

ANSWER KEY – 28 APRIL 2026

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

SECTION — ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Q1 B

The passage repeatedly stresses that personalisation 'erodes common ground' that 'democratic deliberation presupposes' — option B captures this thesis. (A) overstates ('lost all'); (C) is not claimed; (D) is incidental.

Q2 C

In media studies 'agenda-setting' refers to the capacity of media to shape what audiences think about. The passage clarifies this with 'editors decided what mattered'.

Q3 B

The author acknowledges defenders' argument but devotes more space to critics and a 'deeper worry'. This is critical scepticism, not outright rejection (A) or endorsement (C).

Q4 B

The structural worry is that engagement-maximising economics is incompatible with nuanced journalism. (B) directly contradicts that incompatibility. (A) and (D) reinforce the worry; (C) is irrelevant to economic viability.

Q5 D

The final sentence lists three correctives — regulation, public funding and reader-supported models. A blanket ban is not mentioned.

Q6 B

The phrase is metaphorical: citizens receive such different information streams that the worldviews they form cannot be reconciled. Context — 'share a country yet inhabit' — confirms this reading.

Q7 B

The passage states a problem (eroded common ground), summarises defenders, then critics, then introduces a 'deeper worry' that is structural/economic. (B) tracks this exactly.

Q8 B

'Presuppose' = to assume or require as a necessary basis. The author argues democratic deliberation **REQUIRES** common ground; without it, deliberation breaks down.

Q9 B

The passage states 'the economic logic of platforms requires capturing attention'. Other options are not asserted.

Q10 B

The author lists three proposed correctives but observes that 'none has yet reversed the trend' — a measured, cautiously pessimistic note rather than triumph or sarcasm.

SECTION — LEGAL REASONING

Q11 C

The doctrine of necessities (s.68 ICA) requires the goods to be both suited to the minor's condition **AND** actually needed. A luxury watch when three already exist fails both tests. Personal liability is barred since the contract is void ab initio.

Q12 B

Theft requires dishonest intent at the moment of moving the property. Bina's initial intent was honest. Dishonesty arose later, converting the offence into criminal misappropriation under s.403 IPC, not theft.

Q13 C

A municipality owes a duty to keep public ways safe; leaving an open manhole breaches it. However, Chitra's distracted walking contributes to harm — modern doctrine apportions damages under contributory negligence rather than barring recovery.

Q14 B

Following *Lalman Shukla v. Gauri Dutt* (1913), an act done in ignorance of an offer is not acceptance, since there is no consensus ad idem. Without acceptance, no contract arises and no reward is claimable.

Q15 C

Hurt sentiments per se is not a ground under 19(2). 'Public order' is, but the Supreme Court (*S. Rangarajan, Shreya Singhal*) requires a proximate, not remote, connection. Speculative apprehension is insufficient.

Q16 B

Indian law (s.2(d) ICA) permits past consideration ONLY if rendered at the promisor's desire. Eshan acted unilaterally; the desire requirement is unmet. Hence Farhan's later promise is unsupported by valid consideration.

Q17 B

Private defence is calibrated to the nature of the assault. A single slap does not threaten death or grievous hurt, so causing death is grossly disproportionate. Right exists but has been exceeded — likely culpable homicide not amounting to murder.

Q18 B

Delivery + purpose (safe custody) + payment creates a bailment for reward. The bailee owes the duty of care of an ordinary prudent person (s.151 ICA). Letting an outsider ride away is a clear breach.

Q19 B

Rylands v. Fletcher imposes strict liability where a non-natural use brings a hazardous substance that escapes. Bulk diesel storage in unlined pits qualifies. Negligence need not be shown; only the act of escape and damage.

Q20 B

Following *Maneka Gandhi v. Union of India* (1978), the procedure under Article 21 must be fair, just and reasonable — not merely 'any' procedure. Denial of hearing/representation in preventive detention is arbitrary, also offending Article 22.

SECTION — LOGICAL REASONING

Q21 B

Neutrality is undermined if test content systematically favours those with paid access. (B) attacks question design itself, not preparation effort. (A) is a stray exception; (C), (D) irrelevant.

Q22 A

Defenders equate procedural identity with substantive fairness — that equation is the hidden assumption. (B), (C) are too strong; (D) unrelated.

Q23 B

The Board attributes the gap to 'unequal preparation' and infers test neutrality. The logical commitment is (B). (A) is a moral leap; (C), (D) contradict the Board.

Q24 A

The Board's argument: identical conditions = neutrality, despite preparation gaps. (A) mirrors this exactly.

Q25 B

(B) provides causal evidence: gap collapses when question authorship changes, isolating test design as the source. (A) only shows neutrality; (C),(D) irrelevant.

Q26 A

Modus tollens. If coached → above 60th, and Riya is at 55th, then Riya is not coached. (C) is the converse fallacy; (B), (D) are not entailed.

Q27 A

The argument commits 'affirming the consequent'. The cleanest objection is to point out that other sufficient causes for a fall in enrolment exist, so the fall does not establish a fee increase. (B) restates the conclusion's denial; (C) attacks the premise.

Q28 A

Classic confounder challenge. (A) identifies an alternative cause (household discipline) correlated with both breakfast and scores, undermining the causal claim. (B), (D) are weaker; (C) doesn't address causation.

Q29 B

R is at position 3 (middle). Q is left of R → position 2. P at one end: positions 1 or 5. T is immediately right of S → consecutive pair. Remaining slots are 1, 4, 5 for P, S, T. S-T pair occupies 4-5; P at 1. Other end (position 5) = T.

Q30 B

From 'no genuine scholar avoids hard questions' and 'Kabir is a genuine scholar', it follows by direct inference that Kabir does not avoid hard questions. (C), (D) introduce content not entailed; (A) is the contradiction.

SECTION — GENERAL KNOWLEDGE & CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q31 B

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

Q32 C

The 2026 Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly election was held on 23 April 2026 in a single phase. Source: Wikipedia '2026 in India'.

Q33 C

Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan was Chief Guest at the 18th Civil Services Day 2026 on 21 April at Vigyan Bhawan. Civil Services Day is observed annually on 21 April commemorating Sardar Patel's 1947 address.

Q34 B

Mission Jagrook is SEBI's nationwide investor-awareness campaign launched on its 38th foundation day in April 2026 to protect retail investors from misinformation, fraud and manipulative financial content.

Q35 C

The SCO Defence Ministers' Meeting on 28 April 2026 was held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, with Rajnath Singh leading the Indian delegation.

Q36 C

SBI announced a target of expanding its balance-sheet to about 25% of India's GDP by 2030, up from the existing 20%.

Q37 B

Raghu Rai, Padma Shri awardee, was known as the 'Father of Indian Photojournalism'. He passed away in April 2026 at age 83 in New Delhi.

Q38 C

The 2026 West Bengal Legislative Assembly election was conducted between 23 and 29 April 2026 across multiple phases. Source: Wikipedia '2026 in India'.

Q39 B

The SCO Secretariat is headquartered in Beijing, China, while its Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) is in Tashkent. India became a full member in 2017.

Q40 B

Article 19(1)(a) guarantees freedom of speech and expression. Reasonable restrictions are permitted under Article 19(2) on enumerated grounds such as public order, decency, morality, defamation.

SECTION — QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

Q41 A

Average = $(62+70+58+48+54)/5 = 292/5 = 58.4$.

Q42 C

Delhi 35% of 500 = 175; Mumbai 20% of 500 = 100; Combined = 275.

Q43 B

Bengaluru students = 15% of 500 = 75. Male = 60% of 75 = 45. Female = 75-45 = 30.

Q44 A

Full-fee: $440 \times 1,20,000 = \text{Rs } 5,28,00,000$. Scholarship: $60 \times 90,000$ (75% of 1,20,000) = Rs 54,00,000. Total = Rs 5,82,00,000.

Q45 B

Legal=70, GK=48. Excess=22. Percentage = $22/48 \times 100 = 45.83\%$.

Q46 B

Kolkata 12% + Others 18% = 30% of 500 = 150.

Q47 A

Scholarship discount per student = 25% of 1,20,000 = 30,000. Plus materials 8,000. Per student cost = 38,000. For 60 students = 60 x 38,000 = Rs 22,80,000.

Q48 B

Female = 40% of 500 = 200; Male = 300. Ratio 200:300 = 2:3.

Q49 C

New Quant = 54 x 1.10 = 59.4. New total = 62+70+58+48+59.4 = 297.4. Average = 297.4/5 = 59.48.

Q50 C

Delhi students = 175. 20% of 175 = 35.