
ANSWER KEY

1	b	2	d	3	c	4	c	5	c
11	d	12	b	13	a	14	b	15	a
21	d	22	c	23	c	24	d	25	d
31	b	32	c	33	c	34	c	35	d
41	b	42	b	43	c	44	c	45	a
51	b	52	d	53	b	54	c	55	a
61	d	62	a	63	d	64	d	65	a
71	c	72	a	73	c,d	74	a,c	75	c,b

6	c	7	b	8	c	9	c	10	c
16	c	17	d	18	a	19	b	20	a
26	a	27	a	28	b	29	a	30	c
36	a	37	c	38	a	39	b	40	b
46	b	47	a	48	d	49	d	50	b
56	c	57	c	58	b	59	c	60	c
66	b	67	a	68	d	69	c	70	b
76	d,b	77	a,c	78	b,d	79	d,b	80	d,c

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Commission" and that "from their inception, pioneered the recognition of caste as the most critical political factor." Statement 2 is incorrect since the passage clearly mentions that the role of scholars, including those in CSDS, led to "complicating our understanding of actually existing democracy" and not that the role of CSDS was further complicated as a result.

3. c The last paragraph discusses the threat to intellectualism indicating that the threat is due to academisation and submission to the demands of the media industry (flashy requirements of the media). Option (c) fits in with one of the reasons for why intellectual life (scholarship and research) is threatened today and is the correct answer. Option (a) is incorrect as the decline of the need for knowledge cannot be inferred from the paragraph. Option (b) can be ruled out as there is no information to suggest the negative effect politics has on intellectual life. Option (d) is incorrect because the paragraph talks about the Indian context and does not imply that the need to adhere to certain protocols of scholarly rigour is the trend "the world over."

1. b Though the passage starts with a reference to an interview talking about "three valuable contributions of CSDS to political thought in India," this is just an introduction on and is not the main idea of the passage. Moreover, the claim that the CSDS has led intellectual thought in India is called as being "highly exaggerated." Thus, option (a) is negated. Options (c) and (d) just denote part of the author's argument and not the main idea of the passage.

2. d Statement 1 is incorrect since the passage clearly mentions that "it was in fact political parties that were responsible for the Mandal

4. c Option (a) can be ruled out because there is no discussion issue of choice of religious affiliation in the Maoist cause. Option (b) can be ruled out because the author does not present a case against the Maoists and their cause. Option (c) can be inferred from the subject matter of the passage - the Maoists celebrating Christmas and the analysis in the last paragraph that such gestures are necessary to garner support among the tribals. Option (d) is incorrect because the passage does not dwell on the issue of support from political parties.

5. c Option (a) is contrary to what is stated in the passage and is therefore incorrect. Option (b) cannot be inferred as the passage merely

states that the Maoist leadership has merely given a 'carte blanche', which means complete freedom, to the cadres "to celebrate the various festivals either with their families or individually if they so wish." This doesn't imply that the leadership is "subtly promoting" the celebration of religious festivals. Option (d) cannot be inferred from information in the passage. Only option (c) is true as the passage clearly states that "due to recently-intensified police action and anti- Maoist operations in the districts, the cadres deliberately avoid going to their native villages fearing arrest".

6. c The passage clearly mentions that the Maoists are not merely driven by charity in their efforts to connect with the villagers. They also have ulterior motives as they "cannot afford to antagonise the villagers with whose support they survive in the villages." Statement 1 is therefore negated. Statement 2 also does not find support in the passage. Only statement 3 can be inferred as the passage clearly states that "There is a carte blanche from the Maoist leadership for the cadres "to celebrate the various festivals either with their families or individually if they so wish."

7. b Option (a) is a general statement not entirely supported by the information in the passage. Option (c) runs contrary to the facts presented in the passage and is incorrect. Option (d) presents a conclusion that is beyond the scope of the passage. Option (b) is the correct answer as the passage clearly mentions that "Although India is not a party to the disputes roiling these freezing waters, we are smoking something really strange if we think conflict or confrontation here will not affect us deeply."

8. c The passage starts by mentioning the likelihood of major geopolitical changes in the Asia-Pacific region and the need for India "to

craft out a detailed policy on everything from the Sea of Japan to South China Sea and all the way up to the Straits of Hormuz." The passage then goes on to chronicle several political changes that have taken place in the region and concludes by saying, "It's important therefore, for India to craft a position that can roll off the tongue as easily by the soldier as the diplomat." Option (c) presents the same point and is therefore the correct answer.

9. c It is clearly mentioned in the passage that "putting some meat on the bones of Japanese defence structures" will be instrumental in "helping the international cause of keeping sea lanes free for navigation." It is also mentioned that India's position on the South China sea dispute can be effectively drawn up only "after an honest assessment of its strategic interests and concerns over the coming decades".

10. c The passage clearly mentions that "If one removed 1962 out of the equation, the fears perhaps would not be so exaggerated." Also it is clearly mentioned that "An asymmetry in expectations and perceptions led to 1962, which is why calling it the great betrayal would be an incomplete assessment of historical facts." Thus both statements 1 and 2 are true in context of the passage and option (c) is the answer.

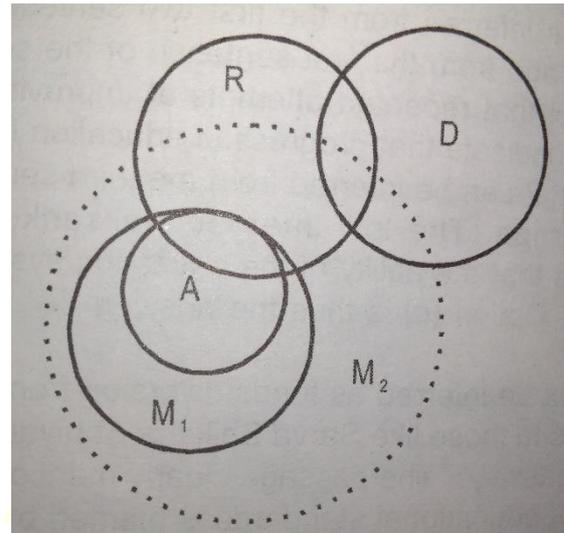
11. d Option (a) can be inferred from the statement "even during the best of times, the two countries viewed each other through very different ideological prisms:" Option (b) can be inferred from the statement "insecurity, mistrust and suspicion along with preconceived notions of the other have always played havoc with any progress made in this troubled relationship." The passage mentions Tibet as one of the contentious issues in the India-China relationship. Thus, option (c) also follows from the passage.

There is no mention of the deceptive policies of the Chinese political class. Thus option (d) is the answer.

12. b The passage clearly mentions that "Cultural ties among equals do not exist in Chinese centred thinking. So Mao and Zhou Enlai, never shared Nehru's perceptions of commonality of cultures and found much of what Nehru said rather insulting." Also the Chinese leadership did not reciprocate Nehru's emphasis on "ancient historical ties between the two civilisations." Rather they found him "patronising" and "arrogant". From all of these points it can be inferred that China did not consider India an equal in terms of culture. Thus, option (b) is the correct answer.

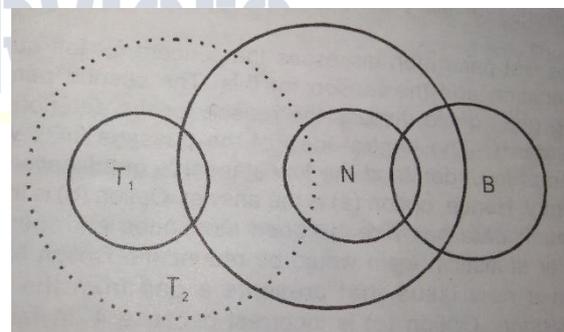
13. a In the given statement when it is said that the government may have to freeze the diesel subsidy to protect the budget numbers it is assumed that somehow the freezing of diesel subsidy will affect or have an influence on the budget numbers. Options (b) and (c) are incorrect because the statement does not discuss the increase or decrease in the budget numbers, it only talks about the protection of budget numbers. Option (d) is incorrect because the control of budget numbers is not discussed in the passage. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

14. b



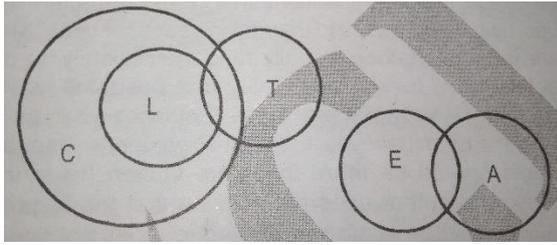
Option (b) is the correct answer. Since some 'Republic' is 'Athenian' and all 'Athenian' is 'majority', it can be concluded that some republic is majority. As shown in the diagram above, the other options are possibilities and hence cannot be concluded definitely.

15. a



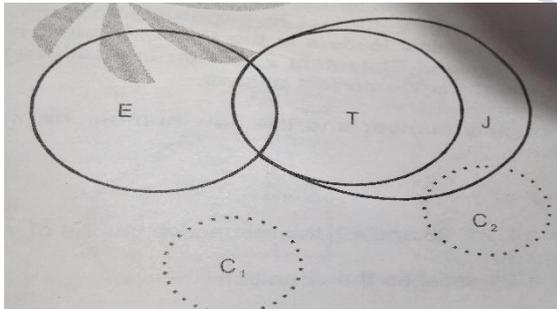
Since some novels are books and all novels are comic, it can be concluded that some books (which are novels) are comic. Thus, option (a) can be concluded from the given statements and hence is the correct answer. The sets of 'tragic' and 'novel' may or may not intersect as shown in the diagram above. Hence, options (b) and (d) can be negated. Option (c) contradicts the third statement and, thus, is incorrect.

16. c



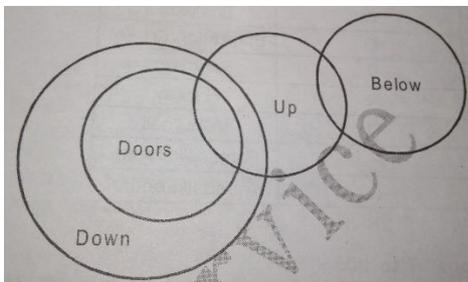
'Logic' is a subset of cause. Since some 'logic' is 'taken', it follows that some 'cause' is 'taken'. Hence, option (c) can be concluded and is the correct answer. As shown in the diagram above, 'cause' and 'affect' may or may not intersect. Similarly, we cannot comment upon the interaction of 'effect' and 'taken' and 'affect' and 'taken'.

17.d



Since all 'term' is 'jumble', that part of the set of 'exercise' which is 'term', is 'jumble'. Option (d) is the correct answer. 'Exercise' and 'Critical' can be disjoint sets. Thus, option (a) is incorrect. Options (b) and (c) contradict the

18. a

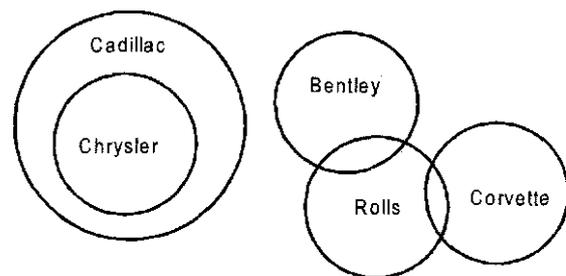


As shown in the diagram above, option (a) can be concluded. Since 'down' and 'below' are disjoint sets, 'doors', which is a subset of down, is also disjoint with 'below'.

19. b The statement tells us that the precise forms in which the people address those in positions of political authority is governed by strict rules, Option (a) is ruled out because it wrongly states that people address precise forms whereas the statement does not say anything to this effect. Option (b) can be concluded from the given statement as it rightly states that strict rules control the precise forms in which people address those in positions of political authority. Options (c) and (d) are also incorrect as they cannot be concluded based on the given information in the statement. Hence, option (b) is correct answer.

20. a The very fact that the introduction of a broader web address regime is being contemplated implies that such a measure is desirable. Thus, option (a) is the correct answer. Option (b) is negated as the keenness of the ICANN, to implement the changes, cannot be inferred on the basis of the given statement. Options (c) and (d) are not supported by the

21. d



Option (d) is the correct answer. Since all 'Chrysler' is 'Cadillac', it can be concluded that some 'Cadillac' are 'Chrysler'. All other options do not follow.

22. c The statement only tells us that the easing of inflation will be a decisive factor in the policy rate cut by the central bank. Option (c) can be concluded based on the given statement because as per the given statement it is clear that easing of inflation will be a basis

of policy rate cut by the central bank. All other options do not correspond with the given statement. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

For questions 23 to 26: The given information can be tabulated as shown below:

Section	Name of Students	Sports
A	S	Cricket/Badminton
	W	Basketball
	Q	Badminton/Cricket
B	V	Swimming
	R	Hockey
	U	Volleyball
C	P	Football/kabaddi
	T	Kabaddi/ Football

23. c 24. d 25. d 26. a

For questions 27 to 30:

Let the total number of each type of coins with magician be x and the amount given to each person be y .

∴ Initial amount with magician =

$$X \times (1 + 2) = \text{Rs. } 3x$$

Final amount with magician =

$$3 \times (9x - y) - y = 0 \times 4$$

$$\Rightarrow 27x = 4y \Rightarrow \frac{x}{y} = \frac{4}{27}$$

Therefore, the minimum number of each type of coins with magician must be 4.

27. a

28. b Minimum amount given to each person = Rs. 27.

29. a Since each person is given Rs. 54, the initial number of each type of coins will be 8. In order to maximize number of Re 1 coins for second person, number of Rs. 2 coins given to 1st person must be maximum i.e. 24.

Therefore, the number Re 1 coins left after giving the amount to person is 18. Hence, the maximum Re. 1 coins that can be given to 2nd person is 54.

30. c From explanation given in Q. 29, the number is 6.

31. b The writer primarily highlights the poignant one-sidedness of Indian literature presented abroad all these years - which is mostly 'Indian Writing in English' and which ignores the "tremendous multi-dimensional literary output in so many regional languages." The author then goes onto pinpoint the reasons responsible for this state of affairs. Thus option (b) is the correct answer. Option (d) can not be inferred from the passage. Option (a) is contradictory to what is stated in the passage while option (c) is only one aspect of the highlighted issue.

32. c Statement 1 cannot be inferred as it is not the fact of Indian writers writing in English but the "plain ignorance in certain award circles that is preventing recognition." Statement 2 follows from the passage as it is mentioned that "a lack of a good body of translated work" is partly to blame for lack of awareness which in turn is responsible for regional Indian literature being ignored by an international audience. Statement 3 also has not been mentioned in the passage as a reason for Indian literature not winning Nobel recognition. Thus option (c) is the answer.

33. c The passage clearly highlights the responsibility of "state institutions - our national academy of letters, the Sahitya Akademi and the National Book Trust - for not having bothered to invest in translation and outreach activity adequately." There is also the mention of Arunava Sinha that he "couldn't agree more, both on the need to take Indian regional literature to the world - as "the literature that perhaps best tells the

India story." Thus, both these statements follow from the passage and option (c) is the answer.

34. c Statement 1 can be inferred from the first two sentences of the first paragraph and from the first sentence of the second paragraph. The fact that repeated attempts at improving the system have failed indicate that progress in education is long overdue.

Statement 2 can be inferred from the third sentence of the first paragraph. The low international ranking on education indicates that the ability of the education system to deliver is in doubt. Option (c) is thus the answer.

35. d Statement 1 cannot be inferred as funds diversion from more beneficial schemes to those like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is not mentioned in the passage. The passage clearly mentions that the deterioration of educational standards is blamed by some on "the new educational policies that now allow children to move unhindered from one class to another with no fear of detention for academic non performance." Thus statement 2 can be inferred from the passage.

Statement 3 cannot be inferred because it is an opinion of the future impact of currently retaining students. Thus option (d) is the answer.

36. a The first paragraph discusses the concern for the quality of education and the reason for this. The second paragraph also goes on to discuss the reason for the deterioration in standards. The central idea of the passage links with an attempt to understand the low standards of education in the country. Hence, option (a) is the answer. Option (b) is incorrect as such data has already been mentioned and mentioning similar statistics again would be redundant. Option (d) takes upon a new, issue that presents a gap from the current discussion.

Option (c) is incorrect because it deviates from the central idea.

37. c The passage clearly mentions that the Indian Constitution has a bold and soaring vision and India's leaders have not been able to internalize this. Rather, they just pay lip service to it. Thus option (c) is the answer. Options (a), (b) and (d) cannot be inferred from the passage.

38. a The passage clearly mentions that "President after President gives insipid addresses to the nation year after year." Moreover there is "tired rhetoric, usually read inarticulately, to a nation that lives in a harsh daily reality that frustrates its citizens, especially the young." From these sentences it can be inferred that the author believes that the President's Republic Day address should be more inspiring. Option (b) is incorrect because the author does not indicate that the Republic Day parade should be abolished. Option (c) does not find support in the passage. Option (d) is incorrect because the author only relates the Republic Day parade and not Indian politics to the Soviet era.

39. b There is no comparison made as to whether people in India have a more stressful life than people in other countries. Thus, statement 1 cannot be inferred. The passage states that we, in India, "despite being a nation in which a clear majority is young, genuflect to geriatric hierarchy when selecting our political leaders in the timeless tradition of an ancient civilization." Statement 2 can be inferred from this. Thus, option (b) is the correct answer.

40. b Let the original number and the new number be x and y respectively.

$$x + \frac{x}{7} = y \rightarrow y = \frac{8x}{7}$$

When $x = 14, 21, 28$ and 49 , the respective values of y are $16, 24, 32$ and 56 .

Hence, $x = 21$ satisfies the condition.

41. b Total marks obtained by 30 students = $30 \times 25 = 750$

Maximum possible aggregate marks of remaining 25 students = $25 \times 28 = 700$

Since maximum possible aggregate marks of the remaining 25 students is less than the total aggregate marks of 30 students, the maximum possible average marks of the remaining 25 students can be equal to the maximum possible marks of the test.

Hence, the answer = $28 - 25 = 3$.

42. b Number of families in the society who read at most two newspapers

= Total number of families - number of families who read all the three newspapers = $70 - 12 = 58$.

43. c Number of families in the society who read either TOI or The Hindu = Total number of families who read at least one of the newspaper - number of families who read only Punjab Kesari = $67 - 12 = 55$.

44. c The terms at odd numbered positions are $3, 3^2, 3^3, 3^4, \dots$

The terms at even numbered positions are $2, 2^2, 2^3, 2^4, \dots$. Hence, the missing term = $3^4 = 81$.

45. a The pattern of the sequence is shown below:

$$1 + 20 = 21$$

$$21 - 8 = 13$$

$$13 + 20 = 33$$

$$33 - 8 = 25$$

$$25 + 20 = 45$$

$$45 - 8 = 37$$

Hence, 37 is the next term.

46. b As T is mother of S and S is sister of P, T must be mother of P as well. Hence, T is grandmother of Q.

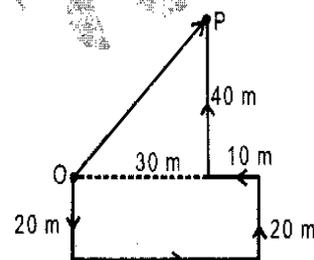
47. a Since Billu is the son of only child of Chandrika's father, Chandrika must be the Mother of Billu. Also, David is the brother of Billu, therefore Anita is the sister-in-law of David.

48. d Since A is adjacent to B, D and F, either C or E is opposite to A. Therefore, C and E cannot be opposite to each other. Hence, C must be adjacent to E.

49. d When the sheet is folded to form a cube, then each of the image contained (including shaded one as well) faces must be adjacent to the other two. By observing the given sheet, it can be asserted that cube (4) corresponds to the formed cube. By turning cube (4), cube (1) can be obtained. Therefore, cube (1) also corresponds to the formed cube. Now by turning cube (1) cube (2) can be obtained. Also, in cube (2) shaded face is opposite to the blank visible face. By comparing cube (3) with cube (2), it can be concluded that cube (3) does not correspond to the formed cube. Hence, option (d) is correct answer.

50. b

The movements can be shown as given below:



In the diagram above, O is the initial and P is the position of

Required distance OP = $\sqrt{30^2 + 40^2} = 50$ m.

51. b Thousands place can be filled in 3 ways and rest of the three places can be filled in $3 \times 2 \times 1$ ways.

Hence, the number of numbers = $3 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 18$

52. d It can be inferred from the first paragraph that the media currently projects "India as a nation in perpetual rage." Hence option (d) is the answer. Option (a) is incorrect because the author does not mention the fact that the media is only interested in news from big cities. Option (b) is incorrect because the passage indicates that the media brings out its version of events; however, there is no indication that the media distorts the truth. Option (c) is incorrect because it is not the main focus of the author. The perception that India is in perpetual rage has been mentioned in the passage. But it is referred to as an outcome of the workings of the media and it is the workings of the media that the author dwells on to a larger extent.

53. b Option (a) is an overarching generalization which, though true, does not explain why the mood of the nation has emerged as one of "perpetual rage". Option (c) is again a general statement which does not explain the belligerent mood of the nation. Option (b) is the correct answer as it explains how the campaign style journalism of the media has contributed to India's image as a "nation in perpetual rage."

54. c Statement 1 can be inferred as the passage mentions that due to the media response to the rape of a 23 year old student in Delhi, the Prime Minister was compelled "to deliver a speech and institute a commission to recommend changes in laws to deal with sexual offences". Statement 2 can be inferred from the statement that the

"bristling tone of media reports saw the return of Pakistani hockey players to their country and New Delhi temporarily suspending a new visa agreement with Pakistan". Thus, option (c) is the correct answer.

55. a Options (b), (c) and (d) cannot be inferred from the information in the passage. However it is clearly mentioned that "what's more important for India Inc is the need to define what CSR really means and how to go about measuring it." Option (a) follows from this and is the correct answer.

56. c It is clearly mentioned in the passage that "alignment with the UNGC and MDGs will enable India to become globally visible to more investors and also help drive competitiveness." Thus, option (c) is the correct answer.

57. c The passage mentions that "CSR in India is currently dispersed or overly diverse." It states that lot of efforts are being undertaken by corporates but "so many add up to nothing." The passage concludes by saying "One way to help scale up this process is to look to harness the power of IT to do one very simple thing: connect the participants better." Thus, option (c) is the correct answer. Option (a) has been mentioned as a cause for the need of CSR, rather than an alternation to the system. Options (b) and (d) are not supported by the information in the passage.

58. b For the season 2002-03 the winning percentage was maximum which was equal to 58.33%.

59. c Statement (a) is true as the winning percentage in 2007-08 was 47.62% and that of in 2006-07 was 42.86%. Statement (b) is also true as in both years winning ratio was same which was equal to 4 : 7. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

60. c Total number of examinees

$$= \frac{360}{15} \times 30 = 720.$$

61. d Total number of males who passed the examination

$$\frac{210}{360} \times 720 = 420.$$

62. a Total number of females who passed the examination

$$= \frac{135}{360} \times 720 = 270$$

∴ The required percentage

$$= \frac{270}{720} \times 100 = 37.5.$$

63. d Since the total number of females is not known, hence the given percentage cannot be calculated.

64. d From the sentence "Nearly seven years ... months of World War" it can be said that World War went on for two years and four months. All other options are not true according to the information available in the passage. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

65. a The sentence "how the fall of... me and others." tells us that the author was saddened by the fall of Republican Spain. The information available in the passage does not tell us whether Fascism and Nazism were opposed to each other or not. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

66. b Based on the sentence "I remember how ... but many in India." One can say that the author gave a reaction to Fascism in its early days. There is no information available in the passage from which it can be determined that the author was a detective, politician or wished to gain world dominion. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

67. a Based on the sentence "Ivan Ivanovitch, a tall ... in the moonlight." one can say that Ivan was an old man. The passage does not provide any information to ascertain all the other options. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

68. d Refer to the sentence "Burkin was lying ... seen in the darkness." This sentence tells us that Burkin could not be seen because of the darkness. According to the passage all the other options do not fit as the reason why Burkin could not be seen. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

69. c Based on the sentence "At the furthest... the elder Prokofy's barn", we can conclude that Prokofy's barn was not at the center of the village. All other options cannot be verified based on the information given in the passage. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

70. b Based on the sentences "Although they lived in ... never enough money", we can say that the boy and the two little girls felt anxious because there wasn't sufficient money to meet the household expenses. Options (a) and (c) are not true according to the information available in the passage. Option (d) is evidently not the reason why they felt anxious. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

71. c From the sentences "But though he ... was always kept up." it can be said that the father could never materialize his good prospects and even with the shortage of money the family lived in style. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

72. a Option (a) is the true as per the passage. The sentence "The mother had ... had to keep up." tells us that the family was forced to keep up their social position. All other options are not true as per the passage because the

passage does not provide any information that supports these options. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

73. c, d Option (c) is the best choice since, if the employees have permission to travel as per their old entitlements, there is no problem in you making their travel arrangements accordingly. However, since this is an exception to stated corporate policy, it is essential that you have adequate proof of the permission for the exception. Option (d) is the next best choice as, given that the situation involves a conflict with existing policy, it would be prudent for you to seek guidance from your superiors in the matter. Option (a) is incorrect, since you cannot blindly ignore company policy and make the arrangements without verifying the matter. Option (b) is an extreme step to take in the given situation and is thus negated.

74. a, c Option (a) is the best course of action since the teachers have clearly acted in contravention of policy and need to be held accountable for the breach. Moreover, getting them to return the fees that they have accepted would serve as an example and a deterrent for the future. Informing the parents about the school policy and request them to adhere to it is the next best thing to do as once they know the policy they would be disinclined to entertain any requests for extra payment from the teachers. Options (b) and (d) are extreme measures that should not be resorted to as a first recourse.

75. c, b Option (a) is negated since it amounts to a case of dereliction of duty on your part. Option (d) is also inappropriate as the issue is in clear contravention of established laws and there is no ambiguity that would require you to approach your seniors to seek guidance. Option (c) is the best choice since, given the officer's rank, it would be best that you inform him of the breach and request him to

rectify the situation himself. Option (b) is the next best choice, as it would ensure that the illegal construction is stopped in keeping with legal requirements.

76. d, b Option (d) is the best choice since as a state police official it is your duty to help a citizen in distress. However, it is also incumbent upon you to check the veracity of the actor's claims before deciding on the kind and level of security to provide. Thus a temporary security cover is the best thing you can do at the outset. Checking the threat perception is the logical next step, making option (b) the next best choice. Option (a) is incorrect as it represents a discriminatory attitude. Option (c) is negated, as a custodian of the law, it is unseemly for you to take such a flippant attitude to a genuine complaint.

77. a, c Option (a) is the best choice as here you are not diluting your organization's standards with regards to loan disbursement. Option (c) is the next best course of action, as it would enable you to help your son in law, though it would involve deviating from set procedures and this could set a wrong precedent for others. Option (b) denotes an unprofessional and unethical choice and is thus negated.

78. b, d Options (a) and (c) are negated as they represent a breach of the principle of lawyer - client confidentiality. Option (b) represents the best choice here since, as a lawyer it is your duty to ensure that justice is done. Getting your client to confess to his crime and entering a plea bargain would best serve the cause of justice in this case. Option (d) is the next best choice since you are not under any obligation to take up any and every case that comes your way, specially if it is in conflict with your personal values.

79. d, b Option (d) is the best choice here since, as the team leader, it is your

responsibility to ensure your team's performance and to probe reasons for poor performance of any individual. You are also responsible to ensure that your team members stay motivated and to take remedial measures if this is not the case. Since, in the current scenario your team member is finding the work monotonous, you can try to motivate him by offering him new opportunities or fields to work in. The sheer novelty of a new assignment is likely to interest him in the challenge and serve to motivate him. Thus, option (b) is the next best choice.

80. d, c Since you need to fill in the position by promoting at least one person due to the increased work pressure, the best thing would be to promote the person who has performed better than the others. But, since he has not cleared the review, it is appropriate that such a promotion be made on a probationary basis to be confirmed subject to his performance in the role. Thus, option (d) is the best choice. Option (c) is the next best course since, given the requirement to promote at least one person, this represents middle of the way solution to fill the position. Option (b) is negated since it is not appropriate considering the urgency of appointing someone to the post immediately. Option (a) is unfair and in contravention of policy.