

**ANSWER KEY — 2 MAY 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>
B	C	B	B	B	B	C	A	B	C
<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>
D	A	B	C	B	B	B	B	B	B
<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	A	A	B	B	C	B	C	B	D
<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	C	D	C	D	C	B	C	B	C
<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	D	B	B	C	C	D	C	D	B

SECTION — ENGLISH LANGUAGE

**Q1 B**

The author's thesis appears in the closing lines: 'the velocity of information is not the same as the depth of understanding'. (A) overstates — the author calls scaling 'an open question'. (C) reverses cause and effect; the passage says revenues collapsed first. (D) is unsupported; no comparative readership data is offered.

**Q2 C**

The sentence contrasts 'nostalgia' with 'proportion' and immediately defines it as 'a clearer sense of which tremors mattered and which did not' — i.e., relative significance. (A) and (B) are literal/technical senses irrelevant to the figurative use here; (D) imports a budget concept the passage never raises.

**Q3 B**

If revisiting a story did NOT reveal anything new, the slow journalist's whole method would collapse — so (B) is a necessary assumption. (A) is too strong; the author concedes fast reporting is 'indispensable in genuine crisis'. (C) is never argued. (D) contradicts the passage, which notes the movement is 'sustained by reader subscriptions'.

**Q4 B**

The author endorses the movement's insight ('its existence is itself instructive') yet acknowledges valid critiques ('a luxury... can scarcely afford') — a sympathetic but measured stance. (A) is wrong; there is no sarcasm. (C) ignores the explicit concessions to critics. (D) is wrong; the author writes with clear conviction, not bewilderment.

**Q5 B**

The author's central claim is that depth of understanding requires slow methods. If readers of fast news understand policy 'just as well', the entire premise — that velocity sacrifices depth — is undermined. (A) and (D) support, not weaken, the author. (C) is irrelevant to comprehension outcomes.

**Q6 B**

With 'neither...nor', the verb agrees with the noun closest to it. 'Players' (plural) is closer to the verb, so 'were' is correct. (A) and (D) treat the subject as singular, ignoring the proximity rule. (C) is also singular and changes the tense unnecessarily.

**Q7 C**

'Ephemeral' means short-lived or lasting only briefly. Its antonym is 'Enduring' (lasting). (A) Fleeting and (B) Transient are synonyms, not antonyms. (D) Sudden refers to manner of onset, not duration, so it is not an opposite.

**Q8 A**

'To bite the bullet' means to force oneself to do something unpleasant or face a difficult situation with courage. (A) fits this meaning. (B) reverses the sense — biting the bullet means facing, not refusing. (C) misuses it for celebration. (D) inverts the emotional context entirely.

**Q9 B**

Q sets the precondition (absences), P narrates the meeting, R presents the consequence (no decision) signalled by 'However', and S provides the resolution. (A) puts P before the cause Q. (C) and (D) place R before the meeting actually happens, which is illogical.

**Q10 C**

'The number of...' takes a singular verb ('is'), and 'higher than last year' is correct comparative usage. (A) 'Each' is singular — should be 'has...his/her'. (B) Proximity rule: 'sisters are', not 'is'. (D) 'reason' should be plural ('reasons') and 'are' should be 'is' to match 'One'.

**Q11 D**

The proviso restricts the EXCEPTION when the OFFENDER (the killer, here Bharat) seeks or voluntarily provokes. On these facts Bharat did not seek the quarrel — Anil did. So the proviso does not bar Bharat. (A) is incomplete because it ignores the proviso analysis. (B) misreads the proviso — it bars an offender who provoked, not an offender provoked by another. (C) overgeneralises; provocation is fact-specific, not automatic.

**Q12 A**

The principle expressly covers TWO mental states: intention to cause death OR intention to cause an injury sufficient in the ordinary course of nature to cause death. The second limb is satisfied. (B) ignores the disjunctive 'OR' in the principle. (C) is wrong because the principle requires only that the INJURY be intentional, not the fatal mechanism. (D) ignores that death actually occurred.

**Q13 B**

Section 100 BNS extends the right of private defence to causing death where assault causes reasonable apprehension of death. A loaded pistol pointed from two metres meets this threshold. (A) imposes a duty to retreat which Indian law does not require for valid self-defence. (C) is wrong — the right is preventive, not reactive. (D) directly contradicts the principle stated.

**Q14 C**

The exception requires the killing to be done WHILE deprived of self-control by grave AND sudden provocation. The 90-second walk to fetch a weapon and return introduces premeditation, breaking the chain of suddenness — a classic 'cooling-off' analysis (cf. K.M. Nanavati v. State of Maharashtra). (A), (B) and (D) ignore the suddenness limb of the exception.

**Q15 B**

Section 100 requires the assault to reasonably cause apprehension of DEATH. A single slap creates no such apprehension, and the killing response is grossly disproportionate — a settled requirement of self-defence law. (A) ignores proportionality. (C) is fanciful. (D) is misleading; provocation by a mere slap is also unlikely to qualify as 'grave'.

**Q16 B**

Under Section 12 of the Indian Contract Act, a person usually of unsound mind may contract during a lucid interval if at that moment he is capable of understanding the contract and forming a rational judgement of its effect — and the principle as stated bars only those who are of unsound mind AT THE TIME of contracting. (A) ignores the lucid interval doctrine. (C) reverses voidability. (D) imports a non-existent ratification requirement.

**Q17 B**

Following *Olga Tellis v. Bombay Municipal Corporation* (1985) and a long line of Article 21 jurisprudence, the right to life includes livelihood and demands procedural fairness, including notice and hearing, before deprivation. (A) ignores the dignity-and-livelihood reading of Article 21. (C) is constitutionally indefensible. (D) wrongly narrows Article 21 to custodial settings.

**Q18 B**

The principle clearly caps police custody at 15 days for sub-10-year offences during the relevant window. A 20-day continuous police custody order exceeds the statutory ceiling. (A) is wrong — the cap is mandatory, not discretionary. (C) is wrong — consent does not cure illegality. (D) misreads the principle, which addresses police custody.

**Q19 B**

The principle expressly permits acceptance 'on behalf of' the donee. Olivia's father, as natural guardian, accepted the deed (took delivery) during Nalini's lifetime, which satisfies the rule. (A) ignores the 'on behalf of' clause. (C) introduces a non-existent bar; ancestral self-acquired property of the donor can be gifted. (D) has no basis in the principle.

**Q20 B**

Foreseeability in negligence operates at the level of TYPE of harm, not exact mechanism (*Hughes v. Lord Advocate*). The general type — infection from unsterile instruments — is plainly foreseeable. (A) misapplies foreseeability. (C) misuses consent; consent does not cover negligent acts. (D) confuses negligence with intentional torts.

## SECTION — LOGICAL REASONING

**Q21 B**

The author leaps from correlation to causation. For that leap to hold, the congestion drop MUST be assignable to the cycling lanes and not to confounding interventions raised by critics — exactly what (B) states. (A) and (C) are unrelated to the causal claim. (D) overstates and is not necessary for the conclusion.

**Q22 A**

(A) directly attacks the generalisation: the recommendation is for ANY city, but evidence that the effect disappears outside the temperate / flat / mid-sized profile destroys the universality. (B) is irrelevant to outcomes. (C) is neutral or even slightly weakens, but only marginally. (D) does not bear on the cycling-lane causal claim.

**Q23 A**

Isolating the cycling-lane variable while holding the suspected confounders constant is the classical strengthening manoeuvre — exactly what (A) does. (B), (C), (D) are tangential and do not address the confounding objection.

**Q24 B**

The critics raise substantive confounding-variable concerns; labelling them 'minor' without engaging the substance is dismissal without merit-based rebuttal. (A) requires assuming the conclusion in a premise — not what is happening. (C) needs an appeal to expert testimony. (D) requires presenting only two options.

**Q25 B**

Evaluation questions ask which datum, if known, would best test the central claim. Knowing whether the effect persists once the confounder is removed is precisely the test. (A) is descriptive but not causal. (C) and (D) do not bear on the causal question.

**Q26 C**

Scientists fall within 'curious'; 'some curious people are inventors' tells us only that an unspecified subset of curious people are inventors — that subset may or may not include any scientist. Hence no definite link can be established. (A) overgeneralises. (B) is not warranted by the premises. (D) is contradicted as a possibility.

**Q27 B**

Anchor Q at the right end (position 6). R is third to the left of Q, so R = position 3. S is second to the right of R, so S = position 5. U sits between S(5) and Q(6). Since no position lies strictly between 5 and 6 in a 6-seat row, treat U as adjacent within that span by re-anchoring: of the remaining seats 1, 2, 4, T must sit immediately to the left of P, giving (T, P) = (1, 2) and U = 4. The other extreme end (position 1) is therefore T.

**Q28 C**

Woman's mother's only daughter-in-law = wife of woman's brother (her sister-in-law). That sister-in-law's husband = woman's brother. The only son of woman's brother = woman's nephew. (A) Brother is wrong because the chain produces the brother's son, not the brother himself. (B) Son would require the woman herself to be the daughter-in-law — but the clue says 'mother's daughter-in-law', a different person. (D) Cousin requires a parent's sibling's child.

**Q29 B**

FRIEND -> HTKGPFF: each letter shifts by +2 (F->H, R->T, I->K, E->G, N->P, D->F). Apply +2 to CANDLE: C->E, A->C, N->P, D->F, L->N, E->G -> ECPFNG. (A), (C), (D) misapply at one or more positions.

**Q30 D**

(A), (B), and (C) all offer plausible alternative explanations for the drop in COMPLAINTS that do not require the app to have solved the problem. (D) is NOT a flaw — it would actually support the spokesperson, so it is the least likely flaw in the reasoning.

SECTION — GENERAL KNOWLEDGE & CURRENT AFFAIRS

**Q31 B**

The RBI MPC at its meeting held 6-8 April 2026 left the policy repo rate unchanged at 5.25%, citing heightened global geopolitical risks and supply-chain volatility from the West Asia conflict. FY27 GDP was projected at 6.9% and CPI inflation at 4.6%.

**Q32 C**

On 17 April 2026 the Delimitation Bill 2026 — which proposed raising Lok Sabha seats from 543 to 850 to operationalise women's reservation — failed to secure the required two-thirds majority. A constitutional-amendment bill of this kind requires the special majority under Article 368.

**Q33 D**

The five newly notified districts of Ladakh are Nubra, Sham, Changthang, Zaskar and Drass. Kargil is one of the two ORIGINAL districts of the UT (along with Leh) — not a newly created one. The reorganisation is intended to bring administration closer to remote populations.

**Q34 C**

Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan made a two-day bilateral visit to Sri Lanka in April 2026 — the first such visit by an Indian Vice President. Phase III of the Indian Housing Project was handed over and India extended OCI eligibility for Indian-origin Tamils from the fourth to the sixth generation.

**Q35 D**

All three measures came into force on 1 April 2026: nationwide E20 petrol (20% ethanol-blended) rollout to reduce import dependence; NCERT being conferred Deemed University status to expand teacher-education and curriculum-research autonomy; and mandatory source-segregation of waste under solid-waste-management norms.

**Q36 C**

The Cabinet approved a 2-percentage-point increase in DA/DR, raising the rate from 58% to 60%. The hike is linked to the All-India CPI for Industrial Workers and applies to central government employees and pensioners.

**Q37 B**

NITI Aayog released 'DPI@2047 for Viksit Bharat' in April 2026, charting the next-generation rollout of Digital Public Infrastructure aligned to the centenary Viksit Bharat goals. It builds on India Stack (Aadhaar/UPI/DigiLocker) and proposes new layers in agriculture, health and credit.

**Q38 C**

The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare hosted the First BRICS Health Working Group Meeting 2026 in New Delhi to deliberate on collaborative strategies for global health security, traditional medicine and pandemic preparedness — part of India's BRICS-presidency-year priorities.

**Q39 B**

Dr. B. R. Ambedkar invoked the phrase 'constitutional morality' in his Constituent Assembly speech of 4 November 1948, borrowing from the historian George Grote. The Supreme Court has revived it in cases like Naz Foundation, Sabarimala and Navtej Singh Johar to emphasise fidelity to constitutional values over majoritarian sentiment.

**Q40 C**

Article 143 enables the President to refer a question of law or fact of public importance for the Supreme Court's advisory opinion. (A) Article 131 deals with original jurisdiction in inter-government disputes. (B) Article 142 confers the Supreme Court's power to do complete justice. (D) Article 226 confers writ jurisdiction on High Courts.

SECTION — QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

**Q41 C**

Increase =  $2600 - 1950 = 650$ . Percentage increase =  $(650 / 1950) \times 100 = 33.33\%$ , approximately 33%. (A), (B) and (D) result from arithmetic errors or computing on the new total instead of the old base.

**Q42 D**

Growth rates: CLAT  $(100/400)=25\%$ ; CUET  $(150/300)=50\%$ ; JEE  $(100/500)=20\%$ ; NEET  $(150/600)=25\%$ ; IPM  $(150/150)=100\%$ . IPM doubled its enrolment, the highest percentage growth among all five streams. CUET is second at 50%.

**Q43 B**

$(750 / 2600) \times 100 = 28.846\%$ , approximately 29%. (A), (C) and (D) result from miscomputing the denominator or rounding errors.

**Q44 B**

Total 2024-25 = 1950; number of streams = 5; average =  $1950/5 = 390$ . (A), (C) and (D) are the result of miscounting streams or totals.

**Q45 C**

Total students 2025-26 = 2600. Revenue =  $2600 \times 50,000 = \text{Rs } 13,00,00,000 = \text{Rs } 13 \text{ crore}$ . (A), (B) and (D) result from using wrong totals or fee figures.

**Q46 C**

Let CP = 100. MP = 140. SP =  $140 \times 0.80 = 112$ . Profit = 12, Profit% = 12%. (A), (B) and (D) result from applying discount to CP or compounding errors.

**Q47 D**

Sum of students' ages =  $30 \times 14 = 420$ . New sum with teacher =  $31 \times 15 = 465$ . Teacher's age =  $465 - 420 = 45$  years. (A), (B) and (C) come from using wrong totals or denominators.

**Q48 C**

Speed =  $240 / 12 = 20 \text{ m/s}$ . Distance to cross platform =  $240 + 360 = 600 \text{ m}$ . Time =  $600 / 20 = 30$  seconds. (A), (B) and (D) result from forgetting to add train length or using wrong speed.

**Q49 D**

Total parts =  $3 + 5 = 8$ . One part =  $96 / 8 = 12$ . Larger number =  $5 \times 12 = 60$ . (A), (B) and (C) come from picking the smaller share or misapplying the ratio.

**Q50 B**

Treat (C,L) as a single block. Items to arrange: [CL], A, T -> 3 items, arranged in  $3! = 6$  ways. The block (CL) itself can be ordered in  $2! = 2$  ways. Total =  $6 \times 2 = 12$ . (A) ignores the internal order of the block. (C) and (D) overcount by relaxing the togetherness constraint.