

**ANSWER KEY – 26 APRIL 2026**

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

SECTION — ENGLISH LANGUAGE

**Q1 A**

The passage opens with the law's significance, then critiques deferments and broad State exemptions, and ends by emphasising that real-world efficacy depends on the Data Protection Board's independence — which is structurally compromised because all members are appointed by the executive. Option A captures this gap between text and enforcement; B contradicts the author; C is over-narrow; D is unsupported as the Board has not yet been tested.

**Q2 B**

In administrative and financial usage, 'tranches' means portions or instalments released in stages. The passage refers to rules being notified 'in tranches' meaning piecemeal, which aligns with 'instalments'. The other options have unrelated meanings.

**Q3 B**

The proponents argue a phased rollout is necessary given uneven literacy and limited compliance capacity. This presupposes that gradual phasing will progressively achieve compliance — otherwise the justification collapses. Option A is contradicted by the passage; C and D are not assumptions of the proponents but extreme positions.

**Q4 C**

The author presents both critics' and proponents' views without ridicule (ruling out B), notes both achievements ('watershed moment') and concerns ('hollowed out'), and ends with a sceptical caveat about Board independence. This is best described as measured and sceptical.

**Q5 B**

The author's concern is that all Board members are executive-appointed, undermining independence. If the selection committee included the CJI and Leader of Opposition (a multi-stakeholder model akin to CIC/Lokpal selection), executive dominance would be diluted, weakening the concern. A and D reinforce the concern; C is irrelevant to independence.

**Q6 B**

The subject is 'The committee', a singular noun. The phrase 'along with its members' is a parenthetical and does not change the verb's number. Therefore the verb must be singular: 'is expected'. This is the standard subject-verb agreement rule for noun + parenthetical phrase.

**Q7 C**

The classroom is directly equated with a zoo without using 'like' or 'as', which is the defining feature of a metaphor. A simile would require 'like' or 'as'. Personification gives human traits to non-humans; hyperbole is exaggeration. Here, an implicit identification is made — a metaphor.

**Q8 B**

'Ephemeral' means short-lived or fleeting. Its opposite is something lasting forever, i.e., 'perpetual'. Transient and fleeting are synonyms; volatile relates to instability, not duration. Hence (B) is the correct antonym.

**Q9 C**

'Who lives in Pune' is a non-restrictive (additional) clause that should be set off by commas on both sides. Option C correctly places commas before 'who' and after 'Pune'. The other options either omit one comma or place it incorrectly, breaking standard punctuation rules.

**Q10 B**

The structure 'so X that even his supporters found it difficult to Y' implies a negative trait causing difficulty. 'Convolved' (complicated) makes it hard for even supporters to 'defend'. Options A, C and D create logical contradictions because they pair positive traits with verbs that wouldn't be 'difficult' for supporters.

## SECTION — LEGAL REASONING

**Q11 A**

Exception 1 explicitly excludes provocation that is 'sought or voluntarily provoked by the offender as an excuse for killing'. Rakesh deliberately went to Sunil's house intending a confrontation, hence the provocation was self-sought. He cannot claim the benefit; murder stands. (See *Empress v. Khogayi* and the principle in *K.M. Nanavati v. State of Maharashtra*, AIR 1962 SC 605.)

**Q12 B**

Mere companionship in a chair watching TV cannot constitute grave provocation under the reasonable-person standard the law applies. Without grave and sudden provocation, Exception 1 does not apply, and the killing remains murder. Suspicion or jealousy alone has been consistently held insufficient by Indian courts.

**Q13 B**

Indian courts (*Nanavati* line of authority and later cases) have held that words, including a confession of adultery, can amount to grave and sudden provocation if they cause an instant loss of self-control. The act here was instant and provoked by Sunil's own words. Option A's blanket rule that 'words can never amount to provocation' is incorrect under Indian law.

**Q14 B**

The principle expressly states that the provocation 'must not be given by anything done...by a public servant in the lawful exercise of his powers'. A lawful arrest is exactly such an act, so Exception 1 cannot be invoked. Rakesh would be guilty of murder of the public servant.

**Q15 C**

The principle requires (i) loss of self-control, (ii) caused by grave AND sudden provocation, (iii) not self-sought, and (iv) not arising from a lawful act. Option C captures the essential combined requirement. The other options misstate or invent conditions not in the principle.

**Q16 C**

Consent obtained under coercion (threat to a near relative) is not free consent under Section 14 read with Section 15 of the Indian Contract Act, 1872. Such a contract is voidable at the option of the party whose consent was so caused — here, Mohan. It is not void ab initio (that would be Section 23 illegality).

**Q17 C**

Section 71 of the Indian Contract Act, 1872 codifies this principle: a finder of goods has the same responsibility as a bailee. She must take reasonable care of the goods and try to find the owner. She does not become owner merely by finding (A wrong); nor is she immune from duty (B); nor is it theft when there is no dishonest intention at the time of taking (D).

**Q18 C**

Section 82 of the IPC (mirrored in BNS s.20) creates an irrebuttable presumption that a child below seven cannot commit an offence — the doctrine of *doli incapax*. Aarav, being six, cannot be held criminally liable irrespective of the act. Civil liability of parents is a separate question outside the principle.

**Q19 B**

Vicarious liability requires the tort to be in the 'course of employment'. A substantial unauthorised deviation (here 30 km off route to meet a friend) takes the servant outside the course of employment — a 'frolic of his own' (*Storey v. Ashton*, (1869) LR 4 QB 476). The master is therefore not liable. Mere ownership of the vehicle (C) is not the test.

**Q20 C**

In *Olga Tellis v. Bombay Municipal Corporation*, AIR 1986 SC 180, the Supreme Court held that the right to livelihood is part of Article 21, and pavement dwellers cannot be evicted without procedural fairness — notice, hearing, and (where feasible) rehabilitation. Forcible demolition without notice violates Article 21's procedural and substantive due process.

## SECTION — LOGICAL REASONING

**Q21 B**

If states with NO helmet law but with the same infrastructure improvements achieved a similar fall in fatalities, this directly shows that the decline can be explained by infrastructure alone — strengthening the critics' claim that helmet enforcement's contribution is overstated. A undermines critics; C and D are irrelevant to causation.

**Q22 C**

The supporters' position requires only that helmet enforcement is at least partly responsible for the decline (not necessarily wholly). C captures this minimal but necessary assumption. A overstates ('only causal factor'); B and D are needlessly extreme assumptions not required by the supporters' argument.

**Q23 B**

Critics do not deny the 18% figure (ruling out A). They argue that attributing the entire decline to helmets ignores other simultaneous causes (infrastructure, vehicles, EMS). This is the classic objection to a 'post hoc / cum hoc' fallacy — a false cause inference that overlooks confounding variables.

**Q24 A**

If states with strong helmet enforcement BUT poor infrastructure also showed comparable declines, infrastructure cannot be the dominant explanatory variable, and helmet enforcement looks more credibly causal — directly weakening the critics' confounder argument. Options B, C and D are tangential to causation.

**Q25 B**

Both sides of the passage agree that several developments occurred concurrently. The safest conclusion (CLAT-style: most defensible, least overreach) is that multiple interventions likely contributed. A and D overreach in one direction; C is unsupported by the passage.

**Q26 A**

Each letter shifts +1: M→N, O→P, N→O, D→E, A→B, Y→Z, giving NPOEBZ. Applying the same +1 shift to FRIDAY: F→G, R→S, I→J, D→E, A→B, Y→Z = GSJEBZ. Hence option A.

**Q27 C**

B is A's sister, and C is B's sibling (same generation as A and B). C is the father of D, so D is the child of A's sibling — i.e., A's niece or nephew. Without D's gender we cannot specify which, so 'niece or nephew' is the correct relationship.

**Q28 B**

The differences between consecutive terms are 4, 6, 8, 10, increasing by 2 each time. The next difference is 12, so the next term is  $30 + 12 = 42$ . Equivalently the sequence is  $n(n+1)$  for  $n=1,2,3,4,5,6$  giving 2,6,12,20,30,42.

**Q29 D**

From 'All teachers are scholars' and 'Some scholars are poets', the 'some scholars' who are poets may or may not include any teachers. Neither (I) nor (II) follows necessarily — this is a classic invalid syllogism (the middle term 'scholars' is undistributed).

**Q30 A**

The 'only son of my grandmother' is Rohit's father (assuming the standard CLAT convention that 'grandmother' refers to the paternal line; the daughter of his father is Rohit's sister). Hence the girl is Rohit's sister.

#### SECTION — GENERAL KNOWLEDGE & CURRENT AFFAIRS

**Q31 B**

On 19 April 2026, an explosion at a firecracker factory in Virudhunagar district, Tamil Nadu, killed at least 23 workers and injured six. Virudhunagar (which includes Sivakasi) is India's firecracker hub but the specific incident was in Virudhunagar. Source: 2026 in India, Wikipedia.

**Q32 B**

On 20 April 2026, a passenger bus fell into a deep gorge in Udhampur district of Jammu and Kashmir, killing 21 and injuring 45. Udhampur lies on the strategic NH-44, where such gorge accidents are recurrent. Source: 2026 in India / national news compilations.

**Q33 C**

On 21 April 2026, an explosion at a firecracker manufacturing unit in Thrissur district, Kerala, killed at least 13 people and injured more than 40. Source: 2026 in India, Wikipedia.

**Q34 C**

Polling for the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly election was held in a single phase on 23 April 2026. The West Bengal Assembly election was held in multiple phases starting the same day. Source: ECI / 2026 in India.

**Q35 B**

Aranyak Ghosh of Kolkata, West Bengal, secured his third and final GM norm at the 23rd Bangkok Chess Club Open 2026, becoming India's 95th Grandmaster. Source: AICF / national sports news, April 2026.

**Q36 B**

On 25 April 2026, during IPL 2026, Virat Kohli became the first batter in IPL history to hit 800 boundaries (fours plus sixes), extending his record as the league's most prolific run-scorer. Source: BCCI/IPL records, April 2026.

**Q37 B**

The Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh laid the foundation stone for India's first Petroglyph Conservation Park on the banks of the Indus River at Sindhu Ghat in Leh, Ladakh, in April 2026. The park aims to preserve ancient rock art unique to the region. Source: PIB / Ladakh administration.

**Q38 C**

In April 2026, former Union Minister Dinesh Trivedi was appointed as India's High Commissioner to Bangladesh. The appointment came amid evolving Indo-Bangladesh diplomatic developments. Source: MEA, April 2026.

**Q39 C**

Article 350B of the Constitution provides for a Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities, appointed by the President, to investigate matters relating to safeguards for linguistic minorities. Article 350 deals with representations for redress; 350A with primary education in mother tongue; 351 with the Hindi language.

**Q40 B**

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the autonomous intergovernmental organisation established in 1957 within the UN system to promote peaceful use of nuclear energy, is headquartered at the Vienna International Centre, Vienna, Austria.

SECTION — QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

**Q41 C**

Fiction revenue = 35% of ₹4,00,000 =  $0.35 \times 4,00,000 = ₹1,40,000$ . Hence option C.

**Q42 A**

Non-Fiction revenue = 20% of ₹4,00,000 = ₹80,000. Number of Non-Fiction books =  $₹80,000 / ₹500 = 160$  books. Hence option A.

**Q43 C**

Books sold per genre = revenue / avg price. Fiction =  $1,40,000/350 = 400$ ; Non-Fiction =  $80,000/500 = 160$ ; Children =  $1,00,000/200 = 500$ ; Academic =  $80,000/400 = 200$ . Children sold the maximum at 500 books — its low unit price translates a 25% revenue share into the highest physical volume. Hence option C.

**Q44 B**

Academic books =  $₹80,000 / ₹400 = 200$ . Children books =  $₹1,00,000 / ₹200 = 500$ . Ratio Academic : Children =  $200 : 500 = 2 : 5$ . Hence option B.

**Q45 D**

Current Academic revenue = ₹80,000; target = Fiction's ₹1,40,000. Required increase =  $(1,40,000 - 80,000)/80,000 \times 100 = 60,000/80,000 \times 100 = 75\%$ . Hence option D.

**Q46 B**

Compound amount  $A = P(1+r/100)^n = 12,000 \times (1.10)^2 = 12,000 \times 1.21 = ₹14,520$ . Hence option B.

**Q47 C**

Speed =  $54 \text{ km/h} = 54 \times 5/18 = 15 \text{ m/s}$ . Total distance to cross platform = length of train + length of platform =  $180 + 270 = 450 \text{ m}$ . Time =  $450 / 15 = 30$  seconds. Hence option C.

**Q48 C**

Sum of 5 numbers =  $5 \times 28 = 140$ . Sum of remaining 4 numbers =  $4 \times 25 = 100$ . Excluded number =  $140 - 100 = 40$ . Hence option C.

**Q49 B**

Let CP = ₹100. MP = 140. SP after 15% discount =  $140 \times 0.85 = ₹119$ . Profit =  $119 - 100 = ₹19$ . Profit% = 19%. Hence option B.

**Q50 C**

Let A = 5x and B = 7x.  $5x + 7x = 60 \Rightarrow 12x = 60 \Rightarrow x = 5$ . So A's age =  $5 \times 5 = 25$  years. Hence option C.