) International space law lacks sufficient clarity on how to regulate the emerging commercial interest in the resource extraction from outer space.
- (c) Private investment in commercial exploitation of outer space will undermine international cooperation.
- (d) National governments should prohibit private participation in space mining.

PASSAGE 2

Design choices embedded within digital platforms— authentication requirements, language interfaces, error-resolution protocols—can unintentionally exclude sections of the population. These exclusions are often invisible to policymakers because system performance is assessed through aggregate success rates rather than user-level failures. Moreover, centralized digital infrastructures introduce systemic risks, where technical malfunctions or algorithmic biases affect large populations simultaneously. Treating digital infrastructure as a neutral enabler overlooks its role in redistributing power between citizens and the State. Without conscious institutional safeguards, digitization may replace discretionary human judgment with inflexible automated processes, thereby reshaping governance in ways that are difficult to contest or reverse.

23. Which of the following is/are the most logical inference(s) that can be made from the above passage?

- 1. Aggregate performance metrics may systematically conceal exclusion experienced by specific user groups.
- 2. Centralized digital systems may amplify governance inefficiency by minimizing dependence on human discretion.

3. Digitization can alter power relations between citizens and the State in unintended ways.

4. Automated decision-making mechanisms are inherently more contestable than discretionary human judgment.

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 3 and 4 only

PASSAGE 3

Many developed nations and emerging economies like China are experiencing rapid population aging—a 'silver tsunami.' This shifts the demographic pyramid, resulting in a shrinking workforce supporting a growing elderly population. It strains pension systems, increases healthcare costs, and can dampen economic growth and innovation. Responses include raising the retirement age, incentivizing higher fertility, and promoting automation and immigration to fill labor gaps. However, each solution has socio-political limits. The transition creates a profound societal shift, redefining concepts of work, retirement, and intergenerational equity. Economies must adapt not just fiscally but culturally to an era where seniors outnumber the young.

24. Based on the passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. Immigration is a sustainable long-term solution to demographic aging for every society.
2. Intergenerational equity is inherently threatened when seniors outnumber the young.
3. Cultural adaptation is optional for economies facing rapid population aging.

Which of the assumptions given above is/are valid?

- (a) 2 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 2 only
- (d) None of the above

25. For any integers 'a' and 'b' with $HCF(a, b) = 1$, what is $HCF(a + b, a - b)$ equal to?

- (a) It is always 1

- (b) It is always 2
- (c) Either 1 or 2
- (d) None of the above

26. Consider the following statements in respect of two natural numbers p and q such that p is a prime number and q is a composite number:

1. $p \times q$ can be an odd number.
2. q / p can be a prime number.
3. $p + q$ can be a prime number.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

27. x and y are in direct proportion and $y = 92.5$ when $x = 37$. What will be the value of y when $x = 16$?

- (a) 40
- (b) 24
- (c) 48
- (d) 32

28. A rectangular field has dimensions where one side is longer than the other. A person decides to walk directly across the field along the diagonal instead of walking along the two adjacent sides. By doing this, the person covers a distance that is shorter than the total walking path by exactly one-third of the length of the longer side. Determine the ratio of the length of the shorter side to the longer side of the field.

- (a) 8:15
- (b) 5:12
- (c) 7:24
- (d) 3:4

29. There are six persons namely H, P, C, R, L, and G attend the meeting on 12th and 15th of the same month at different timings viz. 10 a.m., 1 pm, and 3 pm not necessarily in the same order.

R does not attend the meeting at 10 am. G does not attend the meeting on odd day of the month. C attends the meeting where the day and time both

are even numbers. Number of the person who attends meeting after C is the same as the number of persons who attend the meeting before L. H who attends the meeting on even day of the month at 1 pm.

Who attend the meeting immediately before H?

- (a) R
- (b) P
- (c) C
- (d) G

30. Four number-pairs are given, out of which three are alike in some way and one is different. Select the odd number-pair.

- (a) 43 – 129
- (b) 39 – 117
- (c) 17 – 51
- (d) 29 – 87

31. Direction: In the following question assuming the given statements to be True, find which of the conclusion among given conclusions is/are definitely true and then give your answers accordingly.

Statements: $W \leq I < L$; $O \leq M < N > I$

Conclusions:

- I. $O < I$
- II. $W \leq O$

- (a) Only II is true
- (b) Both I and II are true
- (c) Either I or II is true
- (d) None is true

32. Which of the following condition(s) prohibits $(15q^3 + 6q^2 + 5q + p)/q$ from becoming an integer, wherein both p and q are integers?

- (a) q is positive
- (b) p is divisible by q
- (c) p is not divisible by q
- (d) Both (a) and (c)

33. A group of girls is playing a game in which they draw a square on the ground and jump from one vertex to an adjacent vertex (but they cannot jump diagonally). Yashi starts at vertex A of square ABCD

and can jump randomly to an adjacent vertex with each move. In how many different ways can she reach vertex C in exactly 11 jumps?

- (a) 0
- (b) 2
- (c) 1
- (d) 5

Directions for the following 4 (four) items:

Read the following **three passages** and answer the items that follow each passage. Your answers to these items should be based on the passage only

PASSAGE 1

Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanisms (CBAMs) tax imports based on their carbon footprint, aiming to prevent "carbon leakage" where industries relocate to regions with weaker climate policies. This levels the playing field for domestic producers investing in green technology. However, developing countries argue CBAMs are protectionist barriers that penalize their exports, transferring the cost of historical emissions by developed nations onto poorer economies trying to industrialize, thus raising tensions between climate action and global equity.

34. Based on the passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. Climate policies have no impact on international trade patterns.
2. Carbon leakage undermines the environmental effectiveness of domestic climate regulations.
3. All nations share equal historical responsibility for emissions and face identical costs in decarbonizing.

Which of the assumptions given above is/are valid?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 2 only
- (d) 1 and 3 only

PASSAGE 2

The 'Right to Repair' movement advocates for legislation requiring manufacturers to provide consumers and independent repair shops with access to spare parts, tools, and diagnostic software. This

challenges the prevailing model of planned obsolescence and restrictive end-user license agreements. Proponents argue it reduces electronic waste (e-waste), lowers consumer costs, and fosters local repair economies. The tech industry, however, resists citing intellectual property (IP) concerns, cybersecurity risks, and product safety. The EU and several US states have passed initial laws, setting a precedent. At its core, the conflict is between a linear 'take-make-dispose' economic model and a circular economy that prioritizes longevity and repairability. The movement reframes ownership in the digital age, questioning whether you truly own a device if you cannot fix it.

35. Based on the passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. The current manufacturing model, which restricts repair, actively contributes to the generation of electronic waste.
2. Consumer product safety and cybersecurity are inherently compromised when repairs are performed outside the manufacturer's authorized network.

Which of the assumptions given above is/are invalid?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

PASSAGE 3

The unequal distribution of unpaid care work is a primary driver of the gender gap in economic opportunity. Women globally spend a disproportionate share of their day on unpaid domestic and care responsibilities, a phenomenon termed the "gendered burden." This creates a time-poverty trap: the hours spent on unpaid labor directly compete with time available for paid employment, skill development, rest, and political participation. Consequently, women are often forced into part-time, informal, or lower-paying jobs that offer "flexibility" compatible with care duties, reinforcing the gender pay gap and limiting career progression. Addressing this requires more than individual solutions; it demands structural change—including affordable, quality childcare, equitable

parental leave policies, and challenging the social norms that designate care as exclusively "women's work"—to redistribute time and unlock women's full economic potential.

36. Which of the following is/are the most logical inference(s) that can be made from the above passage?

1. The gender pay gap cannot be meaningfully reduced without reallocating unpaid care work between genders.
2. Policies that only target paid employment while ignoring domestic time allocation are insufficient to achieve gender economic equality.
3. Time poverty from unpaid care responsibilities forces women into occupations where flexibility is traded for higher wages.
4. Men are inherently less capable of performing unpaid care tasks, leading to the persistence of the gendered burden.

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (c) 3 and 4 only
- (d) 2, 3 and 4 only

37. Which one of the following most accurately captures the central idea of the passage?

- (a) Gender economic inequality is caused by job segregation, with unpaid care work being a symptom, not a root cause.
- (b) Unpaid care work limits women's economic potential; solving this requires systemic change in policy and norms, not just flexible jobs.
- (c) Women's time poverty locks them into informal work; state childcare alone can achieve gender economic parity.
- (d) Economic inequality stems from undervalued women's unpaid labor, which should be monetized rather than redistributed.

38. A three-digit positive number has the following properties:

1. If we add the cube of the digit in the hundreds place to the product of all its digits, the result is 50.

2. If we add the square of the digit in the tens place to the sum of all its digits, the result is 61.

What is the three-digit number?

- (a) 196
- (b) 349
- (c) 273
- (d) 438

39. SBI lends a certain amount to Sanjay at a simple interest rate of 12.5% per annum for three years. Sanjay invests the entire amount in a mutual fund that compounds annually at a rate of 23% per annum. What will be Sanjay's expected earnings at the end of three years with respect to the amount he received from SBI?

- (a) 48.58%
- (b) 47.14%
- (c) 45.28%
- (d) 51.67%

40. A tank is being filled by two taps running continuously. The first tap alone can fill the tank in 20 hours, while the second tap alone can fill it in 25 hours. However, due to an unnoticed leak, the filling process is delayed by 2 hours. How much time would the leak alone take to empty 25% of the filled tank?

- (a) 11.56 hours
- (b) 16.34 hours
- (c) 18.24 hours
- (d) 20.16 hours

41. A seven-digit number comprises of only 2's and 3's. How many of these are multiples of 12?

- (a) 11
- (b) 12
- (c) 10
- (d) 22

42. In a legislative assembly, there are 87 wards, of which 52 have at most 2 aanganwadis. As part of the Kaushal Bharat Mission, 20 wards need to be selected for assistance, ensuring that at least 18 of them have at most 2 aanganwadis. In how many ways can these 20 wards be selected?

- (a) $35C18 \times 52C2 + 52C19 \times 35C1 + 52C19$

- (b) $52C18 \times 35C2 + 52C19 \times 35C1 + 52C20$
- (c) $52C19 \times 35C2 + 35C19 \times 52C1 + 52C20$
- (d) $52C19 \times 35C2 + 52C18 \times 35C1 + 35C20$

43. Direction: Read the following information carefully and answer the given questions. How many pairs of letters are there in the word "PRODUCT" each of which has as many letters between them as in the English alphabetical series (both forward and backward direction) as they have between them in the English alphabetical series?

- (a) Three
- (b) One
- (c) More than four
- (d) Two

44. If two number a and b is divided by divisor c, the remainder obtained in each case are 4 and 1 respectively. If (a + b) is divided by the same divisor c then the remainder obtained is 0, then find the value of c. The difference between the quotient in the third case and the summation between the quotient in the first and second case is 1.

- (a) 0
- (b) 4
- (c) 1
- (d) 5

45. A solid cube has side 8 cm. It is cut along diagonals of top face to get 4 equal parts. What is the total surface area (in cm²) of each part?

- (a) $96+64\sqrt{2}$
- (b) $80+64\sqrt{2}$
- (c) $96+48\sqrt{2}$
- (d) $80+48\sqrt{2}$

46. Find the mode of the following data.

2, 6, 5, 2, 4, 9, 6, 2, 66, 4, 10, 12, 6, 22, 2, 44, 9

- (a) 4
- (b) 6
- (c) 9
- (d) 2

47. Eight people are living on eight different floors of the building in such a way that the ground floor is numbered 1, the floor above that is numbered 2, and

so on till the top floor is numbered 8. Only two people live between C and E. Only two people live between E and D. F lives on the topmost floor. G lives immediately above B. A lives on one of the floors below E but above D and H. D lives on the ground floor. How many floors are there between the floors on which C and H live?

- (a) One
- (b) Three
- (c) Two
- (d) Four

Directions for the following 4 (four) items:

Read the following **three passages** and answer the items that follow each passage. Your answers to these items should be based on the passage only

PASSAGE 1

Formulated by sociologists W.I. Thomas and Dorothy Swaine Thomas, the Thomas Theorem states: "If men define situations as real, they are real in their consequences." This foundational principle of symbolic interactionism argues that people's behavior is shaped not by objective reality but by their subjective interpretation of that reality. The social construction of a situation—what people believe to be true—determines how they act, and those actions produce tangible, real-world outcomes. For instance, if a rumor of bank insolvency is widely believed, it can trigger a bank run, thereby causing the very collapse people feared. The theorem underscores the power of perception, belief, and social definition in shaping societal dynamics.

48. Which of the following is/are the most logical inference(s) that can be made from the above passage?

1. Objective facts are irrelevant to predicting social outcomes if a group collectively holds a contrary belief.
2. The theorem suggests that social scientists should prioritize studying subjective meanings over objective conditions.
3. Any situation defined as real will inevitably become objectively real, regardless of initial conditions.
4. The principle invalidates the concept of objective social reality, rendering it a purely philosophical notion.

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 4 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (d) 3 and 4 only

PASSAGE 2

The Pygmalion Effect, also known as the Rosenthal-Jacobson effect, is a psychological phenomenon in education where higher expectations placed upon individuals lead to an increase in their performance. In a landmark 1968 study, teachers were told that certain randomly selected students were "academic bloomers" poised for significant intellectual growth. By the end of the year, those students showed notably greater IQ gains. The researchers concluded that teachers' subconscious behaviors—such as offering more feedback, creating a warmer climate, or providing more challenging material—shaped the students' outcomes. This underscores the powerful role of teacher expectations as a self-fulfilling prophecy in either enabling or constraining student achievement.

49. Which of the following is/are the most logical inference(s) that can be made from the above passage?

1. The Pygmalion Effect proves that a student's inherent intellectual potential is fixed and unchangeable.
2. Teacher expectations operate as an independent variable that can causally influence measurable student performance.
3. The effect suggests that equitable education requires conscious management of the expectations educators hold for all students.
4. The original study demonstrated that only students labeled as gifted experienced any positive academic growth.

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3 only

PASSAGE 3

Public spending spans a continuum from pure consumption to capital investment. True welfare investment—like foundational healthcare, quality education, or skills training—builds human capital, enhances productivity, and yields long-term economic returns. It addresses root causes of deprivation. Short-term 'freebies,' typically untargeted consumption subsidies, offer immediate relief but can create dependency without improving productive capacity. They risk fiscal unsustainability. The critical distinction lies not in the subsidy itself, but in its design objective: whether it fosters self-reliance and future growth or merely addresses immediate political expediency through consumption.

50. Based on the passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. A direct, causal link exists between a subsidy's design for immediate consumption and its creation of individual dependency, independent of its scale or duration.
2. The "root causes of deprivation" can be effectively and exclusively addressed through human capital investments, rendering consumption-based relief redundant.
3. The primary objective of a policy is both identifiable and a sufficient criterion to predict its long-term socio-economic outcome.

Which of the assumptions given above is/are invalid?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 3 only
- (c) 1 and 2 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

51. Which one of the following most accurately captures the central idea of the passage?

- (a) The passage posits a false dichotomy, as all forms of public spending, including consumption subsidies, can be reframed as investments in social stability and aggregate demand.
- (b) It argues for a categorical rejection of all non-asset-creating subsidies by asserting they inevitably undermine fiscal health and individual agency.

(c) The core contention is that the normative valuation of a subsidy hinges on its intended outcome—productive empowerment versus consumptive relief—not merely its zero-cost nature.

(d) The central thesis is an economic one: only expenditures with a directly calculable, positive financial return on investment (ROI) for the state qualify as legitimate welfare.

52. What is the number of different positive integers between 10^6 and 10^7 , whose sum of digits is equal to 2?

- (a) 6
- (b) 7
- (c) 5
- (d) 2

53. Study the given pattern carefully and select the number that can replace the question mark (?).

| | | |
|-----|-----|----|
| 11 | 13 | 17 |
| 33 | 35 | 39 |
| 189 | 191 | ? |

- (a) 199
- (b) 217
- (c) 195
- (d) 203

Direction for the following 2 (two) items:

Read the information given below and answer the items that follow.

Mr. Chandra, the Election Commissioner of India, is scheduled to visit six states—UP, MH, WB, KL, MZ, and PB—exactly once over the course of a week in preparation for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. His schedule follows these conditions:

1. He must visit UP before visiting MH and MZ.
2. He must visit MH before visiting KL.
3. The third state he visits must be WB.

54. Which of the following statements must be true about Mr. Chandra's schedule?

- (a) He visits UP before KL.
- (b) He visits MH before MZ.
- (c) He visits WB before UP.

(d) He visits WB before PB.

55. If he visits PB first, which state must he visit second?

- (a) MZ
- (b) MH
- (c) UP
- (d) KL

56. A and B can complete a task together in 35 days.

If A works alone and completes $\frac{5}{7}$ of the task and then leaves the rest for B to complete by herself, it will take a total of 90 days to complete the task. How many days would it take A, the more efficient among the duo, to complete the entire work by herself?

- (a) 45
- (b) 48
- (c) 40
- (d) 42

57. Given below are two quantities named A and B. Based on the given information, you have to determine the relation between the two quantities. You should use the given data and your knowledge of Mathematics to choose from the possible answers.

Quantity A: The average age of a group of students going for trekking from class A is 12 years. The average age of 25 students from class B is 14 years and they are also joining the trekking trip. Then, the average age of the total group of students going for trekking is 13 years. The number of students in class A is:

Quantity B: The average salary of all the staff in an institute is Rs. 6000. The average salary of 8 workers is Rs. 5000 and the average salary of the other officers is Rs. 8000. The difference in number of workers and number of officers is:

- (a) Quantity A > Quantity B
- (b) Quantity A < Quantity B
- (c) Quantity A \geq Quantity B
- (d) Quantity A = Quantity B or no relation

58. Statements:

Only a few trees are not fruits.

No fruits are yellow.

Some yellow are bright

Conclusions:

I. All fruits can be trees is a possibility.

II. Some bright are not fruits.

- (a) Only I follows
- (b) Only II follows
- (c) Either I or II follow
- (d) Both I and II follow

59. Consider the following statements:

1. $U > V$
2. $W = X$
3. Y has the least value.
4. $Z < X$
5. $Z > U$

How many statements given above are required to determine the variable with the greatest value?

- (a) Only two
- (b) Only three
- (c) Only four
- (d) All five

60. How many zeros are there in the product $1^{50} \times 2^{49} \times 3^{48} \times \dots \times 50^1$?

- (a) 262
- (b) 261
- (c) 246
- (d) 235

Directions for the following 3 (three) items:

Read the following **two passages** and answer the items that follow each passage. Your answers to these items should be based on the passage only

PASSAGE 1

Economist Mark Carney's "third way" doctrine proposes a synthesis between traditional market capitalism and stakeholder-focused ethics. It argues for a values-based market framework where private capital is mobilized for public good through blended

finance and purpose-driven corporate governance. This model seeks to harness market efficiency for goals like climate transition and inclusive growth, moving beyond the binary of state control versus laissez-faire. It represents a pragmatic recalibration of capitalism, positioning financial systems as tools for sustainable development rather than purely profit-maximizing engines.

61. Based on the passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. Traditional models of capitalism and state socialism are inherently incapable of addressing complex challenges like climate change or inequality.
2. Financial markets possess an intrinsic, self-correcting mechanism to naturally align profit motives with long-term public welfare without deliberate redesign.
3. It is both feasible and desirable to systematically recalibrate financial incentives to generate measurable public good alongside private returns.

Which of the assumptions given above is/are invalid?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 3 only
- (c) 1 and 2 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

62. Which one of the following most accurately captures the central idea of the passage?

- (a) Carney's doctrine fundamentally rejects the utility of markets and advocates for their replacement with state-planned, value-driven economic systems.
- (b) The doctrine proposes an ethically-driven synthesis of market mechanisms and stakeholder welfare to achieve societal objectives like sustainability, rejecting a rigid state-market dichotomy.
- (c) Its core argument is that maximizing shareholder profit is the sole legitimate purpose of finance, rendering any stakeholder considerations a damaging distortion.
- (d) The "third way" is exclusively a technical model for boosting GDP growth, with ethical outcomes being an irrelevant and unintended byproduct.

PASSAGE 2

Baumol's cost disease describes the phenomenon where sectors with low productivity growth (such as live performing arts, education, or healthcare) experience rising costs and prices over time, even as their productivity remains stagnant. This occurs because wages in these sectors must increase to compete with wages in high-productivity-growth sectors (like manufacturing or technology), where output per worker rises rapidly and funds higher pay. Since productivity in the "stagnant" sector does not improve, higher wages translate directly into higher unit costs. The result is that essential services become increasingly expensive relative to other goods, often requiring greater subsidization or leading to structural budget pressures in economies as they develop.

63. Which of the following is/are the most logical inference(s) that can be made from the above passage?

1. High-productivity sectors indirectly set wage trends that low-productivity sectors cannot avoid following.
2. Without continuous technological innovation, any sector will inevitably suffer from Baumol's cost disease.
3. The rising relative cost of stagnant-sector services is a sign of economic inefficiency that should be corrected by market forces.
4. Subsidies or public funding become more critical over time for sectors afflicted by this cost disease.

- (a) 1 and 4 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 3 and 4 only

64. The value of $5\sqrt{12} + 6\sqrt{27} - 4\sqrt{75} + \sqrt{192}$ is:

- (a) $20\sqrt{3}$
- (b) $22\sqrt{3}$
- (c) $18\sqrt{3}$
- (d) $16\sqrt{3}$

65. When two values of data are changed, the mode of the data changes from 31 to 45. What will be the new mean of the data if the mean with unchanged values was 52 and the median remains the same?

- (a) 30

- (b) 45
- (c) 54
- (d) 49

66. Let x be the mode of the data 23, 26, 22, 20, 24, 20, 26, 24, 26, 23, 20, 24, 28, 22, 26. If 22 is replaced by 24, then the mode of the data is y . What approx % of the new mode is the old mode?

- (a) 107%
- (b) 108%
- (c) 109%
- (d) 200%

67. Study the following alphabetical sequence and answer the questions following it.

X Y Y Z S T R T H Y Z X R T Z Y Y X Z X Q Y G L J K

If the position of the 1st and the 14th alphabet, the 2nd and the 15th alphabet, and so on up to the 13th and the 26th alphabet, are interchanged, then which alphabet will be 9th to the right of the 12th alphabet from the right end?

- (a) X
- (b) Z
- (c) G
- (d) Y

Directions for the following 3 (three) items:

Read the following **two passages** and answer the items that follow each passage. Your answers to these items should be based on the passage only

PASSAGE 1

Pluralistic ignorance is a psychological phenomenon wherein individuals privately reject a norm, assumption, or belief, but incorrectly assume that most others accept it, and therefore publicly conform. This creates a situation where a group collectively maintains a norm that no one individually endorses. Often observed in college drinking culture, bystander inaction, or workplace silence, the mechanism relies on social cues being misinterpreted: because no one expresses dissent, each believes others' compliance reflects genuine approval. The false consensus is thus sustained by mutual misperception, not by genuine agreement. Breaking pluralistic ignorance usually

requires a dissenting voice to reveal the hidden divergence between public behavior and private belief.

68. Based on the passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. Pluralistic ignorance occurs only in situations involving moral or ethical norms.
2. Public conformity in such cases is driven by accurate perception of group beliefs.
3. The phenomenon persists because individuals avoid expressing private dissent.

Which of the assumptions given above is/are invalid?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 3 only
- (c) 1 and 2 only
- (d) None of the above

69. Which one of the following most accurately captures the central idea of the passage?

- (a) The phenomenon stems from incorrectly inferring peers' genuine support, causing public conformity to a norm that no one privately endorses.
- (b) Public conformity arises from rational observation of behavior, eventually aligning group norms with private beliefs without dissent.
- (c) It is caused by a communication failure, not misread cues, creating norms everyone privately accepts but believes are unpopular.
- (d) It is an intentional strategy to enforce stability, where dissent is suppressed to preserve a functional consensus, not from misperception.

PASSAGE 2

Sociologist George Ritzer's concept of "McDonaldization" describes the process by which the principles of the fast-food restaurant—efficiency, calculability, predictability, and control—are coming to dominate more and more sectors of society. These principles prioritize speed, quantity over quality, uniform experience, and the substitution of human labor with non-human technology. While offering convenience and consistency, McDonaldization leads to the irrationality of rationality: systems designed for optimal efficiency often produce dehumanizing outcomes, reduced creativity, and a disenchantment

with the world. This process is evident in education (standardized testing), healthcare (assembly-line medicine), and even leisure. It represents the extension of bureaucratic and rationalized systems into the fabric of everyday life.

70. Based on the passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. The spread of McDonaldisation is an inevitable and irreversible feature of all modern societies.
2. The principles of efficiency and predictability inherently conflict with human creativity and individuality.
3. Any system that becomes more rationalized will automatically improve overall human welfare.

Which of the assumptions given above is/are valid?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1 and 2 only
- (d) 2 and 3 only

71. What will come in the place of question mark (?) in the following number series?

2, 3, -1, 8, -8, ?

- (a) 8
- (b) 12
- (c) 17
- (d) 20

72. Find the wrong term in the given series.

12, 34, 100, 296, 892, 2674

- (a) 34
- (b) 892
- (c) 296
- (d) 2674

73. When 200 is divided by a positive integer x, the remainder is 8. How many values of x are there?

- (a) 6
- (b) 8
- (c) 7
- (d) 5

74. Rajesh a shopkeeper uses false balance and defrauds up to 11% while purchasing the goods from the wholesaler and then also defraud to 11% while selling the goods to the customers at the cost price. Find the approximate profit percentage of Rajesh in the whole process.

- (a) 20%
- (b) 25%
- (c) 15%
- (d) 6%

Directions for the following 3 (three) items:

Read the following **two passages** and answer the items that follow each passage. Your answers to these items should be based on the passage only

PASSAGE 1

Persistent food inflation presents a "Goldilocks" conundrum for monetary policy. If inflation is too high (hot), it erodes purchasing power, disproportionately harms the poor, and risks unanchoring expectations. If policy tightening is too aggressive (cold), it risks stifling farm credit and broader growth. The challenge lies in finding a just-right "Goldilocks" stance: balancing the need to cool specific price pressures without freezing the overall economic ecosystem. This requires targeted supply-side interventions alongside calibrated demand management, acknowledging that food prices are a unique blend of volatile supply shocks and monetary conditions.

75. Based on the passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. The tools of monetary policy are perfectly suited to address the supply-side drivers that frequently cause food price volatility.
2. There exists a precise and stable policy setting that can reliably contain inflation without ever negatively impacting economic growth or credit flow.
3. Food inflation carries a unique socio-economic weight that makes its management more complex than tackling core inflation.

Which of the assumptions given above is/are invalid?

- (a) 1 only

- (b) 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1 and 2 only

76. Which one of the following most accurately captures the central idea of the passage?

- (a) The primary cause of food inflation is always excess monetary demand, making aggressive interest rate hikes the singularly appropriate policy response.
- (b) Managing food inflation is a delicate balancing act, as the policy response must avoid the twin perils of entrenched high prices and an overly restrictive growth environment.
- (c) The "Goldilocks" analogy proves that food inflation is ultimately beneficial, as it naturally corrects itself without any need for government or central bank intervention.
- (d) The passage argues that supply-side factors are irrelevant; central banks should focus exclusively on controlling aggregate demand to tame food prices.

PASSAGE 2

Employees need clarity not just on what is changing, but on how it enhances their work and supports their growth. The value proposition of new tools, platforms, and processes must be communicated with precision and empathy. The real impact comes from conversations, coaching, and contextual guidance. Data may inform decisions, but it is people – through dialogue, feedback, and shared understanding – who drive change. Preserving the human connection ensures that transformation is not only efficient, but also inclusive, meaningful, and sustainable.

77. Which one of the following best captures the keynote emerging from the passage?

- (a) Effective transformation balances data-driven decisions with sustained human-centered engagement.
- (b) Organizational change succeeds when employees understand tools and processes clearly.
- (c) Communication clarity is essential for aligning workforce behavior with transformation goals.
- (d) Inclusive change depends on integrating technology adoption with employee skill development

78. Seven women and seven men are to sit round a circular table such that there is a man on either side of every women, then the number of seating arrangements is

- (a) $(17!)^2$
- (b) $(6!)^2$
- (c) $6! \times 7!$
- (d) $7!$

79. $(n+2)! = 2550 \times n!$, then n is:

- (a) 50
- (b) 49
- (c) 52
- (d) 48

80. 20 persons are invited for a party. The number of ways in which they and the host can be seated at a circular table, if two particular persons be seated on either side of the host is equal to

- (a) $2 \cdot (18)!$
- (b) $18! \cdot 3!$
- (c) $9! \cdot 2!$
- (d) None of these

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