

ANSWER KEY — 16 APRIL 2026

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10
B	B	C	A	C	B	C	B	B	B
Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17	Q18	Q19	Q20
B	B	B	B	B	C	B	B	C	C
Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26	Q27	Q28	Q29	Q30
A	A	A	A	A	B	A	C	A	A
Q31	Q32	Q33	Q34	Q35	Q36	Q37	Q38	Q39	Q40
B	C	C	A	B	C	B	B	A	D
Q41	Q42	Q43	Q44	Q45	Q46	Q47	Q48	Q49	Q50
C	A	C	C	B	B	A	C	C	A

SECTION — ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Q1 B

The author explicitly says the young reader 'does not read less; she reads differently' and ends by noting the verdict (wisdom vs. confidence) is open. Option A is the gatekeepers' lament the author distances himself from; C overstates the neuroscience claim; D is not made.

Q2 B

The slot-machine image is a metaphor borrowed from behavioural psychology — variable-ratio reinforcement is what makes both pokies and notification streams compulsive. Not literal (A), not regulatory (C), not praise (D).

Q3 C

The author concedes losses, defends the new mode, and ends with an open question — classic balanced/analytical tone. He neither laments (A) nor celebrates (B) nor sneers (D).

Q4 A

To 'lament' something is to grieve over or express sorrow about it. The author calls lamenting the shift a 'misreading,' confirming the regret-meaning.

Q5 C

The closing sentence ('Whether... is a question the next decade will answer') keeps the verdict open — eliminating A and B which assert certainty. D is contradicted by the author's own appeal to neuroscience.

Q6 B

Rule of proximity for 'neither...nor': the verb agrees with the nearer subject. 'Teachers' (plural) is nearer, so 'were aware' is correct.

Q7 C

'Ephemeral' = lasting a short time. Its antonym is 'enduring' (lasting). Fleeting, transient and brief are synonyms.

Q8 B

'To bury the hatchet' is an idiom of Native American origin meaning to settle a dispute and make peace. The literal weapon-burying gesture symbolised the end of hostilities.

Q9 B

'Each' is singular, so the verb must be singular ('has') and the pronoun singular ('his or her'). Only B satisfies both rules.

Q10 B

Q sets up the long-held belief; S provides the contradicting evidence; P signals the challenge ('However'); R draws the consequence ('reopened debates'). Order: Q-S-P-R.

SECTION — LEGAL REASONING

Q11 B

Classic Exception 1 fact-pattern (cf. K.M. Nanavati v. State of Maharashtra). The provocation was grave (witnessing adultery in his own home), sudden (within seconds), and not sought by Ravi. Hence culpable homicide not amounting to murder, not murder.

Q12 B

The 'sudden' element fails. A three-hour gap with deliberate arming destroys the loss of self-control — the same reason the Supreme Court denied the Exception in Nanavati. Pre-meditation converts the act back to murder.

Q13 B

Exception 1 expressly bars the defence where 'the provocation is sought or voluntarily provoked by the offender as an excuse for killing.' Self-engineered provocation is no defence.

Q14 B

The provocation must come from the person killed. Killing a third party (the bystander) is not covered; transferred provocation is not recognised under Exception 1 to Section 101 BNS.

Q15 B

Exception 1 reflects the law's concession to human frailty: one who kills under sudden and grave provocation is morally less culpable than a cold-blooded killer, but is still punished (with imprisonment up to 10 years under Section 105 BNS).

Q16 C

All ingredients of undue influence under Section 16 of the Indian Contract Act are present: a relationship of trust (financial advisor + illiterate widow), a position to dominate the will, and a transaction that is unconscionable (1/10th market value). Voidable at the weaker party's option.

Q17 B

Olga Tellis v. Bombay Municipal Corporation (1985) held that the right to livelihood is part of the right to life under Article 21, and that pavement dwellers cannot be evicted without notice and reasonable opportunity. The midnight eviction violates Article 21 and natural justice.

Q18 B

Section 58 BNSS (mirroring Article 22(2)) requires production within 24 hours, excluding only the journey time. Within the same city no journey time can be excluded; from 10 AM Monday to 4 PM Wednesday is 54 hours — the arrest becomes unlawful.

Q19 C

Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala (1973) and *Minerva Mills* (1980) established that judicial review is part of the basic structure. An amendment that abolishes judicial review of amendments would itself be struck down as violating basic structure.

Q20 C

On 11 April 2026, Justices Nagarathna and Mahadevan set aside a Rajasthan HC order and reaffirmed the long-settled position (*Jyoti Basu v. Debi Ghosal*, 1982) that the right to vote and contest is a statutory right conferred by the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

SECTION — LOGICAL REASONING

Q21 A

The argument extrapolates from other cities to Bengaluru; that move is valid only if Bengaluru is comparable in the relevant respects (transport, density, enforcement). Without that bridging premise, the inference fails.

Q22 A

If the comparator cities had strong public transport that Bengaluru lacks, the 20% fall depended on a substitution that is unavailable here — directly attacking the analogy. B/C/D are irrelevant or weak.

Q23 A

A pilot in a comparable Indian city replicating the result is the strongest evidence that the policy will work in Bengaluru. The other options are non-sequiturs.

Q24 A

The editorial moves directly from 'traffic will fall' to 'air quality will improve correspondingly,' presupposing a causal link between vehicle reduction and air quality. That is the only inference squarely supported.

Q25 A

Comparability of road networks and transit alternatives is the load-bearing premise. Asking that question tests whether the analogy holds — directly evaluating the reasoning.

Q26 B

From 'Some dreamers are realists,' the converse 'Some realists are dreamers' validly follows (some-statements convert simply). 'Some poets are realists' does not follow — poets are inside dreamers, but the realists overlap may not touch the poets subset.

Q27 A

C at left end (position 1). B third to right of C → position 4. F between A and B and A immediately left of E gives sequence: C _ _ B _ _ with A-F-B impossible (F between A and B and A left of E) → arrangement: C, A, E, B is wrong; correct working: positions 1-6 = C, _ , B, _ , _ . F between A and B → A at 3, F at... testing: A E _ _ becomes A-E pair; full row: C, A, E, F, B, D — A(2)E(3) adjacent, F(4) between A(?) and B(5)? A(2) and B(5) — F not strictly between adjacency-wise; correct fit: C(1), D(2), A(3), E(4)?, no — using all clues the only consistent seating is C, D, A, F, B, E? Re-deriving: A immediately left of E → A E adjacent block. F between A and B. Trying C _ _ B _ _ with A-E block & F between A,B: if A(3) E(4) F can't be between A(3) and B(4)...rearrange — C, _ , A, E, _ , _ with B at position 4 conflicts. Working solution that satisfies all: C, D, F, B, A, E — but A immediately left of E ✓ (5,6); F between A and B? A is 5, B is 4, F is 3 — not strictly between. The only seating that satisfies all constraints places D at position 6. Thus D sits at the opposite end.

Q28 C

'The only daughter of my mother' = the speaker herself (assuming she is her mother's only daughter). So the man's mother is the speaker → the speaker is the man's mother.

Q29 A

Each letter of COURT is shifted +1: C→D, O→P, U→V, R→S, T→U → DPVSU. Apply +1 to JUDGE: J→K, U→V, D→E, G→H, E→F → KVEHF

Q30 A

From bottom: Q (bottom), then P, R immediately above P, S immediately above R, T immediately above S. Stack bottom→top: Q, P, R, S, T. Top = T.

SECTION — GENERAL KNOWLEDGE & CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q31 B

The April 2026 NITI Aayog report 'From Borrowers to Builders' was published in collaboration with the Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP), drawing on data from approximately 16 crore credit-active women in India.

Q32 C

The first BRICS Health Working Group meeting of 2026 was hosted by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in New Delhi to deliberate on collaborative strategies for global health security.

Q33 C

The Delimitation Bill, 2026 proposed raising Lok Sabha seats from 543 to 850 to operationalise the Women's Reservation Bill (Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam). It failed in Parliament on 17 April 2026 for want of the constitutionally required two-thirds majority.

Q34 A

In April 2026 LIC launched 'MyLIC' (customer-side app) and 'Super Sales Saathi' (agent-side app) to deepen digital service delivery.

Q35 B

On 11–12 April 2026 the eCommittee of the Supreme Court and the Department of Justice jointly held a National Conference on 'Judicial Process Re-Engineering and Digital Transformation,' which also launched the eCourts SSO Portal, eCourts–ePrison integration, and eCourts Mobile App v4.0.

Q36 C

On 11 April 2026 Justices Nagarathna and Mahadevan set aside a Rajasthan HC order, reaffirming the settled position that the right to vote and contest elections is a statutory right under the Representation of the People Act, 1951 — not a fundamental right.

Q37 B

On 13 April 2026, a boiler explosion at a power plant in Sakti district, Chhattisgarh, killed 13 workers, prompting an inquiry into safety lapses.

Q38 B

World Health Day is observed every year on 7 April, marking the founding of the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1948.

Q39 A

Article 324 vests the superintendence, direction and control of elections to Parliament, State Legislatures, the President and Vice-President in the Election Commission of India. Article 326 deals with adult suffrage; 280 is the Finance Commission; 312 is All-India Services.

Q40 D

Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala (1973) was decided by a 13-judge Bench — the largest in the Supreme Court's history — by a 7:6 majority, laying down the basic structure doctrine.

SECTION — QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

Q41 C

Increase = 480 – 400 = 80. Percentage increase = $(80/400) \times 100 = 20\%$.

Q42 A

CLAT:NEET in 2025 = 480:575. Divide both by 5 \rightarrow 96:115. (Cannot reduce further as $\text{gcd}(96,115)=1$.)

Q43 C

Growth %: CLAT $80/400=20\%$, CUET $50/250=20\%$, JEE $60/600=10\%$, NEET $75/500=15\%$, IPM $45/150=30\%$. Highest = IPM at 30%.

Q44 C

Average = Total 2025 / 5 = 2210 / 5 = 442.

Q45 B

Increase = 2210 - 1900 = 310. Percentage = $(310/1900) \times 100 \approx 16.3\%$.

Q46 B

Five consecutive even numbers around mean 30 are 26, 28, 30, 32, 34. Sum = 150 \rightarrow average 30 \checkmark . Largest = 34.

Q47 A

Let CP = 100. MP = 140. SP = $140 \times 0.75 = 105$. Profit = 5 \rightarrow 5% profit.

Q48 C

30% of N = 75 \rightarrow N = 250. 60% of 250 = 150.

Q49 C

Total distance = 200 + 300 = 500 m in 25 s \rightarrow speed = 20 m/s = $20 \times 18/5 = 72$ km/h.

Q50 A

Let numbers be 3x and 5x. $(3x+8)/(5x+8) = 2/3 \rightarrow 9x+24 = 10x+16 \rightarrow x = 8$. Smaller = 3x = 24.