ANSWER KEY — 23 JUNE 2026

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

SECTION A — LEGAL REASONING

Q1 B

Section 56 makes an agreement void when, after it is made, performance becomes impossible or unlawful by reason of an event the promisor could not prevent. A lawful government requisition of the very ship that is the subject of a single-voyage charter is a supervening event, outside Mehta's control, that destroys the basis of the contract. Performance is rendered impossible without his fault, so the contract is frustrated and both parties are discharged; Mehta is not in breach (option A). Foreseeability of this kind is not the test (option C), and the contract does not survive to be performed after an indefinite delay (option D), because the commercial purpose of a single voyage cannot wait indefinitely. Hence (B).

Q2 B

Frustration is reserved for a supervening event that, without either party's fault, strikes at the root of the contract and makes performance impossible or radically different — exactly what (B) states. Options A and C describe mere increased expense or unprofitability, which the principle expressly says do NOT frustrate a contract. Option D treats any delay as frustration, which is far too wide; an ordinary delay does not discharge a contract unless it defeats its very object. Satyabrata Ghose confirms that commercial hardship is not frustration. Hence (B).

Q3 C

The question asks for the INCORRECT statement. Options A, B and D are all true: frustration operates automatically by force of law (A); mere added cost or difficulty does not frustrate (B); and an express provision for the event ousts the doctrine (D). Option C is false — a self-induced event cannot be relied upon by the party who caused it. The principle states frustration applies only where the event occurs 'without the fault of either party', so a party at fault cannot claim it. Therefore the INCORRECT statement is (C).

Q4 C

The principle expressly excludes frustration where the impossibility is self-induced by the party seeking relief. Verma deliberately diverted both mines' output to a better-paying buyer, thereby manufacturing the very impossibility he now pleads. Because the impossibility flows from his own voluntary choice and not from a supervening event beyond his control, Section 56 does not discharge him; he remains liable for breach. Option A ignores the self-induced bar; option B wrongly makes prior knowledge of the buyer decisive; and option D wrongly demands proof of an intent to defraud, which is not required to defeat a self-induced frustration plea. Hence (C).

Q5 C

A lease of land for a long term belongs to the class of contracts the courts have held capable of surviving a temporary disruption. An eight-month closure of a ten-year lease, after which normal use resumes, leaves a large unexpired term and does not destroy the foundation of the bargain; the interruption is temporary, not fundamental. So the lease is not frustrated (option C). Option A overstates an eight-month interruption; option B wrongly treats every suspension as automatic discharge; option D invents an extension condition the doctrine does not require. The test is whether the event strikes at the root of the contract, and here it does not. Hence (C).

Q6 A

In Satyabrata Ghose the Supreme Court held that 'impossible' in Section 56 is not confined to literal or physical impossibility; it includes performance that a supervening event has rendered impracticable or radically different from what the parties undertook, judged by the object of the contract. Option A states this. Option B wrongly limits frustration to physical destruction of the subject matter; option C wrongly imports the English 'implied term' theory, which the Indian court declined to treat as the basis of Section 56; and option D would let a party escape for mere inconvenience, contrary to the ruling. Hence (A).

Q7 D

Publication is essential to defamation: the imputation must be communicated to at least one person other than the person defamed. Anil sent the letter only to Bhuvan, so no third person received the imputation and there is no publication. The statement may wound Bhuvan's feelings, but the offence protects reputation in the eyes of others, not feelings, and reputation cannot be lowered in the estimation of third parties who never saw the words. Options A, B and C all assume guilt despite the absence of publication; falsity or damaging content cannot supply the missing element of publication. Hence (D) — Anil is not guilty.

Q8 A

Under the principle, truth standing alone is not a complete defence; the imputation must be both true AND its publication for the public good. Option A captures this twin requirement exactly. Option B drops the public-good condition; option C wrongly denies truth any defensive role; and option D substitutes the consent of the person defamed, which is not the test stated. The first exception to Section 356 protects imputing 'anything true which the public good requires to be made or published', so public good is indispensable to the defence of truth. Hence (A).

Q9 B

An exception to defamation protects an opinion expressed in good faith respecting the conduct of a public servant in the discharge of his public functions. A journalist criticising, in good faith and on reasonable grounds, how a municipal commissioner awarded a public tender falls squarely within it, so he is protected (option B). Option A wrongly treats all criticism of officials as defamation; option C makes protection hinge on an eventual conviction, which the exception does not require; and option D invents a prior-response condition. Good-faith comment on official conduct is precisely what the exception is designed to shield. Hence (B).

Q10 C

The principle states that a deceased person may be defamed where the imputation (i) would harm his reputation if he were living and (ii) is intended to hurt the feelings of his family or near relatives. Option C reproduces both limbs. Option A wrongly denies that the dead can be defamed at all; option B drops the family-feelings requirement and so is too wide; and option D invents a court-permission condition that does not exist. Both conditions must be satisfied together, which only option C states correctly. Hence (C).

Q11 A

An exception to defamation protects an accusation preferred in good faith against a person to one who has lawful authority over that person or over the subject matter. Farida, genuinely believing her bag was stolen, complained to the police, a lawful authority; her good faith is not destroyed merely because the accusation later proved mistaken. So she is protected (option A). Option B treats subsequent falsity as decisive, ignoring good faith; option C demands proof of a prior record, which the exception does not require; and option D makes protection depend on the police registering a case. Good faith plus a lawful authority suffices. Hence (A).

Q12 D

The question asks for the INCORRECT statement. Options A, B and C are correct: publication requires communication to a third person (A); a substantially true good-faith report of court proceedings is excepted (B); and the offence protects reputation, not mere feelings (C). Option D is false because truth alone is not a complete defence — the principle requires that publication also be for the public good. By asserting truth defends 'even where the publication serves no public good', D contradicts the stated rule. Therefore the INCORRECT statement is (D).

SECTION B — ANALYTICAL REASONING

Q13 B

Decode by overlaps. 'bring the book'={sa,na,da} and 'read the novel'={na,ka,pa} share the word 'the' and the code 'na', so the=na. 'bring the book' and 'bring good novel'={da,la,ka} share 'bring' and 'da', so bring=da. 'bring the book' and 'good old book'={la,ra,sa} share 'book' and 'sa', so book=sa. Finally 'read the novel' and 'bring good novel' share 'novel' and the code 'ka', so novel=ka. The code for 'novel' is therefore 'ka'. Hence (B).

Q14 C

From the four sentences the codes are fixed by their overlaps. 'the' appears in sentences (1) and (2); the shared code is 'na', so the=na. 'novel' appears in sentences (2) and (3); the shared code is 'ka', so novel=ka. Sentence (2), 'read the novel', is written as the set {na, ka, pa}. With the=na and novel=ka already identified, the only remaining code, 'pa', must represent the only remaining word, 'read'. Therefore 'pa' stands for read. Hence (C).

Q15 B

Using the full mapping derived from the overlaps — read=pa, good=la, book=sa — the phrase 'read good book' must be written with exactly the three codes pa, la and sa, in any order. Option B, 'pa la sa', uses precisely these three codes. Option A contains 'na' (the) instead of pa; option C contains 'ra' (old) instead of la; and option D contains 'ka' (novel) instead of sa. Only option B is built from the correct set of three codes. Hence (B).

Q16 A

The full mapping derived from the overlaps is bring=da, the=na, book=sa, novel=ka, good=la, old=ra and read=pa. The phrase 'the old novel' is therefore written using the three codes na (the), ra (old) and ka (novel), in any order. Option A, 'na ra ka', uses exactly these three codes. Option B wrongly substitutes 'sa' (book) for ka; option C substitutes 'da' (bring) for na; and option D substitutes 'la' (good) for ra. Only option A is correct. Hence (A).

Q17 B

Build the stack from the conditions. S is at the top, so position 7 = S. 'Two boxes between S and T' places T three positions below S, at position 4. 'Three boxes between P and Q' (a gap of four) together with R immediately above P, and U immediately above Q while U lies above Q but below T, forces Q = 1, U = 2, V = 3, T = 4, P = 5, R = 6, S = 7. The unique order from bottom to top is Q, U, V, T, P, R, S, so the bottom box at position 1 is Q. Hence (B).

Q18 C

Building the stack from the conditions gives the unique order, bottom to top: Q (1), U (2), V (3), T (4), P (5), R (6), S (7). The box immediately above T, which sits at position 4, is the box at position 5, namely P. Options R, U and V occupy positions 6, 2 and 3 respectively and are not directly above T, so they are incorrect. The box immediately above T is therefore P. Hence (C).

Q19 B

In the unique stack Q (1), U (2), V (3), T (4), P (5), R (6), S (7), box V sits at position 3 and box R sits at position 6. The boxes lying strictly between them occupy positions 4 and 5 — that is, T and P — which is exactly two boxes. The option 'One' undercounts, while 'Three' and 'Four' overcount the span between positions 3 and 6, which contains only two intermediate positions. Hence (B).

Q20 D

In the stack Q (1), U (2), V (3), T (4), P (5), R (6), S (7), the boxes placed above T at position 4 are those at positions 5, 6 and 7 — namely P, R and S, three boxes — and these are removed. Since the pile originally contains seven boxes, removing three leaves four boxes: Q, U, V and T. The options 'Three', 'Five' and 'Two' miscount either the number removed or the number remaining. Hence (D).

SECTION C — QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

Q21 B

Sum the 2025 column, all figures in thousands: Delhi-Mumbai 920, Delhi-Bengaluru 600, Mumbai-Chennai 460, Kolkata-Delhi 660 and Hyderabad-Pune 325. Adding step by step: 920 + 600 = 1520; 1520 + 460 = 1980; 1980 + 660 = 2640; 2640 + 325 = 2965. The total number of passengers carried across all five routes in 2025 is therefore 2,965 thousand. The other options arise from arithmetic slips in the running total and do not match. Hence (B).

Q22 C

Compute each route's absolute increase, that is, 2025 minus 2024: Delhi-Mumbai 920 - 800 = 120; Delhi-Bengaluru 600 - 500 = 100; Mumbai-Chennai 460 - 400 = 60; Kolkata-Delhi 660 - 600 = 60; Hyderabad-Pune 325 - 250 = 75. The greatest of these is 120, on the Delhi-Mumbai route. Note the trap: Hyderabad-Pune has the highest percentage growth at 30%, but the question asks for the largest absolute increase, which is Delhi-Mumbai. Hence (C).

Q23 A

First find the totals. Total 2024 = 800 + 500 + 400 + 600 + 250 = 2550 thousand; total 2025 = 2965 thousand from the earlier sum. The overall growth is (2965 - 2550) / 2550 = 415 / 2550 = 0.1627, which is about 16.3%, that is, approximately 16%. The distractors of 14%, 18% and 20% do not match the computed figure and are included to catch rounding or base errors. Hence (A).

Q24 D

In 2025 Delhi-Bengaluru carried 600 thousand passengers and Mumbai-Chennai carried 460 thousand. The ratio required is 600 : 460. Dividing both numbers by their common factor 20 gives 30 : 23, and since 30 and 23 share no further common factor, the ratio is fully reduced. The distractors 25:23, 13:10 and 6:5 do not reduce from 600:460, so they are incorrect. The required ratio is 30 : 23. Hence (D).

Q25 B

Hyderabad-Pune grew by 30% from 2024 to 2025 (from 250 to 325, since 75/250 = 0.30). Projecting the 2026 figure at the same 30% rate is done on the 2025 base of 325: 325 x 1.30 = 422.5 thousand. Equivalently, 30% of 325 is 97.5, and 325 + 97.5 = 422.5. The other options apply the wrong base or the wrong rate and so are incorrect. The projected 2026 figure is 422.5 thousand. Hence (B).

Q26 D

Add the May column across all five genres: Fiction 360, Science 200, History 160, Biography 140 and Poetry 90. Adding step by step: 360 + 200 = 560; 560 + 160 = 720; 720 + 140 = 860; 860 + 90 = 950. The total number of books issued in May is therefore 950, which appears at option D. The other figures arise from dropping or mis-adding one of the genre totals, and so do not match the correct sum. Hence (D).

Q27 B

Fiction issues over the three months were 320 in April, 360 in May and 400 in June. Their sum is 320 + 360 + 400 = 1080. The average monthly figure is the total divided by the number of months, that is, 1080 / 3 = 360 books per month. Notice that here the middle month's value, 360, happens to equal the average because the three values rise in a constant step of 40. Hence (B).

Q28 C

Percentage growth from April to June for each genre is (June - April) / April: Fiction 320 to 400 = 80/320 = 25%; Science 180 to 220 = 40/180 = 22.2%; History 150 to 170 = 20/150 = 13.3%; Biography 120 to 160 = 40/120 = 33.3%; Poetry 80 to 100 = 20/80 = 25%. The largest percentage growth, 33.3%, belongs to Biography, even though its absolute increase of 40 is smaller than Fiction's increase of 80. Hence (C).

Q29 C

Total History over the three months = 150 + 160 + 170 = 480. Total Poetry over the three months = 80 + 90 + 100 = 270. The required ratio is therefore 480 : 270. Dividing both numbers by their common factor 30 gives 16 : 9, which is fully reduced since 16 and 9 share no common factor. The distractors 5:3, 9:5 and 2:1 do not reduce from 480:270, so they are incorrect. Hence (C).

Q30 B

First find June's total issues: Fiction 400 + Science 220 + History 170 + Biography 160 + Poetry 100 = 1050. Fiction's share is then 400 / 1050 = 0.3809, which is about 38.1%, that is, approximately 38%. Rounding 0.3809 to the nearest whole percentage gives 38%. The distractors of 35%, 40% and 42% are close but do not match the computed proportion, so they are incorrect. Hence (B).

SECTION D — RAPID-FIRE MIXED REASONING & GK

Q31 A

Karan refers to 'my grandfather's only son'. Since the grandfather has exactly one son, that son must be Karan's own father. The woman is described as the daughter of that son — that is, the daughter of Karan's father. A daughter of one's own father is one's sister, so the woman is Karan's sister. She is not an aunt, cousin or niece, each of which would require a quite different line of descent. Hence (A).

Q32 D

Track the journey on a grid from the start at (0,0). Walking 10 m east reaches (10,0). A left turn now faces north; 10 m reaches (10,10). A left turn faces west; 10 m reaches (0,10). A final left turn faces south; 5 m reaches (0,5). The end point (0,5) lies 5 m due north of the starting point (0,0). So the man is now 5 m to the north of where he began, which is option D. Hence (D).

Q33 C

Take the statements as given. 'All pencils are pens' and 'no pen is an eraser': since every pencil is a pen, and no pen can be an eraser, no pencil can be an eraser — so conclusion (I) follows validly. 'All pencils are pens' also converts to the particular 'some pens are pencils', because if the whole class of pencils lies within pens, then at least some pens are pencils — so conclusion (II) follows as well. Both conclusions therefore follow. Hence (C).

Q34 D

The code simply replaces each letter by its serial position in the English alphabet: F=6, R=18, O=15, S=19, T=20, which matches FROST = 6-18-15-19-20. Applying the same rule to GIANT: G is the 7th letter, I the 9th, A the 1st, N the 14th and T the 20th, giving 7-9-1-14-20. Option A mis-codes N as 13, option B mis-codes I as 8, and option C mis-codes G as 6. Only option D is fully correct. Hence (D).

Q35 A

Examine how each term is generated from the ones before it. 3 + 4 = 7; 4 + 7 = 11; 7 + 11 = 18; 11 + 18 = 29 — each term is the sum of the two immediately preceding terms, a Fibonacci-type rule. The term after 29 is therefore 18 + 29 = 47. The distractors 45, 46 and 48 do not satisfy this add-the-previous-two pattern, so they are incorrect. The next number is 47. Hence (A).

Q36 D

A successive 20% increase and then a 20% decrease must be applied multiplicatively, not added. Starting from a price P, a 20% increase makes it 1.20P, and a subsequent 20% decrease multiplies that by 0.80, giving 1.20 x 0.80 = 0.96P. The final price is 96% of the original, which is a net decrease of 4%. The result is a decrease, not 'no change' or an increase, and its magnitude is 4%, not 2%. So the net change is a 4% decrease, option D. Hence (D).

Q37 C

The amount Rs. 6,300 is shared in the ratio 2 : 3 : 4, so the total number of equal parts is 2 + 3 + 4 = 9. The value of one part is 6300 / 9 = Rs. 700. C's share corresponds to 4 parts, so C receives 4 x 700 = Rs. 2,800. As a check, A gets 2 x 700 = 1,400 and B gets 3 x 700 = 2,100, and 1,400 + 2,100 + 2,800 = 6,300, which confirms the split. Hence (C).

Q38 D

Article 17 of the Constitution abolishes 'untouchability' and forbids its practice in any form; the enforcement of any disability arising out of untouchability is made an offence punishable by law. The other options concern different rights: Article 14 guarantees equality before the law, Article 15 prohibits discrimination on grounds such as religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth, and Article 16 ensures equality of opportunity in public employment. Only Article 17 deals specifically with untouchability. Hence (D).

Q39 A

The Directive Principles of State Policy in Part IV of the Indian Constitution were modelled on the Constitution of Ireland, which had itself adopted the concept from the Spanish Constitution. The framers borrowed many features from different countries — the parliamentary system and rule of law from the United Kingdom, fundamental rights and judicial review from the United States, and the residuary-powers idea partly from Canada — but the Directive Principles specifically trace to the Irish model. Hence (A).

Q40 D

Average speed is total distance divided by total time. The time of 2 hours 30 minutes must first be converted to hours: 30 minutes is half an hour, so the time is 2.5 hours. The speed is then 150 km divided by 2.5 hours = 60 km/h. A common error is to treat 2 hours 30 minutes as 2.3 hours and divide by 2.3, which is wrong, because 30 minutes is 0.5 hours, not 0.3. The correct average speed of 60 km/h appears at option D. Hence (D).