

# AILET English Language

## Sample Paper – 2

Duration: 40 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 50

### Instructions

- This paper contains **50** Multiple Choice Questions (Single Correct Answer), modelled on the English Language portion of **AILET** (NLU Delhi) entrance examination.
- Each correct answer carries **+1 mark**. A deduction of **0.25 mark** is made for every incorrect answer. No marks are deducted for unattempted questions.
- Only **one** option is correct for each question. Choose carefully.
- Syllabus: **English Language — Vocabulary, Reading Comprehension, Grammar, Error Detection, Fill in the Blanks, and Para-Jumbles as tested in AILET (NLU Delhi).**
- Use of mobile phones or any other electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited during the examination.
- The paper is to be answered in **English only**.



**Directions (Q.1–10):** Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

The Supreme Court of India, in its landmark 2017 judgment in *Justice K.S. Puttaswamy (Retd.) v. Union of India*, unanimously recognised the right to privacy as a fundamental right protected under Article 21 of the Constitution, which guarantees the right to life and personal liberty. The nine-judge bench decisively overruled the earlier *ADM Jabalpur* precedent, which had controversially denied that privacy constituted an independent constitutional right. The Puttaswamy judgment represented a transformative moment in Indian constitutional jurisprudence, affirming that the state's power to intrude upon the lives of its citizens is circumscribed by enforceable constitutional boundaries.

The Court articulated a threefold test that any legitimate state intrusion into the right to privacy must satisfy. First, the interference must be backed by a valid law—the principle of legality. Second, it must serve a legitimate state aim, such as national security, public order, or the prevention of crime. Third, the means employed must be proportionate to the aim pursued, ensuring that the extent of any restriction on privacy does not exceed what is strictly necessary. This structured framework has since guided judicial scrutiny of legislation and executive actions that impinge upon individual freedoms.

The Aadhaar biometric identification system brought the tensions between privacy and governance into sharp relief. While the government argued that Aadhaar enabled efficient delivery of welfare benefits and prevented identity fraud, critics raised serious concerns about the creation of a surveillance infrastructure that concentrated vast quantities of personal biometric data in state hands. The challenge before courts and policymakers was to assess whether biometric data collection for administrative purposes satisfied the proportionality prong of the Puttaswamy test, and whether the architecture of Aadhaar adequately protected against the misuse of sensitive personal information.

The threat to privacy, however, does not emanate exclusively from the state. Corporate entities, particularly large technology companies, engage in the systematic harvesting of behavioural data generated by millions of users. Through algorithmic profiling and predictive analytics, corporations have transformed personal information into a commercially valuable commodity, using it to target advertising, manipulate purchasing decisions, and, in some cases, to influence political behaviour. The commodification of personal data has blurred the boundary between voluntary disclosure and coercive extraction, raising fundamental questions about the nature of informed consent in the digital economy.

India's engagement with data protection legislation has been characterised by both urgency and complexity. Looking to the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation as a global benchmark, Indian lawmakers have grappled with crafting a domestic framework that balances individual rights against the legitimate needs of national security and economic growth. The path to a robust legislative regime requires not merely the enactment of comprehensive data protection law but also the creation of effective enforcement institutions and the development of a rights-conscious judicial and regulatory culture.

**Q1.** What is the central theme of the passage?

- (A) The Puttaswamy judgment resolved all privacy-related tensions in India by establishing a comprehensive data protection framework applicable to both state and private actors.
- (B) The passage examines the constitutional recognition of privacy as a fundamental right and the challenges of protecting it in a surveillance-prone digital environment.
- (C) Corporate data harvesting by technology companies poses a greater danger to individual privacy than any form of state surveillance or executive intrusion.
- (D) The enactment of India's Personal Data Protection legislation, modelled closely on the GDPR, has successfully secured citizens' privacy rights in the digital age.

**Q2.** Which of the following best describes the author's view of the threefold test articulated in the passage?

- (A) The threefold test is too rigid a standard that prevents governments from taking legitimate and necessary action in the interest of national security.
- (B) The threefold test was designed exclusively to address biometric data collection under the Aadhaar scheme and cannot be applied more broadly.
- (C) The threefold test provides a structured framework that demands justification for any state intrusion into individual privacy.
- (D) The threefold test has been rendered obsolete by the rise of corporate surveillance, which the test was never intended to regulate.

**Q3.** As used in the passage, the concept of *proportionality* most closely refers to:

- (A) The requirement that financial penalties imposed on organisations found to violate privacy must be commensurate with their annual revenues.



- (B) The principle that every citizen must receive an equal and proportionate share of the benefits generated by state surveillance programmes.
- (C) The rule that the number of state agencies permitted to access personal data must be proportionate to the size of the population.
- (D) The principle that the extent of any restriction on privacy must not exceed what is strictly necessary to achieve the legitimate aim.

**Q4.** According to the passage, in which year was the landmark judgment in *Justice K.S. Puttaswamy (Retd.) v. Union of India* delivered?

- (A) 2017
- (B) 2015
- (C) 2019
- (D) 2013

**Q5.** What does the passage imply about corporate surveillance and data practices?

- (A) Corporate data collection is fundamentally different from state surveillance and therefore does not require the same level of constitutional scrutiny.
- (B) The passage implies that corporate data practices pose threats to privacy comparable to those of state surveillance.
- (C) Technology companies collect personal data solely for improving user experience and are generally transparent about their data collection methods.
- (D) The passage suggests that corporate data harvesting is an acceptable trade-off for the convenience of the services that technology companies provide.

**Q6.** Which of the following titles would be most appropriate for the passage?



- (A) The Aadhaar Controversy: Biometric Data, National Security, and the Limits of Judicial Intervention
- (B) The GDPR Blueprint: How India Can Fully Adopt European Data Protection Standards Without Modification
- (C) Privacy, Power, and Protection: The Constitutional and Digital Dimensions of a Fundamental Right
- (D) Corporate Surveillance in India: How Technology Companies Have Undermined Constitutional Privacy Guarantees

**Q7.** The primary purpose of the passage is to:

- (A) Advocate for the immediate abolition of the Aadhaar biometric identification system on the grounds that it violates the constitutionally recognised right to privacy.
- (B) Argue that India must adopt the General Data Protection Regulation wholesale as its domestic data protection framework without any adaptation.
- (C) Demonstrate that corporate surveillance poses a more serious threat to individual privacy than any form of state action or legislative failure.
- (D) Trace the legal evolution of the right to privacy and examine the contemporary challenges of protecting it against both state and corporate encroachment.

**Q8.** Which of the following best describes the author's attitude as expressed in the passage?

- (A) Guardedly optimistic—the author acknowledges progress in constitutional recognition while remaining alert to implementation gaps.
- (B) Alarmed and deeply critical—the author is primarily concerned about the Aadhaar programme and implicitly calls for its immediate dismantling.
- (C) Wholly neutral—the author deliberately avoids taking any position on the constitutional or policy dimensions of privacy.



- (D) Academically celebratory—the author regards the Puttaswamy judgment as having conclusively resolved all privacy-related challenges in India.

**Q9.** What does the passage suggest about data protection legislation in India?

- (A) India's data protection regime is now fully operational and has successfully addressed both state and corporate threats to individual privacy.
- (B) India is working toward a legislative framework, with global models like the GDPR offering useful benchmarks, but enactment and enforcement remain works in progress.
- (C) India should prioritise national security considerations over individual privacy rights in any future data protection legislation.
- (D) Data protection legislation is of secondary importance compared to robust judicial review as a means of protecting privacy rights in India.

**Q10.** Which of the following statements **contradicts** the information provided in the passage?

- (A) The Supreme Court, in recognising privacy as a fundamental right, overruled an earlier precedent that had denied its independent constitutional status.
- (B) Large technology companies have been identified as potential sources of privacy violations through data collection and algorithmic profiling practices.
- (C) The Puttaswamy judgment affirmed the validity of the *ADM Jabalpur* precedent by citing it as a foundational authority on the constitutional right to privacy.
- (D) India's data protection framework is still evolving, with global benchmarks such as the GDPR serving as reference points for domestic legislation.



**Directions (Q.11–20):** Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

The world's oceans, which cover more than seventy percent of Earth's surface, perform an indispensable function in regulating the global climate by absorbing approximately thirty percent of the carbon dioxide released through human industrial activity. As dissolved carbon dioxide reacts with seawater to form carbonic acid, ocean pH levels decline—a process known as ocean acidification. Since the onset of industrialisation, the average pH of the surface ocean has already fallen by approximately 0.1 units on the logarithmic pH scale, representing a roughly twenty-six percent increase in the concentration of hydrogen ions. Scientists warn that if current emission trajectories continue, ocean pH could decline by a further 0.3 to 0.4 units by the end of this century.

The biological consequences of acidification are particularly severe for calcareous organisms—those whose shells, skeletons, or exoskeletons are composed primarily of calcium carbonate. Corals, molluscs, echinoderms, and foraminifera all depend upon the availability of carbonate ions to construct and maintain their calcium carbonate structures. As ocean acidity increases, the availability of carbonate ions diminishes, and the aragonite and calcite minerals that these organisms use for shell and skeleton formation become increasingly subject to dissolution. Shell-forming capacity is thus impaired, juveniles of many species struggle to survive to reproductive age, and entire populations face the risk of collapse.

The fate of coral reefs illustrates this compound threat with particular clarity. Already under severe pressure from thermal bleaching events driven by rising ocean temperatures, coral reefs face the additional burden of acidification, which critically impairs their capacity to recover from these episodes of physiological stress. Studies indicate that approximately half of the world's tropical coral reefs have been lost over the past five decades. Reef ecosystems, which host roughly a quarter of all known marine species despite covering less than one percent of the ocean floor, are approaching an ecological tipping point from which recovery may be impossible.

The collapse of reef ecosystems and the broader decline of marine biodiversity carry severe cascading consequences. Fisheries that sustain the livelihoods and nutritional security of hundreds of millions of people are disrupted as prey species decline and food webs fracture. Coastal communities lose the natural protective barriers that reefs provide against storm surges and erosion. The vast pharmacological potential of marine organisms—many of which have yielded compounds used in cancer treatment and antibiotic research—is steadily diminished. The economic costs of these losses, extending across tourism, fisheries, and coastal infrastructure, are projected to reach trillions of dollars annually.

Despite the clarity of the scientific evidence, international responses have struggled to match the urgency of the crisis. The Convention on Biological Diversity, the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List programme, and the Intergovernmental Science  y Platform  on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services have all documented  accelerating deterioration of marine ecosystems.

Yet the commitments made under these frameworks have consistently fallen short

- Q11.** Which of the following best expresses the central concern of the passage?
- (A) Ocean acidification is primarily caused by thermal pollution from industrial sources rather than by the absorption of atmospheric carbon dioxide.
  - (B) The Convention on Biological Diversity has succeeded in halting the decline of coral reef ecosystems through binding international commitments.
  - (C) Ocean acidification exclusively harms calcareous organisms and has no meaningful impact on broader marine food webs or coastal communities.
  - (D) Ocean acidification poses a systemic threat to marine biodiversity and the ecosystem services that billions of people depend on, yet international responses have been inadequate.
- Q12.** Which of the following is presented in the passage as an example directly threatened by ocean acidification?
- (A) Coral reefs, whose calcareous structures dissolve in more acidic water and whose recovery from thermal bleaching events is further impaired by lower pH levels.
  - (B) Deep-sea hydrothermal vent communities, which have evolved biochemical adaptations that render them immune to changes in surface ocean chemistry.
  - (C) Freshwater fish populations in inland river systems, whose reproductive cycles are disrupted by changes in oceanic pH levels.
  - (D) Marine mammals such as dolphins and whales, whose navigational sonar systems are degraded by increased concentrations of carbonic acid.
- Q13.** As used in the passage, the word *calcareous* most closely means:
- (A) Capable of surviving in highly acidic environments through biological adaptation developed over millions of years of evolutionary pressure.



- (B) Composed of or containing calcium carbonate, as in the shells and skeletons of many marine organisms.
- (C) Relating to the deep-sea zones where light does not penetrate and photosynthesis cannot occur, hosting specialised chemosynthetic life forms.
- (D) Characterised by exceptionally high metabolic rates and rapid reproductive cycles that enable quick population recovery after environmental disturbances.

**Q14.** Which of the following best describes the author's attitude toward international conservation efforts as expressed in the passage?

- (A) Largely dismissive—the author regards existing international conservation frameworks as wholly ineffectual and beyond the possibility of meaningful reform.
- (B) Unreservedly optimistic—the author expresses full confidence that international institutions will mobilise sufficient political will to resolve the marine biodiversity crisis.
- (C) Concerned but not despairing—the author acknowledges meaningful institutional frameworks while noting the persistent gap between scientific urgency and political response.
- (D) Strictly neutral—the author deliberately refrains from expressing any evaluative judgment about the adequacy of international conservation efforts.

**Q15.** Which of the following is **NOT** mentioned or discussed in the passage?

- (A) The impact of ocean acidification on the shell-forming capacity of calcareous marine organisms such as corals, molluscs, and echinoderms.
- (B) The role of coral reef ecosystems in hosting a significant proportion of all known marine species.
- (C) The contribution of marine biodiversity loss to the disruption of coastal fisheries and the food security of coastal communities.



- (D) The role of ocean salinity changes in accelerating the dissolution of calcium carbonate shells in marine organisms.

**Q16.** Which of the following would be the most appropriate title for the passage?

- (A) Acid Tide: Ocean Acidification, Biodiversity Loss, and the Imperative of Global Action
- (B) Saving the Corals: A Comprehensive Guide to Reef Conservation Techniques and International Policy
- (C) The Carbon Cycle: How Industrial Emissions Transform Ocean Chemistry and Restructure Marine Ecosystems
- (D) Marine Biodiversity and Individual Responsibility: Why Personal Action Is the Key to Ocean Conservation

**Q17.** What can be inferred about coral reefs from the information provided in the passage?

- (A) Coral reefs have demonstrated remarkable biological resilience to the combined effects of thermal bleaching and ocean acidification over the past five decades.
- (B) They face a compound threat from both rising sea temperatures causing bleaching and ocean acidification impairing recovery, making their long-term survival increasingly precarious.
- (C) The primary conservation significance of coral reefs lies in their pharmaceutical potential rather than in the biodiversity or ecosystem services they provide.
- (D) Coral reefs have already crossed an ecological tipping point from which recovery is no longer possible under any realistic scenario of future emissions reduction.

**Q18.** Based on the passage, what conclusion can best be drawn about the relationship between marine biodiversity loss and ecosystem services?



- (A) The economic losses from marine biodiversity decline are too large for individual nations to address and must be financed exclusively through international conservation funds.
- (B) The disruption of marine food webs caused by acidification primarily affects deep-sea organisms rather than commercially important fish species consumed by human populations.
- (C) The loss of marine biodiversity due to ocean acidification threatens not only ecological balance but also the food security, livelihoods, and coastal protection of human communities globally.
- (D) International conservation organisations have successfully quantified the precise economic costs of ocean acidification, enabling targeted and effective national policy responses.

**Q19.** The primary purpose of the passage is to:

- (A) Advocate for specific and binding emission reduction targets that would stabilise ocean pH levels and prevent further marine biodiversity loss.
- (B) Document the historical progression of ocean acidification from the onset of industrialisation to the current day as a scientific record for policymakers.
- (C) Compare the relative effectiveness of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the IUCN, and the IPBES in protecting marine ecosystems.
- (D) Explain the scientific mechanism and ecological consequences of ocean acidification and highlight the inadequacy of current international responses.

**Q20.** The tone of the passage can best be described as:

- (A) Scientifically precise and urgently cautionary, conveying both the severity of the ecological threat and the insufficiency of current international action.
- (B) Pessimistic and fatalistic, suggesting that marine biodiversity loss is



now inevitable regardless of any future conservation measures taken globally.

- (C) Objective and fully dispassionate, presenting scientific data without expressing any evaluative position on the adequacy of global policy responses.
- (D) Polemical and advocacy-oriented, demanding immediate political action through the use of emotionally charged and rhetorical language.

**Directions (Q.21–28):** Each question presents a word in capital letters. Choose the option that is the synonym or antonym as specified.

**Q21.** Choose the word that is closest in meaning (synonym) to **ENIGMATIC**.

- (A) Obvious
- (B) Inscrutable
- (C) Transparent
- (D) Predictable

**Q22.** Choose the word that is most nearly opposite in meaning (antonym) to **CANDID**.

- (A) Sincere
- (B) Frank
- (C) Evasive
- (D) Direct

**Q23.** Choose the word that is closest in meaning (synonym) to **INTREPID**.

- (A) Timid
- (B) Fearful
- (C) Cautious
- (D) Valiant



- Q24.** Choose the word that is most nearly opposite in meaning (antonym) to **ACRIMONIOUS**.
- (A) Amicable
  - (B) Bitter
  - (C) Hostile
  - (D) Resentful
- Q25.** Choose the word that is closest in meaning (synonym) to **OBTUSE**.
- (A) Perceptive
  - (B) Dull-witted
  - (C) Astute
  - (D) Sharp
- Q26.** Choose the word that is most nearly opposite in meaning (antonym) to **ERUDITE**.
- (A) Learned
  - (B) Scholarly
  - (C) Ignorant
  - (D) Well-read
- Q27.** Choose the word that is closest in meaning (synonym) to **VENERATE**.
- (A) Despise
  - (B) Belittle
  - (C) Tolerate
  - (D) Revere
- Q28.** Choose the word that is most nearly opposite in meaning (antonym) to **PLACID**.
- (A) Turbulent



- (B) Calm
- (C) Serene
- (D) Tranquil

**Directions (Q.29–32):** Choose the option that best expresses the meaning of the given idiom or phrase.

**Q29.** What is the meaning of the idiom “**A blessing in disguise**”?

- (A) A clear and unmistakable advantage that is visible to all parties from the very outset of a situation.
- (B) An apparent misfortune or setback that ultimately proves beneficial or advantageous in the long run.
- (C) A stroke of genuine and entirely unexpected good fortune that arrives without any prior difficulty.
- (D) A hidden danger or disadvantage carefully concealed behind an attractive or reassuring appearance.

**Q30.** What is the meaning of the idiom “**Once in a blue moon**”?

- (A) Under the bright illumination of a full moon, typically used to describe outdoor activities conducted at night.
- (B) Once every calendar month, on a regular and entirely predictable basis that can be scheduled in advance.
- (C) Very rarely; on an extremely infrequent basis that is far outside the normal course of events.
- (D) During a spectacular lunar eclipse that is visible from multiple locations across the surface of the Earth.

**Q31.** What is the meaning of the idiom “**Barking up the wrong tree**”?

- (A) Chasing a dangerous or elusive animal through dense woodland without adequate preparation or equipment.



- (B) Making unnecessary and disruptive noise in a public place, causing considerable annoyance to those nearby.
- (C) Seeking assistance from strangers or acquaintances who have absolutely no connection to one's problem.
- (D) Pursuing an entirely mistaken course of action in trying to achieve a goal or resolve a problem.

**Q32.** What is the meaning of the idiom “The tip of the iceberg”?

- (A) A small and visible portion of a much larger problem or phenomenon that remains largely hidden from view.
- (B) The most immediately dangerous element of a complex hazard, requiring the most urgent attention and resources.
- (C) An early and unmistakable warning sign that signals the approach of a more serious future crisis.
- (D) The highest point of achievement that has been reached in a particular competitive or professional field.

**Directions (Q.33–34):** Choose the one word that best substitutes for the given expression.

**Q33.** A person who hates or distrusts humankind in general, often preferring isolation from human society.

- (A) Philanthropist
- (B) Misanthrope
- (C) Anarchist
- (D) Nihilist

**Q34.** A morbid and irrational fear of open or public spaces, often causing severe anxiety and avoidance behaviour.

- (A) Claustrophobia
- (B) Acrophobia



- (C) Agoraphobia
- (D) Xenophobia

**Directions (Q.35–40):** Each sentence below has four underlined parts labelled (A), (B), (C), and (D). Identify the part that contains a grammatical error.

**Q35.** In the sentence below, identify the underlined part that contains a grammatical error.

(A) The new health initiative (B) was commended by the expert panel, (C) as it helped  
(D) less people fall into poverty.

- (A) The new health initiative
- (B) was commended by the expert panel,
- (C) as it had helped
- (D) less people

**Q36.** In the sentence below, identify the underlined part that contains a grammatical error.

(A) Running hurriedly toward the courtroom, (B) the case files (C) were found  
(D) to be incomplete.

- (A) Running hurriedly toward the courtroom,
- (B) the case files
- (C) were found
- (D) to be incomplete

**Q37.** In the sentence below, identify the underlined part that contains a grammatical error.

(A) The survey revealed (B) that the data was (C) deeply flawed (D) and could not

- (A) The survey revealed
- (B) that the data was



- (C) deeply flawed
- (D) and could not be used without revision

**Q38.** In the sentence below, identify the underlined part that contains a grammatical error.

(A) The young lawyer declared (B) with great confidence that (C) if he was the judge  
(D) he would have dismissed the petition.

- (A) The young lawyer declared
- (B) with great confidence that
- (C) if he was the judge,
- (D) he would have dismissed the petition

**Q39.** In the sentence below, identify the underlined part that contains a grammatical error.

(A) Had the committee acted (B) more decisively during the (C) preliminary stages  
(D) the dispute would of been resolved without such protracted litigation.

- (A) Had the committee acted
- (B) more decisively during the
- (C) preliminary stages of the proceedings,
- (D) the dispute would of been resolved

**Q40.** In the sentence below, identify the underlined part that contains a grammatical error.

(A) Between you and I, (B) the proposed amendment (C) will face significant  
(D) opposition in parliament.

- (A) Between you and I,
- (B) the proposed amendment
- (C) will face significant



(D) opposition in parliament

**Directions (Q.41–44):** Choose the option that is grammatically correct and most appropriate.

**Q41.** The sentence below is in direct speech. Choose the option that correctly converts it into reported speech.

*Direct speech:* She told the court, “I have submitted all the documents.”

- (A) She told the court that she has submitted all the documents.
- (B) She told the court that she had submitted all the documents.
- (C) She told the court that she would submit all the documents.
- (D) She told the court that she is submitting all the documents.

**Q42.** An incorrect sentence is given below. Choose the option that corrects it grammatically.

*Incorrect:* The lawyer’s strategy was to question witnesses, reviewing evidence, and the cross-examination of experts.

- (A) The lawyer’s strategy was questioning witnesses, reviewing evidence, and the cross-examination of experts.
- (B) The lawyer’s strategy was to question witnesses, to reviewing evidence, and to cross-examine experts.
- (C) The lawyer’s strategy was to question witnesses, to review evidence, and to cross-examine experts.
- (D) The lawyer’s strategy was questioning witnesses, to review evidence, and cross-examining experts.

**Q43.** Choose the grammatically correct sentence.

- (A) The advocate which the committee selected was widely respected for her legal acumen.
- (B) The advocate that the committee selected her was widely respected for her legal acumen.



- (C) The advocate who was selected by the committee her was widely respected for her legal acumen.
- (D) The advocate whom the committee selected was widely respected for her legal acumen.

**Q44.** Choose the grammatically correct sentence.

- (A) She has been waiting for the judgment to be delivered for two hours.
- (B) She has waited for the judgment to be delivered since two hours.
- (C) She was waiting for the judgment to be delivered for two hours.
- (D) She had been waiting for the judgment to be delivered since two hours ago.

**Directions (Q.45–48):** Choose the word that best fills the blank in each sentence.

**Q45.** The witness's account of the events was \_\_\_\_\_, leaving no room for doubt or misinterpretation.

- (A) Ambiguous
- (B) Unequivocal
- (C) Dubious
- (D) Inconsistent

**Q46.** The parliamentary committee called for a \_\_\_\_\_ reform of the entire criminal justice system.

- (A) Superficial
- (B) Marginal
- (C) Sweeping
- (D) Cosmetic

**Q47.** Without concrete evidence, the prosecution's allegations remained entirely \_\_\_\_\_.



- (A) Conclusive
- (B) Compelling
- (C) Well-founded
- (D) Speculative

**Q48.** The retired judge's \_\_\_\_\_ command of constitutional law made her the obvious choice to lead the commission.

- (A) Formidable
- (B) Rudimentary
- (C) Superficial
- (D) Inadequate

**Directions (Q.49–50):** The sentences labelled P, Q, R, S, and T together form a coherent paragraph, but they are not in the correct order. Choose the option that gives the most logical and meaningful sequence.

**Q49.** Arrange the following sentences into a coherent paragraph.

**P.** In this way, judicial review serves as a vital check on the potential arbitrariness of legislative majorities.

**Q.** The judiciary, in a constitutional democracy, performs the essential function of interpreting the constitution and protecting fundamental rights.

**R.** Without such institutional safeguards, legislative majorities could enact laws that violate the rights of minorities with impunity.

**S.** Through the power of judicial review, courts may strike down legislation that transgresses constitutional boundaries.

**T.** This institutional role is not a challenge to democratic governance but its ultimate guarantee.

- (A) PQRST
- (B) QSRPT
- (C) RQPST



(D) QPSRT

**Q50.** Arrange the following sentences into a coherent paragraph.

**P.** Critics argue that media ownership concentration and partisan editorial policies have compromised this independence in practice.

**Q.** A free and independent press is widely regarded as an indispensable pillar of democratic governance.

**R.** The rise of digital media has introduced new challenges, including the rapid spread of misinformation and the erosion of traditional journalistic business models.

**S.** By holding those in power accountable and keeping citizens informed, the press fulfils a vital civic function.

**T.** Addressing these structural vulnerabilities is therefore essential to preserving the watchdog role that a free press plays in democracy.

(A) QRSPT

(B) SQPRT

(C) QSPRT

(D) RQSPT



**Detailed Solutions****Q1.****Solution****Concept:** Central Theme / Main Idea of Passage

**Analysis:** The passage operates on two interlocking tracks: (i) the constitutional evolution — the 2017 Puttaswamy judgment overruling *ADM Jabalpur* and the threefold test; and (ii) the contemporary challenges to that right — state surveillance via Aadhaar, corporate data harvesting, and the incomplete legislative response. Option (B) is the only choice that captures both dimensions simultaneously.

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) overstates the outcome — the passage never says Puttaswamy “resolved” all tensions or created a comprehensive framework; Para 5 explicitly says the legislative path is still ahead. (C) is a one-sided distortion: the passage treats corporate and state threats as parallel concerns, not as a hierarchy. (D) is factually wrong per the passage — Para 5 describes data protection legislation as a future ambition, not a completed achievement.

**Answer:** (B) [← Go Back to Q 1](#)**Q2.****Solution****Concept:** Authorial Perspective / Critical Reading

**Analysis:** Para 2 describes the threefold test as a “structured framework” that “has since guided judicial scrutiny of legislation and executive actions that impinge upon individual freedoms.” The author presents the test approvingly as a mechanism that forces the state to justify any intrusion. Option (C) closely paraphrases this view.

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) misrepresents the test as restrictive to legitimate state action — the passage does not say this; the test balances rights and aims. (B) incorrectly limits the test to Aadhaar; the passage says it guides scrutiny broadly. (D) introduces corporate surveillance as invalidating the test — the passage does not draw this conclusion.

**Answer:** (C) [← Go Back to Q 2](#)**Q3.****Solution****Concept:** Contextual Vocabulary / Definitional Question

**Analysis:** Para 2 provides an explicit in-text definition: the means employed must



be “proportionate to the aim pursued, ensuring that the extent of any restriction on privacy does not exceed what is strictly necessary.” Option (D) is a near-exact paraphrase of this definition.

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) invents a reference to financial penalties that does not appear in the passage. (B) misreads proportionality as a benefit-sharing rule, which is not discussed. (C) introduces a cap on the number of state agencies — a concept entirely absent from the passage.

Answer: (D) [← Go Back to Q 3](#)

Q4.

### Solution

**Concept:** Factual Recall / Direct Reference

**Analysis:** Para 1 opens with: “The Supreme Court of India, in its landmark 2017 judgment in *Justice K.S. Puttaswamy (Retd.) v. Union of India...*” The year is stated unambiguously. Option (A) = 2017 is correct.

**Why other options are wrong:** (B) 2015 is the year of the Paris Agreement (Paper 1, Passage 1) — a distractor from a different passage. (C) 2019 and (D) 2013 are not mentioned in the passage in connection with this judgment.

Answer: (A) [← Go Back to Q 4](#)

Q5.

### Solution

**Concept:** Inference / Reading Between the Lines

**Analysis:** Para 3 critiques state surveillance via Aadhaar using phrases such as “concentration of vast quantities of personal biometric data.” Para 4, structured identically, critiques corporate actors using “systematic harvesting,” “coercive extraction,” and “fundamental questions about informed consent.” The parallel rhetorical treatment strongly implies comparable threats. Option (B) captures this inference.

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) contradicts the passage’s parallel treatment of state and corporate threats. (C) is directly contradicted by Para 4’s description of opaque algorithmic profiling and manipulation. (D) introduces a trade-off argument that the author does not advance anywhere in the passage.

Answer: (B) [← Go Back to Q 5](#)

Q6.



**Solution**

**Concept:** Best Title / Passage Summary

**Analysis:** The three-word title “Privacy, Power, and Protection” maps onto the passage’s structure: privacy as the fundamental right recognised (constitutional dimension), power as both state (Aadhaar) and corporate (data harvesting) threats, and protection as the legislative aspiration (GDPR, Indian framework). The subtitle explicitly names the “constitutional and digital dimensions” covered in Paras 1–5. Option (C) is the most comprehensive fit.

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) is too narrow — it focuses only on Aadhaar and ignores corporate surveillance and the legislative dimension. (B) is factually wrong; the passage advocates adaptation, not wholesale adoption of the GDPR. (D) focuses exclusively on corporate threats and omits the constitutional evolution and state surveillance dimensions.

**Answer:** (C) [← Go Back to Q 6](#)

Q7.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Author’s Purpose / Rhetorical Aim

**Analysis:** Paras 1–2 trace the legal evolution of the right to privacy (Puttaswamy overruling ADM Jabalpur; threefold test). Paras 3–4 examine contemporary threats (state surveillance, corporate data harvesting). Para 5 considers the legislative challenge ahead. Option (D) synthesises all five paragraphs accurately.

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) advocates for abolishing Aadhaar — the author analyses the controversy but does not call for abolition. (B) is factually incorrect as an account of the passage (it says “adopt wholesale,” whereas Para 5 calls for adapting global models). (C) presents corporate surveillance as categorically worse than state action, a hierarchy the author does not assert.

**Answer:** (D) [← Go Back to Q 7](#)

Q8.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Author’s Tone / Attitudinal Reading

**Analysis:** The author describes Puttaswamy as “a transformative moment” (optimistic about constitutional recognition) while Para 5 notes the path “requires” enforcement institutions and a “rights-conscious culture” still to be built (alert to implementation gaps). This balance of forward-looking acknowledgment and realistic caution is precisely captured by “guardedly optimistic” in option (A).

**Why other options are wrong:** (B) is too polemical — the author analyses Aad-



haar in a balanced way without calling for its dismantling. (C) is wrong because the author clearly takes a position (e.g., calling for robust legislative frameworks, characterising data commodification as raising “fundamental questions”). (D) is wrong because the author does not regard all challenges as resolved; Para 5 explicitly identifies what remains to be done.

Answer: (A) [← Go Back to Q 8](#)

Q9.

### Solution

**Concept:** Passage-Based Inference / Factual Synthesis

**Analysis:** Para 5 says Indian lawmakers have “grappled with” crafting a domestic framework, that the GDPR serves as a “global benchmark,” and that the path “requires” (future-oriented) creation of enforcement institutions and a rights-conscious culture. These signals of ongoing effort and incompleteness match option (B) precisely.

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) claims the regime is “fully operational” — Para 5 contradicts this directly. (C) inverts the author’s priorities: the passage argues for balancing rights against security, not for subordinating rights. (D) undermines the legislative emphasis that drives the entire fifth paragraph.

Answer: (B) [← Go Back to Q 9](#)

Q10.

### Solution

**Concept:** Contradiction Detection / Critical Reading

**Analysis:** Para 1 explicitly states that the nine-judge bench “decisively overruled the earlier *ADM Jabalpur* precedent.” Option (C) claims Puttaswamy “affirmed the validity” of *ADM Jabalpur* by citing it as a “foundational authority” — a direct and complete contradiction of what the passage says.

**Why other options are wrong (i.e., why they are consistent with the passage):** (A) is consistent — Para 1 confirms Puttaswamy overruled *ADM Jabalpur* (an earlier precedent that had denied privacy). (B) is consistent — Para 4 identifies technology companies as sources of privacy violations through data harvesting and profiling. (D) is consistent — Para 5 describes GDPR as a “global benchmark” informing India’s evolving framework.

Answer: (C) [← Go Back to Q 10](#)

Q11.



**Solution**

**Concept:** Central Idea / Thesis Identification

**Analysis:** The passage covers: the acidification mechanism (Para 1), biological harm to calcareous organisms (Para 2), coral reef collapse (Para 3), cascading ecosystem and human consequences (Para 4), and the gap between scientific alarm and political action (Para 5). Option (D) encompasses all five paragraphs — systemic biodiversity threat, human dependence on ecosystem services, and inadequate international response.

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) misidentifies the cause as “thermal pollution” — the passage attributes acidification to CO<sub>2</sub> absorption. (B) directly contradicts Para 5, which says international commitments “have consistently fallen short.” (C) is contradicted by Para 4, which details cascading effects on fisheries, coastal protection, and human livelihoods far beyond calcareous organisms alone.

Answer: (D) [← Go Back to Q 11](#)

Q12.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Factual Identification / Specific Detail

**Analysis:** Para 2 identifies corals as calcareous organisms whose calcium carbonate structures are subject to dissolution as carbonate ion availability diminishes. Para 3 then specifies that thermal bleaching *combined with* acidification impairs coral recovery. Option (A) accurately synthesises both threats from the passage.

**Why other options are wrong:** (B) introduces “deep-sea hydrothermal vent communities” — not mentioned anywhere in the passage. (C) discusses “freshwater fish populations” — the passage concerns marine organisms, not freshwater species. (D) attributes sonar disruption to dolphins and whales — a fabricated detail absent from the passage.

Answer: (A) [← Go Back to Q 12](#)

Q13.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Contextual Vocabulary / In-Text Definition

**Analysis:** Para 2 defines calcareous organisms immediately after introducing the term: “those whose shells, skeletons, or exoskeletons are composed primarily of calcium carbonate.” Option (B) is a near-exact paraphrase of this in-text definition.

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) describes acid adaptation — the passage describes calcareous organisms as *threatened* by acidity, not adapted to it. (C)



describes deep-sea chemosynthetic zones — irrelevant to the passage's definition of calcareous. (D) describes metabolic rates and reproductive speed — attributes not associated with the term “calcareous” in the passage.

**Answer: (B)** [← Go Back to Q 13](#)

Q14.

### Solution

**Concept:** Author's Tone / Attitudinal Reading

**Analysis:** Para 5 acknowledges the existence of meaningful frameworks (CBD, IUCN, IPBES) — these are legitimate institutional responses. Yet the paragraph concludes that commitments “have consistently fallen short” and that the “gap between scientific alarm and political action remains a fundamental obstacle.” This balanced combination of acknowledgment and persistent concern matches option (C): “concerned but not despairing.”

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) is too negative — the author acknowledges meaningful frameworks, not that they are beyond reform. (B) is too optimistic — the author explicitly identifies a “fundamental obstacle” in the gap between science and politics. (D) is wrong because the author evaluates the response as “inadequate” — a clear normative judgment, not neutrality.

**Answer: (C)** [← Go Back to Q 14](#)

Q15.

### Solution

**Concept:** Elimination / Factual Scanning

**Analysis:** Option (D) concerns “ocean salinity changes” and their effect on shell dissolution. This concept is never introduced in the passage, which discusses pH change (acidification) and carbonate ion availability, not salinity. The three other options are all explicitly mentioned: (A) Para 2 covers shell-forming capacity impairment; (B) Para 3 states coral reefs host “roughly a quarter of all known marine species”; (C) Para 4 discusses fisheries disruption and food security.

**Why other options are wrong (i.e., why they are mentioned):** (A) Para 2: “Shell-forming capacity is thus impaired.” (B) Para 3: “host roughly a quarter of all known marine species.” (C) Para 4: “Fisheries that sustain the livelihoods and nutritional security of hundreds of millions of people are disrupted.”

**Answer: (D)** [← Go Back to Q 15](#)

Q16.



**Solution**

**Concept:** Best Title / Passage Summary

**Analysis:** “Acid Tide” is a precise metaphor for the ongoing wave of ocean acidification. “Biodiversity Loss” maps to Paras 2–4. “The Imperative of Global Action” maps to Para 5’s critique of the gap between science and political commitment. Together these three elements cover all five paragraphs, making (A) the most comprehensive and appropriate title.

**Why other options are wrong:** (B) is too narrow and procedural — the passage is not a conservation guide and does not detail reef conservation techniques. (C) reduces the passage to its mechanistic content (CO<sub>2</sub> and chemistry) and omits the biodiversity and policy dimensions. (D) focuses on individual action, which is entirely absent from the passage; all proposed responses are institutional and international.

**Answer: (A)** [← Go Back to Q 16](#)

Q17.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Inference / Critical Synthesis

**Analysis:** Para 3 states explicitly that reefs are already under “severe pressure from thermal bleaching events” (rising temperatures) *and* face “the additional burden of acidification, which critically impairs their capacity to recover.” The passage then notes half of tropical reefs have been lost and that an ecological tipping point is being approached. Option (B) synthesises this compound threat and resulting precariousness accurately.

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) claims “remarkable resilience” — this directly contradicts Para 3’s description of half the world’s tropical reefs being lost. (C) overstates the pharmaceutical importance as the “primary” conservation reason; the passage discusses it as one of several ecosystem services, not the primary one. (D) says reefs “have already crossed” the tipping point; the passage says they are “approaching” it — a meaningful distinction.

**Answer: (B)** [← Go Back to Q 17](#)

Q18.

**Solution**

**Concept:** Synthesis / Drawing Conclusions

**Analysis:** Para 4 explicitly lists fisheries disruption (food security and livelihoods for hundreds of millions), loss of coastal protection (barrier against storm surges and erosion), and pharmacological losses. Option (C) synthesises these into the



broader conclusion that human communities are threatened across multiple dimensions.

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) introduces “international conservation funds” as the exclusive financing mechanism — the passage does not make this argument. (B) incorrectly limits the harm to “deep-sea organisms”; Para 4 discusses commercially important fisheries explicitly. (D) claims organisations have “successfully quantified” precise costs enabling targeted responses — Para 4 projects costs at trillions but does not claim this has enabled effective policy.

**Answer: (C)** [← Go Back to Q 18](#)

Q19.

### Solution

**Concept:** Author’s Purpose

**Analysis:** Paras 1–2 explain the scientific mechanism (CO<sub>2</sub> absorption, carbonic acid, pH decline, carbonate dissolution). Paras 3–4 describe ecological consequences (reef collapse, cascading effects on fisheries, coastal protection, pharmacology). Para 5 highlights that international responses have been inadequate. Option (D) captures all three elements.

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) advocates for specific binding targets — the author describes existing targets as inadequate but does not prescribe specific new ones. (B) describes a “historical document” framing — the passage is not solely historical but argues for action. (C) implies a comparative framework evaluation — the passage names CBD, IUCN, and IPBES but does not compare their relative effectiveness against each other.

**Answer: (D)** [← Go Back to Q 19](#)

Q20.

### Solution

**Concept:** Tone / Register Analysis

**Analysis:** The passage employs precise scientific data throughout (0.1 pH units, twenty-six percent increase in hydrogen ions, half of tropical reefs lost, quarter of marine species hosted by reefs). It is cautionary in its conclusion that the gap between “scientific alarm and political action remains a fundamental obstacle.” Both qualities — scientific precision and urgent caution — are captured by option (A).

**Why other options are wrong:** (B) “fatalistic” overstates the author’s position; the passage implies more action is needed and possible, not that loss is inevitable. (C) “fully dispassionate” is wrong: calling international responses “inadequate”



and the gap a “fundamental obstacle” are clear evaluative judgments. (D) “polemical” implies inflammatory rhetoric; the passage maintains measured academic prose throughout.

**Answer: (A)** [← Go Back to Q 20](#)

**Q21.**

### Solution

**Concept:** Vocabulary — Synonym

**Analysis:** ENIGMATIC derives from “enigma” (a puzzle or riddle) and means mysterious, obscure, or hard to interpret. INSCRUTABLE (option B) means impossible to understand or interpret, often applied to an expression or character that gives nothing away. The two words are near-perfect synonyms.

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) Obvious is the direct antonym of enigmatic (something obvious is immediately clear). (C) Transparent similarly means easy to see through or understand — another antonym. (D) Predictable means capable of being foretold — again, the opposite of enigmatic.

**Answer: (B)** [← Go Back to Q 21](#)

**Q22.**

### Solution

**Concept:** Vocabulary — Antonym

**Analysis:** CANDID means truthful and straightforward; not concealing anything; frank. Its antonym must convey the opposite quality — avoiding directness or concealing the truth. EVASIVE (option C) means deliberately avoiding being direct or committing to a clear answer, making it the precise antonym.

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) Sincere means genuine and honest — a synonym of CANDID, not an antonym. (B) Frank means direct and honest in expression — another synonym of CANDID. (D) Direct means going straight to the point without evasion — yet another synonym of CANDID.

**Answer: (C)** [← Go Back to Q 22](#)

**Q23.**

### Solution

**Concept:** Vocabulary — Synonym

**Analysis:** INTREPID means fearless and adventurous, often in the face of danger. VALIANT (option D) means possessing or showing courage, especially in the face of difficulty or opposition. Both words connote courageous action under adversity



and are therefore close synonyms.

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) Timid means showing lack of courage or confidence — a direct antonym of INTREPID. (B) Fearful means feeling or expressing fear — another antonym. (C) Cautious implies a degree of hesitation and care that contrasts with the fearless boldness of INTREPID.

**Answer: (D)** [← Go Back to Q 23](#)

Q24.

### Solution

**Concept:** Vocabulary — Antonym

**Analysis:** ACRIMONIOUS means angry and bitter, especially in speech or manner. It typically describes hostile, caustic, or antagonistic interactions. Its antonym must convey friendliness and goodwill. AMICABLE (option A) means having a spirit of friendliness and absence of discord — the precise opposite of acrimonious.

**Why other options are wrong:** (B) Bitter is a synonym of ACRIMONIOUS, not an antonym. (C) Hostile similarly means unfriendly or antagonistic — another synonym. (D) Resentful means feeling or expressing bitter indignation — yet another synonym of ACRIMONIOUS.

**Answer: (A)** [← Go Back to Q 24](#)

Q25.

### Solution

**Concept:** Vocabulary — Synonym

**Analysis:** OBTUSE (in the context of intellectual ability) means slow to understand; not quick or alert in perception. DULL-WITTED (option B) means slow in thinking; not mentally quick or bright. The two terms are direct synonyms in this intellectual sense.

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) Perceptive means having a ready insight into things — the direct antonym of OBTUSE. (C) Astute means having an ability to accurately assess situations — another antonym. (D) Sharp means quick-witted and mentally alert — yet another antonym of OBTUSE in its intellectual sense.

**Answer: (B)** [← Go Back to Q 25](#)

Q26.

### Solution

**Concept:** Vocabulary — Antonym

**Analysis:** ERUDITE means having or showing great knowledge or learning, espe-



cially from extensive reading and study. Its antonym must denote the absence of knowledge or learning. IGNORANT (option C) means lacking knowledge, information, or awareness — the direct opposite of erudite.

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) Learned means having acquired much knowledge through study — a synonym of ERUDITE. (B) Scholarly means involving or relating to serious academic study — another synonym. (D) Well-read means knowledgeable and informed through extensive reading — yet another synonym of ERUDITE.

**Answer: (C)** [← Go Back to Q 26](#)

Q27.

### Solution

**Concept:** Vocabulary — Synonym

**Analysis:** VENERATE means to regard with great respect and reverence, especially because of age, wisdom, or character. REVERE (option D) means to feel deep respect or admiration for someone or something. The two words are near-perfect synonyms, both conveying profound, respectful regard.

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) Despise means to feel contempt for — a direct antonym of VENERATE. (B) Belittle means to make someone or something seem unimportant — another antonym. (C) Tolerate means to allow or accept something without active approval — far too neutral and weak to serve as a synonym for the deep reverence implied by VENERATE.

**Answer: (D)** [← Go Back to Q 27](#)

Q28.

### Solution

**Concept:** Vocabulary — Antonym

**Analysis:** PLACID means not easily upset or excited; calm and peaceful. Its antonym must convey agitation, disorder, or disturbance. TURBULENT (option A) means characterised by conflict, disorder, or agitation — the direct opposite of placid.

**Why other options are wrong:** (B) Calm is a near-synonym of PLACID, not an antonym. (C) Serene means calm, peaceful, and untroubled — another synonym of PLACID. (D) Tranquil means free from disturbance or turmoil — yet another synonym. All three wrong options are synonyms of the word in question rather than its antonym.

**Answer: (A)** [← Go Back to Q 28](#)



Q29.

**Solution****Concept:** Idiom Comprehension

**Analysis:** “A blessing in disguise” describes something that appears unfortunate or unwelcome at first but turns out, on reflection or in the long run, to be a good thing. The key elements are: (i) initial appearance of misfortune, and (ii) ultimate beneficial outcome. Option (B) captures both: “apparent misfortune or setback that ultimately proves beneficial or advantageous.”

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) describes a clear and visible advantage from the outset — this contradicts the “in disguise” element (the blessing must be hidden). (C) describes unexpected good fortune arriving without prior difficulty — this omits the initial disguise as misfortune. (D) describes a hidden *danger* concealed behind an attractive appearance — almost the reverse: it inverts the idiom by making the hidden element negative rather than positive.

**Answer:** (B) [← Go Back to Q 29](#)

Q30.

**Solution****Concept:** Idiom Comprehension

**Analysis:** A “blue moon” refers to the second full moon in a single calendar month — a rare astronomical occurrence. The idiom therefore means something that happens very rarely or hardly ever. Option (C) captures this: “very rarely; on an extremely infrequent basis.”

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) interprets “moon” literally as moonlight and “blue moon” as a bright full moon — a complete misreading of the idiom’s figurative meaning. (B) claims the frequency is “once every calendar month” — this actually contradicts the rarity the idiom conveys; a blue moon is remarkable precisely because it is not monthly. (D) introduces a “lunar eclipse” reading — entirely literal and unrelated to the idiomatic meaning.

**Answer:** (C) [← Go Back to Q 30](#)

Q31.

**Solution****Concept:** Idiom Comprehension

**Analysis:** The idiom originates from hunting: a dog barking at the base of the wrong tree (the quarry has moved) is wasting effort on the wrong target. Figuratively, it means pursuing a mistaken approach or looking in the wrong place for something. Option (D) captures this: “pursuing an entirely mistaken course of



action in trying to achieve a goal or resolve a problem.”

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) takes the idiom literally — physically chasing an animal through woodland. (B) focuses on “noise in a public place” — a literal reading of “barking” with no connection to the idiomatic meaning. (C) comes closer (seeking something in the wrong place) but specifies “strangers who have no connection” rather than the broader sense of a mistaken approach or course of action.

**Answer: (D)** [← Go Back to Q 31](#)

**Q32.**

### Solution

**Concept:** Idiom Comprehension

**Analysis:** An iceberg is mostly submerged: only about ten percent is visible above the surface. “The tip of the iceberg” therefore refers to the small, visible part of a much larger problem or phenomenon that remains largely out of sight. Option (A) matches precisely: “a small and visible portion of a much larger problem or phenomenon that remains largely hidden from view.”

**Why other options are wrong:** (B) identifies the “most immediately dangerous element” — while the underwater portion of an iceberg is indeed dangerous, the idiom is not about danger but about visibility and proportion. (C) interprets it as an “early warning sign” — this partially overlaps with the idiom’s use but misses the core idea of a hidden majority. (D) describes the “highest point of achievement” — a literal reading of “tip” as a summit, entirely missing the figurative meaning.

**Answer: (A)** [← Go Back to Q 32](#)

**Q33.**

### Solution

**Concept:** One-Word Substitute

**Analysis:** A person who hates or distrusts humankind in general is a MISANTHROPE. The word derives from the Greek *misein* (to hate) and *anthropos* (human being). Misanthropes typically avoid human company and regard people with deep suspicion or contempt.

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) Philanthropist is the direct opposite: one who promotes human welfare and donates generously to charitable causes. (C) Anarchist refers to someone who advocates the abolition of government and social hierarchy — not a hatred of humankind as such. (D) Nihilist refers to someone who believes life is meaningless and rejects all moral principles — a philosophical



position distinct from misanthropy.

**Answer: (B)** ← [Go Back to Q 33](#)

Q34.

### Solution

**Concept:** One-Word Substitute

**Analysis:** A morbid and irrational fear of open or public spaces is AGORAPHOBIA. The word derives from the Greek *agora* (an open assembly place or marketplace) and *phobos* (fear). Sufferers experience severe anxiety in crowded places, open spaces, or situations from which escape might be difficult.

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) Claustrophobia is the fear of enclosed or confined spaces — almost the opposite of agoraphobia. (B) Acrophobia is the fear of heights. (D) Xenophobia is the fear or hatred of strangers, foreigners, or people different from oneself — not a fear of open spaces.

**Answer: (C)** ← [Go Back to Q 34](#)

Q35.

### Solution

**Concept:** Error Detection — Countable vs. Uncountable Nouns

**Grammar Rule:** “Less” is used with uncountable (mass) nouns: *less water, less time, less information*. “Fewer” must be used with countable nouns — nouns that can be enumerated individually. “People” is countable; therefore the correct form is “fewer people,” not “less people.” The error resides in part (D).

**Why other parts are correct:** (A) “The new health initiative” — correctly uses the definite article with a noun phrase. (B) “was commended by the expert panel” — correct passive construction. (C) “as it had helped” — correct past perfect in a causal clause following the past passive.

**Answer: (D)** ← [Go Back to Q 35](#)

Q36.

### Solution

**Concept:** Error Detection — Dangling Participle / Misplaced Modifier

**Grammar Rule:** A participial phrase at the beginning of a sentence must grammatically and logically modify the subject of the main clause. In part (A), “Running hurriedly toward the courtroom” is a participial phrase. The subject of the main clause is “the case files” (B) — but files cannot run. The participial phrase is therefore a dangling modifier. The sentence requires a human subject: e.g., “Running



hurriedly toward the courtroom, *the lawyer* found the case files to be incomplete.”

**Why other parts are correct:** (B) “the case files” — correctly used as a noun phrase. (C) “were found” — correct passive construction. (D) “to be incomplete” — correct infinitive complement.

Answer: (A) [← Go Back to Q 36](#)

Q37.

### Solution

**Concept:** Error Detection — Noun-Verb Agreement (Plural Noun “Data”)

**Grammar Rule:** “Data” is the Latin plural of “datum.” In formal academic and legal writing, “data” is treated as a plural noun and therefore takes a plural verb: “the data *were*.” Using the singular “was” in part (B) violates subject-verb agreement. The correction is: “that the data *were* deeply flawed.”

**Why other parts are correct:** (A) “The survey revealed” — correct simple past with singular subject “survey.” (C) “deeply flawed” — correct predicate adjective. (D) “and could not be used without revision” — correct modal passive construction.

Answer: (B) [← Go Back to Q 37](#)

Q38.

### Solution

**Concept:** Error Detection — Subjunctive Mood in Hypothetical Conditions

**Grammar Rule:** When a conditional clause expresses a hypothetical, counterfactual, or imagined situation in the present or future, English requires the subjunctive mood. For the verb “to be,” the subjunctive form is *were* regardless of person or number: “if he *were* the judge.” Since the lawyer is manifestly not the judge (a counterfactual condition), “if he was” (indicative) in part (C) is grammatically incorrect.

**Why other parts are correct:** (A) “The young lawyer declared” — correct simple past. (B) “with great confidence that” — correct prepositional phrase introducing a reported clause. (D) “he would have dismissed the petition” — correct conditional perfect; consistent with the hypothetical structure.

Answer: (C) [← Go Back to Q 38](#)

Q39.



**Solution**

**Concept:** Error Detection — Modal Verb Construction (“Would Have” vs. “Would Of”)

**Grammar Rule:** The correct modal construction is “would *have* been” (modal + perfect infinitive). The error “would *of* been” arises from a phonetic confusion: in spoken English, the contraction “would’ve” (would have) sounds like “would of.” However, “of” is a preposition and cannot function as an auxiliary verb. Part (D) contains this error.

**Why other parts are correct:** (A) “Had the committee acted” — correct inverted conditional (third conditional with inversion replacing “if”). (B) “more decisively during the” — grammatically correct adverbial phrase. (C) “preliminary stages of the proceedings” — correct noun phrase.

**Answer: (D)** [← Go Back to Q 39](#)

**Q40.**

**Solution**

**Concept:** Error Detection — Pronoun Case after Preposition

**Grammar Rule:** Prepositions govern the objective (accusative) case of pronouns. “Between” is a preposition; therefore the pronouns following it must be in the objective case: *me, him, her, us, them*. “I” is a subjective (nominative) pronoun and cannot follow a preposition. The correct form is “Between you and *me*.” Part (A) contains this error.

**Why other parts are correct:** (B) “the proposed amendment” — correct noun phrase as subject of the main clause. (C) “will face significant” — correct future tense. (D) “opposition in parliament” — correct noun phrase as object.

**Answer: (A)** [← Go Back to Q 40](#)

**Q41.**

**Solution**

**Concept:** Sentence Correction — Reported Speech / Sequence of Tenses (Backshift)

**Grammar Rule:** In reported (indirect) speech, when the reporting verb is in the past tense (“told”), the tense of the reported clause must shift back (backshift) by one degree. Present perfect (“have submitted”) becomes past perfect (“had submitted”). Option (B) correctly applies this backshift: “she *had submitted* all the documents.”

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) keeps the present perfect “has submitted” without any backshift — grammatically incorrect in reported speech after a past



reporting verb. (C) changes the meaning entirely: “would submit” implies a future intention, not a completed action of submission. (D) uses the present continuous “is submitting” — also without backshift, and it changes the aspect from completed to ongoing.

**Answer: (B)** [← Go Back to Q 41](#)

**Q42.**

### Solution

**Concept:** Sentence Correction — Parallel Structure

**Grammar Rule:** Items in a series must be grammatically parallel. When a series begins with an infinitive (“to question”), each subsequent item must also be an infinitive. The incorrect sentence mixes: “to question” (infinitive), “reviewing” (gerund), and “the cross-examination” (noun phrase). Option (C) makes all three items parallel infinitives: “to question witnesses, to review evidence, and to cross-examine experts.”

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) changes the series to gerunds (“questioning,” “reviewing”) but ends with the noun phrase “the cross-examination” — still not fully parallel. (B) uses “to reviewing” which is ungrammatical: the infinitive marker “to” cannot precede a gerund (“-ing” form). (D) mixes a gerund (“questioning”), an infinitive (“to review”), and another gerund (“cross-examining”) — not parallel.

**Answer: (C)** [← Go Back to Q 42](#)

**Q43.**

### Solution

**Concept:** Sentence Correction — Relative Pronoun Case (Who vs. Whom)

**Grammar Rule:** “Who” functions as the subject of a verb; “whom” functions as the object of a verb or preposition. In the relative clause “the committee selected \_\_,” the relative pronoun is the object of “selected.” To verify: substitute the pronoun — “the committee selected *him*” (objective) confirms that the objective-case “whom” is required. Option (D) correctly uses “whom.”

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) uses “which” — correctly used for things and animals, not for people. (B) contains a redundant pronoun: “that the committee selected *her*” — the relative pronoun “that” already fills the object role; “her” is superfluous. (C) also contains a redundant pronoun “her” after “by the committee,” creating an ungrammatical construction.

**Answer: (D)** [← Go Back to Q 43](#)



Q44.

**Solution****Concept:** Sentence Correction — Tense and Aspect (Present Perfect Continuous)**Grammar Rule:** To describe an action that began in the past and is still ongoing at the moment of speaking, English uses the present perfect continuous: *has/have been + verb-ing*. Duration is expressed with “for” followed by a length of time (“for two hours”); a point in time uses “since” (“since 10 o’clock”). Option (A) — “has been waiting . . . for two hours” — correctly applies both rules.**Why other options are wrong:** (B) “has waited . . . since two hours” commits two errors: the simple perfect (“has waited”) loses the continuous aspect, and “since” incorrectly precedes a duration (“two hours”) rather than a time point. (C) “was waiting” uses the past continuous, which implies the action has ended at a past moment, not that it is still ongoing. (D) “had been waiting . . . since two hours ago” uses the past perfect continuous, which requires a reference past event to anchor it; without such an event, it is contextually inappropriate here.**Answer: (A)** [← Go Back to Q 44](#)

Q45.

**Solution****Concept:** Fill in the Blank — Vocabulary in Context**Analysis:** The clue phrase “leaving no room for doubt or misinterpretation” calls for a word meaning absolutely clear and unambiguous. UNEQUIVOCAL (option B) means leaving no doubt; expressing something in a clear and definite way — a precise fit.**Why other options are wrong:** (A) Ambiguous means open to more than one interpretation — the exact opposite of what the clue phrase requires. (C) Dubious means hesitant or doubtful — again contrary to the clue. (D) Inconsistent means not staying the same throughout; self-contradictory — this would create doubt, not eliminate it.**Answer: (B)** [← Go Back to Q 45](#)

Q46.

**Solution****Concept:** Fill in the Blank — Vocabulary in Context**Analysis:** The phrase “reform of the *entire* criminal justice system” signals that the required word must convey comprehensive, far-reaching scope. SWEEPING (option C) means extending or performed in a wide scope; large in scale and comprehensive — a perfect match.

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) Superficial means dealing only with surface appearances; not thorough or deep — the opposite of what “entire system” reform requires. (B) Marginal means minor or insignificant — contradicts the scope of reforming an “entire” system. (D) Cosmetic means dealing with or improving only the appearance of something — implies surface-level change, again contradicting the comprehensive scope indicated.

**Answer: (C)** [← Go Back to Q 46](#)

Q47.

### Solution

**Concept:** Fill in the Blank — Vocabulary in Context

**Analysis:** The conditional phrase “without concrete evidence” indicates the allegations are based on conjecture rather than proven facts. SPECULATIVE (option D) means based on conjecture rather than knowledge; not supported by evidence — exactly what the sentence requires.

**Why other options are wrong:** (A) Conclusive means decisively settling a question; producing a firm conclusion — the opposite of allegations made without evidence. (B) Compelling means evoking interest or admiration; persuasive — implies the allegations carry weight, which contradicts “without concrete evidence.” (C) Well-founded means based on good reasons or reliable information — directly contradicts the premise of having no concrete evidence.

**Answer: (D)** [← Go Back to Q 47](#)

Q48.

### Solution

**Concept:** Fill in the Blank — Vocabulary in Context

**Analysis:** The phrase “made her the obvious choice to lead the commission” implies that her command of constitutional law was impressively powerful — strong enough to make her stand out above all others. FORMIDABLE (option A) means inspiring awe or respect through being impressively large, powerful, intense, or capable — a perfect contextual fit.

**Why other options are wrong:** (B) Rudimentary means involving only basic principles; elementary — a rudimentary command would disqualify rather than commend her. (C) Superficial means not thorough; dealing only with the obvious — again, this would undermine rather than support the claim of being the obvious choice. (D) Inadequate means not sufficient; lacking the required quality — directly contradicts “the obvious choice.”

**Answer: (A)** [← Go Back to Q 48](#)



**Solution**

**Concept:** Para-Jumble — Logical and Cohesive Sequencing

**Analysis:** The correct sequence is **Q–S–R–P–T**:

- Q49.**
- **Q** introduces the subject: the judiciary's essential function in a constitutional democracy (topic sentence).
  - **S** explains the mechanism: the power of judicial review — courts can strike down unconstitutional legislation (elaborates Q).
  - **R** presents the risk if this safeguard is absent: legislative majorities could violate minority rights with impunity (consequence of lacking S).
  - **P** begins with "In this way" — a cohesive device linking back to S and R — synthesising: judicial review checks arbitrariness.
  - **T** provides the conclusion: this institutional role is democracy's ultimate guarantee.

The sequence follows: Introduction → Mechanism → Risk → Synthesis → Conclusion.

**Why other orders are wrong:** (A) PQRST begins with P ("In this way") before establishing what "this way" refers to — the cohesive device has no antecedent. (C) RQPST begins with R (the risk) before establishing the safeguard that creates the risk — illogical. (D) QPSRT places P before S, but P's "In this way" refers back to judicial review (S) and cannot precede it.

**Answer: (B)** ← [Go Back to Q 49](#)

**Solution**

**Concept:** Para-Jumble — Logical and Cohesive Sequencing

**Analysis:** The correct sequence is **Q–S–P–R–T**:

- Q50.**
- **Q** establishes the foundational claim: a free press is an indispensable pillar of democracy (topic sentence).
  - **S** elaborates how the press fulfils this function: by holding power accountable and keeping citizens informed.
  - **P** introduces the first challenge: critics argue media ownership concentration and partisan policies have compromised press independence (threat to the ideal).
  - **R** adds a further challenge: the rise of digital media brings misinformation and erosion of journalistic business models (additional structural vulnerabil-



ity).

- **T** concludes with “therefore”: addressing these structural vulnerabilities is essential to preserving the press’s watchdog role. The word “therefore” links back to P and R as the vulnerabilities requiring address.

The sequence follows: Ideal → Explanation → First Challenge → Second Challenge → Conclusion.

**Why other orders are wrong:** (A) QRSPT places R (digital challenges) before S (how press fulfils its function) and before P (ownership challenges), disrupting the ideal-then-challenge flow. (B) SQPRT starts with S (the function) before Q (the foundational claim) — the claim must precede its elaboration. (D) RQSPT begins with R (a specific challenge) before establishing what press freedom is and why it matters.

**Answer: (C)** [← Go Back to Q 50](#)



## Answer Key

| Q  | Ans | Q  | Ans | Q  | Ans | Q  | Ans | Q  | Ans |
|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|
| 1  | B   | 2  | C   | 3  | D   | 4  | A   | 5  | B   |
| 6  | C   | 7  | D   | 8  | A   | 9  | B   | 10 | C   |
| 11 | D   | 12 | A   | 13 | B   | 14 | C   | 15 | D   |
| 16 | A   | 17 | B   | 18 | C   | 19 | D   | 20 | A   |
| 21 | B   | 22 | C   | 23 | D   | 24 | A   | 25 | B   |
| 26 | C   | 27 | D   | 28 | A   | 29 | B   | 30 | C   |
| 31 | D   | 32 | A   | 33 | B   | 34 | C   | 35 | D   |
| 36 | A   | 37 | B   | 38 | C   | 39 | D   | 40 | A   |
| 41 | B   | 42 | C   | 43 | D   | 44 | A   | 45 | B   |
| 46 | C   | 47 | D   | 48 | A   | 49 | B   | 50 | C   |

