

ANSWER KEY — 6 JUNE 2026

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10
C	A	C	D	B	B	C	A	A	D
Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Q15	Q16	Q17	Q18	Q19	Q20
C	D	A	B	C	B	A	D	C	D
Q21	Q22	Q23	Q24	Q25	Q26				
B	B	A	D	A	B				

RC PASSAGES

Q1 C
In voluntary carbon-market jargon, 'additionality' specifically means that the claimed emission reductions are additional to what would have occurred in the absence of the carbon-credit incentive. The passage explicitly links tightened additionality requirements to integrity concerns raised by 2023 investigations, consistent with that meaning. Option B describes verification or 'measurement, reporting and verification (MRV)' — a related but distinct concept. Option A describes fungibility or cross-border recognition. Option D describes co-benefits, which is an attractive concept in social-impact carbon but is not what 'additionality' means. Hence (C) is the correct answer.

Q2 A
The passage's central argument is that India's voluntary carbon market stands at a crossroads — demand exists, supply is constrained by tighter integrity requirements, and the next eighteen months will decide whether the market matures or collapses. The closing paragraph adds that growth cannot happen in isolation from the compliance segment; some form of linkage is needed. Option A captures both threads. Option B is contradicted by the passage's discussion of surging demand. Option C ignores the explicit mention of smaller polluters and project developers as potential beneficiaries. Option D is a position the passage does not endorse — it presents tightened global standards as a constraint, not as something to escape. Hence (A) is the correct answer.

Q3 C
The passage states: 'most voluntary projects in India follow methodologies set by global registries such as Verra and Gold Standard, both of which have tightened their additionality and permanence requirements after a series of investigative reports in 2023 questioned the integrity of forestry credits in particular. Developers complain that audit costs have doubled...' The cause-and-effect is explicit. Option A attributes the cost rise to an Indian government decision, which the passage does not assert. Option B is a possible secondary factor but is not the direct causal link stated in the passage. Option D speculates beyond the text. Hence (C) is the correct answer.

Q4 D
The closing paragraph weighs costs and benefits, draws an analogy to the European Union's earlier practice, and concludes with a measured warning that voluntary credits risk becoming an unhappy commodity. The reasoning is structured rather than emotive — 'cautiously analytical' best captures it. Triumphant (option A) would require celebration, which is absent. Sarcastic (option C) implies irony directed at a target; none of the language reads as ironic. Despairing (option B) is too strong; the author describes risks without giving up on the market's potential. Hence (D) is the correct answer.

Q5 B
The supporters argue (paragraph three) that without a price signal, India's small landholders and waste-management operators have no financial reason to undertake long-horizon mitigation work. If most small landholders already receive sufficient state subsidies to do that work without any carbon-credit revenue, the supporters' premise — that carbon-credit revenue is the marginal financial driver — collapses. Option A would actually help supporters by reducing supply-side constraints. Option C strengthens supporters by improving market credibility. Option D strengthens both supporters and the demand side. Only option B removes the specific incentive supporters rely on. Hence (B) is the correct answer.

Q6 B
The phrase 'subtitles do not impede engagement: they invite it' makes the point that subtitles, far from being a barrier, draw audiences in. The surrounding sentence references Korean drama globally and Malayalam cinema locally — both cases where subtitled content thrived. Option B captures this idea most precisely. Option A overstates: the passage does not claim subtitled content ALWAYS outperforms dubbed. Option C makes an empirical claim about multilingualism that the passage does not support. Option D shifts attention to cost economics, which the passage doesn't address in this clause. Hence (B) is the correct answer.

Q7 C

The passage's focal point is the relationship between OTT subtitling practices and the regional literary revival. It opens with the pre-streaming map, identifies the two technological shifts, traces the unexpected secondary market, and closes with a debate about durability. Option C captures the rewiring metaphor and the focus on regional markets. Option A is contrary to the passage's overall view, which is neutral-to-optimistic on regional publishing. Option B overstates the angle on English-language decline. Option D misframes the piece as historical when it is very contemporary. Hence (C) is the correct answer.

Q8 A

The Malayalam-language thriller is introduced in the third paragraph as an illustration of how a streaming hit drives demand for its source novel across languages. It is an instance, not an argument about artistic merit (option B) or the death of English translation (option C — the passage describes English as a tertiary product, not a non-viable one). Option D overstates: publishers in the passage are commissioning translations, not being replaced by streaming platforms. Option A is the precise reason for the example. Hence (A) is the correct answer.

Q9 A

The passage states that the optimists 'reply that even a temporary visibility boost retrains readers in the habit of expecting regional literature to be relevant, and that the new bilateral translation networks — Malayalam-to-Tamil, Bengali-to-Marathi — outlive any single streaming title.' That language directly supports option A. Option B overstates 'always' — the optimists concede temporary visibility. Option C makes a claim about English fiction's disappearance that the passage does not support. Option D introduces a regulatory argument absent from the text. Hence (A) is the correct answer.

Q10 D

The author presents both the optimists' and the sceptics' positions without endorsing either, and concludes with a measured observation: 'the literary map of India in 2030 will look very different from the one in 2015, even if they disagree on the cause.' That stance is balanced and analytical. 'Uncritical celebration' (option A) would require the author to side with optimists. 'Resigned cynicism' (option C) and 'dismissive scepticism' (option B) overstate the sceptical thread the author also takes seriously without adopting. Hence (D) is the correct answer.

CR PASSAGES

Q11 C

The passage opens with the historical context, presents three premises, and concludes that 'the time is right to revive the wealth tax in a narrowly targeted form.' The main conclusion is therefore the recommendation to reintroduce a wealth tax in the specific form described. Option A is a premise (the inequality data), not the conclusion. Option B is a historical judgement the passage does not explicitly make. Option D narrows the conclusion to a single use-case (school education) that the passage uses as an illustration of magnitude, not as the policy prescription. Hence (C) is the correct answer.

Q12 D

An unstated assumption is one the argument relies on but does not explicitly assert. The argument's projection that the tax would 'generate ₹1.2 lakh crore annually' implicitly assumes the administrative cost of collecting it is sufficiently smaller than that figure to make the exercise worthwhile. If administrative cost were, say, ₹1.3 lakh crore, the tax would lose money — the very reason given for the 2015 abolition. Option B is explicitly stated in the passage, so it is not unstated. Option C is asserted ('listed equity is trivially valued'). Option A is half-stated via the illustration ('enough to fund the entire central allocation for school education') and is not the load-bearing assumption. Hence (D) is the correct answer.

Q13 A

The premise that 'valuation technology has improved' is load-bearing. If 60 percent of the relevant asset base sits in unlisted equity with a 25-40 percent valuation error band, then the practical valuation problem the 2015 abolition cited is largely unsolved. This would directly weaken the argument that the new tax is administratively feasible. Option C weakens partially (real estate) but addresses a smaller share of the wealth base. Option B strengthens the argument. Option D supports the inequality premise without weakening the policy proposal. Hence (A) is the correct answer.

Q14 B

Option B directly supports two of the argument's premises — that a 2 percent tax at a high threshold can produce sustained revenue, and that capital-flight concerns are manageable. The cross-country evidence is most directly relevant. Option A weakens the argument by reviving the capital-flight concern. Option C is policy-neutral; earmarking does not affect feasibility. Option D weakens the argument by suggesting that other developing economies have found the tax burdensome — the opposite of a strengthening claim. Hence (B) is the correct answer.

Q15 C

The argument's structure is: a wealth tax was abolished in 2015 because of administrative cost and limited revenue; eleven years later, valuation technology, data-exchange frameworks and inequality dynamics have changed, so the policy should be reattempted. That is precisely the pattern in option C — re-attempting a failed policy because the conditions that caused failure no longer obtain. Option B describes the opposite movement. Option A describes a sweep-in adoption argument the passage does not make (it does not claim universal applicability). Option D describes an anti-expert defence not present in the passage. Hence (C) is the correct answer.

Q16 B

The conclusion of an argument is the position the argument is trying to support. The closing paragraph states that the petitioners 'conclude that the 75 percent rule has outlived its useful life, that the available evidence does not support its continued enforcement, and that the Ministry of Education should permit central universities to make attendance non-mandatory for undergraduate students.' Option B captures this precisely, including the carve-out for laboratory and clinical courses. Options A and C describe premises (the empirical study and the international comparison). Option D restates an interim argument about equity, not the policy conclusion. Hence (B) is the correct answer.

Q17 A

Option A presents a large-scale, longitudinal finding that directly contradicts the policy outcome the petitioners predict. If exemption from attendance roughly doubles the dropout rate, the conclusion that students will learn 'equally well' is empirically refuted. This is the strongest weakening evidence. Option B weakens the Delhi study's reliability but does not by itself refute the broader argument. Option C critiques the petitioners' representativeness rather than their argument's substance. Option D introduces a separate cost rationale that, if anything, supports the petition (rising monitoring costs are a reason to drop monitoring). Hence (A) is the correct answer.

Q18 D

The critics' counter-argument lists three functions the rule serves — peer interaction, sustained teaching demand, and employer signalling — and argues these functions are ignored by the petitioners. The unstated assumption is that these functions are weighty enough to outweigh the equity concerns the petitioners raise. Without that comparative weighting assumption, listing the functions is not yet an argument against the policy change. Option A is explicitly stated by the critics. Option C makes a uniformity claim the critics do not assert. Option B merely restates the study's coverage, which both sides reference. Hence (D) is the correct answer.

Q19 C

The critics explicitly point out the self-selection problem: students confident of self-study choose low-attendance courses, biasing the correlation. This is a textbook confounding problem that undermines any causal inference from a correlational study. Option C captures the flaw most directly. Option A misunderstands the petitioners' use of the study — they invoke the ABSENCE of correlation, not its presence. Option B and Option D are real-world concerns but not the specific flaw identified within the passage. Hence (C) is the correct answer.

Q20 D

Option D directly supports the petitioners' policy prediction: removing attendance rules does not harm dropout rates and may improve self-directed research. This is the most powerful strengthening evidence because it speaks to the empirical feasibility of the policy. Option B is policy-neutral — it indicates variation in enforcement but does not show that loosening the rule works. Option C is an ad hominem against critics and does not engage the substance. Option A appears to weaken the international comparison the petitioners rely on, not strengthen it. Hence (D) is the correct answer.

SECTION C — RAPID-FIRE GK & CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q21 B

'Ephemeral' means lasting for a very short time, fleeting, or transitory. The closest synonym among the options is 'Transient' (lasting only for a short time). Option A ('Eternal') is its antonym — lasting forever. Option C ('Profound') means deep or intense, unrelated to duration. Option D ('Pliable') means easily bent or influenced, again unrelated. Standard CLAT vocabulary: ephemeral ↔ transient. Mnemonic: 'mayflies are ephemeral creatures.'. Hence (B) is the correct answer.

Q22 B

'To bell the cat' derives from the fable of the mice who plan to tie a bell on a cat to be warned of its approach — and then no mouse is brave enough to actually do it. The idiom therefore means to undertake a risky or dangerous mission for the benefit of a group, often when others are unwilling. Option A confuses it with 'a storm in a teacup'. Option C confuses it with 'count chickens before they hatch'. Option D confuses it with 'whipping boy' or 'fall guy'. Hence (B) is the correct answer.

Q23 A

Mission Karmayogi, launched by the Government of India in September 2020, is the National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building. It aims to create a future-ready civil service grounded in Indian ethos and rooted in continuous learning. Its delivery vehicle is the iGOT (Integrated Government Online Training) platform. Option B describes parts of schemes like Vishwakarma or Skill India. Option C describes PM-JAY or e-Shram. Option D describes Digital India / BharatNet. The correct match is civil-service capacity building. Hence (A) is the correct answer.

Q24 D

Arundhati Roy won the 1997 Booker Prize for 'The God of Small Things', her debut novel set in Kerala. Option A (Kiran Desai) won the Booker in 2006 for 'The Inheritance of Loss'. Option C (Anita Desai) has been shortlisted multiple times (Clear Light of Day, In Custody, Fasting, Feasting) but has not won. Option B (Jhumpa Lahiri) won the Pulitzer Prize in 2000 for 'Interpreter of Maladies', a different prize. Hence (D) is the correct answer.

Q25 A

The currency of Vietnam is the Vietnamese Dong (VND), often noted for its very large nominal denominations relative to most other currencies. Option B (Baht) is the currency of Thailand. Option C (Ringgit) is the currency of Malaysia. Option D (Kyat) is the currency of Myanmar. Standard South-East Asian currency mapping: Thailand=Baht, Vietnam=Dong, Malaysia=Ringgit, Myanmar=Kyat, Indonesia=Rupiah, Philippines=Peso, Singapore=Dollar. Hence (A) is the correct answer.

Q26 B

Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala (1973), decided by a 13-judge bench of the Supreme Court — the largest bench in Indian constitutional history — established the basic structure doctrine: Parliament's amending power under Article 368 cannot be used to alter the basic structure of the Constitution. The judgment is the bedrock of Indian constitutional review. Option A (doctrine of pleasure) concerns government servants under Article 311. Option C (colourable legislation) deals with legislative competence. Option D (harmonious construction) is a tool of statutory interpretation. The correct match is basic structure. Hence (B) is the correct answer.