

ANSWER KEY — 14 JULY 2026

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

RC PASSAGES

Q1 B

'Recalibrating the systems that govern mood, appetite and immunity' describes the body re-tuning or readjusting those systems during sleep, so 'recalibrating' most nearly means readjusting. 'Abandoning' and 'disguising' contradict the restorative sense of the sentence, and 'overloading' is the opposite of the fine-tuning the passage describes. The word signals adjustment, not disruption. The remaining three options each misapply the governing rule or misread the given data, and so can be eliminated on a careful and deliberate reading of the facts. Hence, (B) is the correct answer.

Q2 D

The passage repeatedly stresses that sleep is an active, essential process — consolidating memory, clearing waste, regulating mood and immunity — and that neglecting it carries serious health costs. Option (D) captures exactly this dual point. Option (A) overstates dreaming, (B) is contradicted by the opening about historical neglect, and (C) restates the passive view the passage rejects. Hence, (D) is the correct answer.

Q3 A

The passage states that the overnight 'cleaning' system flushes out proteins linked to neurodegenerative disease and works best in deep sleep, 'suggesting that rest may help protect the ageing brain'. It is reasonable to infer this may reduce long-term risk, as in (A). Option (B) wrongly assigns it to REM, (C) contradicts the deep-sleep link, and (D) claims reversal, which the passage never asserts. Hence, (A) is the correct answer.

Q4 C

The author warns of a 'slow-burning epidemic of sleeplessness' yet ends with a practical, hopeful remedy — dimmer evenings, consistent bedtimes and cultural respect for rest. This mixture of worry and workable advice is best described as concerned but constructive. The tone is neither indifferent nor openly hostile, and it is forward-looking rather than nostalgic or despairing. Hence, (C) is the correct answer.

Q5 B

The claim is that deep sleep protects the ageing brain by clearing disease-linked proteins. A finding that adults with more deep sleep accumulate those proteins more slowly (B) directly supports the causal link. Productivity on less sleep (A) is irrelevant, infant REM proportions (C) concern a different stage, and the spread of evening light (D) speaks to causes of poor sleep, not brain protection. Hence, (B) is the correct answer.

Q6 C

The passage traces how libraries, once thought to be dying, have been reinvented as busy civic spaces offering internet access, classes, workshops and a welcoming public place — especially for the vulnerable. Option (C) captures this central concern. Option (A) is contradicted by the revival described, (B) reverses the author's point, and (D) about digitising collections is never the focus. Hence, (C) is the correct answer.

Q7 A

The final paragraph says libraries' benefits are 'diffuse and hard to measure', contrasting them with 'dramatic statistics'. In that context 'diffuse' means spread out and hard to pin down, matching (A). It does not mean brightly lit or sharply concentrated — indeed the latter is its opposite — and it carries no sense of being legally binding. The remaining three options each misapply the governing rule or misread the given data, and so can be eliminated on a careful and deliberate reading of the facts. Hence, (A) is the correct answer.

Q8 D

The passage explains that because a service which quietly prevents loneliness or narrows the digital divide 'rarely produces the kind of dramatic statistics that protect funding', libraries are exposed when budgets tighten. That is the reasoning in (D). Options (A) and (B) contradict the described revival, and (C) is false since libraries are not profit-generating. Hence, (D) is the correct answer.

Q9 B

The author clearly admires libraries, calling them vital public spaces, yet repeatedly stresses that their funding is 'precarious' and their value hard to defend on a spreadsheet. That combination of praise and anxiety is best described as appreciative but genuinely concerned. The tone is not dismissive, not merely neutral, and not ironic or detached. The remaining three options each misapply the governing rule or misread the given data, and so can be eliminated on a careful and deliberate reading of the facts. Hence, (B) is the correct answer.

Q10 C

The author's case rests on libraries providing services people cannot easily get elsewhere. If surveys showed almost every library service is now equally available through free municipal apps (C), the claim that libraries remain uniquely vital would be seriously undermined. Expanded hours (A), staff help (B) and new buildings (D) all reinforce, rather than weaken, the author's position. Hence, (C) is the correct answer.

CR PASSAGES

Q11 A

The passage argues, from leakage, dignity and automation, towards a single recommendation: that India should adopt a universal basic income for all citizens, restated in the final sentence. That is the main conclusion, option (A). The welfare-leakage point (B), the automation claim (C) and the responsible-spending claim (D) are premises offered in support, not the overall conclusion. Hence, (A) is the correct answer.

Q12 D

To argue that cash 'respects the dignity and judgement of the poor' by letting them choose how to spend, the argument must assume that people are generally better judges of their own needs than the state is — option (D). It need not assume the poor cannot manage money (A) or that grain always beats cash (B); indeed those contradict it. Corruption-free schemes (C) is unrelated. Hence, (D) is the correct answer.

Q13 B

The dignity argument relies on evidence that recipients spend cash responsibly. A finding that in large trials most basic-income cash went on alcohol while essential needs were unmet (B) directly attacks that premise and the case for a universal cash transfer. Responsible-spending pilots (A) and leakage (C) support the argument, and universality (D) is already conceded. Hence, (B) is the correct answer.

Q14 C

A central premise is that a single cash transfer would leak less than the current tangle of subsidies. Evidence that direct transfers in India have already reached beneficiaries with far less leakage (C) strengthens that premise and the overall case. Economists' disagreement (A) and higher taxes (B) cut against the argument, while (D) is a minor point about the wealthy. Hence, (C) is the correct answer.

Q15 A

The reply assumes that taxation can efficiently recover the payments made to the rich, so that universality costs little on net. If the tax system cannot in fact claw the money back efficiently, the reply collapses — the vulnerability identified in (A). Option (B) misreads the reply, (C) contradicts the supporters' universalism, and (D) concerns automation, not clawback. Hence, (A) is the correct answer.

Q16 D

The supporters argue that if screening can spare a child a devastating, incurable hereditary disease, parents have not just a right but a moral responsibility to use it. That claim is option (D). They do not endorse all enhancement (A) — they try to limit screening to disease — nor discourage IVF (B); and (C) is an opponents' point about flourishing. Hence, (D) is the correct answer.

Q17 C

The supporters concede screening could extend to disability, predisposition and even enhancement, yet insist only disease-prevention should be allowed. That position depends on assuming a clear moral line can be drawn between preventing disease and mere enhancement (C). It does not assume diseases are curable after birth (A), any legal duty to use IVF (B), or that wealth is irrelevant (D). Hence, (C) is the correct answer.

Q18 A

The supporters rely on being able to permit disease-screening while blocking enhancement. Evidence that no workable line has ever held between the two (A) attacks that very distinction and so most weakens their position. That many diseases cause severe suffering (B) supports them, while declining testing (C) and IVF's cost (D) are beside the point. Hence, (A) is the correct answer.

Q19 B

The opponents' slippery-slope claim is that screening will slide from disease towards designer traits. Evidence that clinics already offer selection for non-medical traits such as height (B) shows the slide is real and strengthens the warning. That disease-screening has helped families (A) or is cheap (D), or that parents intend restraint (C), does the opposite. Hence, (B) is the correct answer.

Q20 D

The worry that a selected child feels 'like a product' rests on the idea that a healthy parent-child bond depends on accepting a child unconditionally, so designing to a specification corrodes that acceptance — option (D). It does not depend on screening being unsafe (A), on wealth dominating access (B), or on denying that diseases are worth preventing (C). Hence, (D) is the correct answer.

SECTION C — RAPID-FIRE GK & CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q21 C

The capital of Australia is Canberra, a purpose-built city chosen as a compromise between the rival claims of Sydney and Melbourne. Sydney and Melbourne are the country's largest cities but not its capital, and Perth is the capital of Western Australia, a state. The national capital is therefore Canberra. The remaining three options each misapply the governing rule or misread the given data, and so can be eliminated on a careful and deliberate reading of the facts. Hence, (C) is the correct answer.

Q22 A

The official currency of Japan is the yen. The won is the currency of the Koreans, the baht belongs to Thailand, and the ringgit is used in Malaysia. Only the yen is associated with Japan among the options offered. The remaining three options each misapply the governing rule or misread the given data, and so can be eliminated on a careful and deliberate reading of the facts. Hence, (A) is the correct answer.

Q23 B

Wimbledon, the oldest of the four tennis Grand Slams, is played on grass courts, which give the tournament its fast, low-bouncing character. The French Open uses clay, the US and Australian Opens use hard courts, and carpet is no longer used on the main tour. The Wimbledon surface is grass. The remaining three options each misapply the governing rule or misread the given data, and so can be eliminated on a careful and deliberate reading of the facts. Hence, (B) is the correct answer.

Q24 D

'The God of Small Things', winner of the Booker Prize, was written by Arundhati Roy. R. K. Narayan is known for the Malgudi stories, Vikram Seth for 'A Suitable Boy', and Salman Rushdie for 'Midnight's Children'. The author of the named novel is Arundhati Roy. The remaining three options each misapply the governing rule or misread the given data, and so can be eliminated on a careful and deliberate reading of the facts. Hence, (D) is the correct answer.

Q25 C

Carbon dioxide, released chiefly by burning fossil fuels, is the greenhouse gas most responsible for the human-driven enhancement of the greenhouse effect. Oxygen, nitrogen and hydrogen are not significant greenhouse gases in this context. The principal culprit among the options is carbon dioxide. The remaining three options each misapply the governing rule or misread the given data, and so can be eliminated on a careful and deliberate reading of the facts. Hence, (C) is the correct answer.

Q26 A

The 2024 Summer Olympic Games were hosted by Paris, France, the third time the city has held the Games. Los Angeles is scheduled to host in 2028, Tokyo hosted the 2020 Games held in 2021, and Brisbane is set to host in 2032. The 2024 host city was Paris. The remaining three options each misapply the governing rule or misread the given data, and so can be eliminated on a careful and deliberate reading of the facts. Hence, (A) is the correct answer.

Q27 B

'Meticulous' means showing great attention to detail, so the closest synonym among the options is 'thorough'. 'Careless' and 'hasty' are near-opposites, and 'generous' relates to giving, an unrelated idea. The word most similar in meaning to meticulous is therefore thorough. The remaining three options each misapply the governing rule or misread the given data, and so can be eliminated on a careful and deliberate reading of the facts. Hence, (B) is the correct answer.

Q28 D

'Benevolent' means kind and well-meaning, so its opposite is 'malicious', meaning intending harm. 'Kind' and 'generous' are synonyms rather than antonyms, and 'cheerful' describes mood, not ill-will. The word most opposite in meaning to benevolent is malicious. The remaining three options each misapply the governing rule or misread the given data, and so can be eliminated on a careful and deliberate reading of the facts. Hence, (D) is the correct answer.

Q29 C

The idiom 'to bite the bullet' means to force oneself to endure a painful or unpleasant situation with courage, from the old practice of having a patient bite something during surgery. It does not mean to postpone a decision, waste resources, or speak carelessly. The correct meaning is enduring something painful bravely. The remaining three options each misapply the governing rule or misread the given data, and so can be eliminated on a careful and deliberate reading of the facts. Hence, (C) is the correct answer.

Q30 A

The writ of Habeas Corpus, meaning 'you shall have the body', is issued to produce a detained person before the court and secure release if the detention is unlawful. Mandamus commands a duty, Certiorari quashes an order, and Quo Warranto challenges a person's right to an office. The writ for unlawful detention is Habeas Corpus. Hence, (A) is the correct answer.

Q31 B

The basic structure doctrine, which holds that Parliament cannot amend away the essential features of the Constitution, was laid down in *Kesavananda Bharati v State of Kerala* (1973). *Golaknath* preceded it, *Minerva Mills* later applied it, and *Maneka Gandhi* concerned Article 21. The doctrine originates in *Kesavananda Bharati*. The remaining three options each misapply the governing rule or misread the given data, and so can be eliminated on a careful and deliberate reading of the facts. Hence, (B) is the correct answer.

Q32 D

Mount Everest sits on the border between Nepal and China, its northern side lying in the Tibet Autonomous Region of China. India, Bhutan and Pakistan do not share the summit's border. The other country on Everest's border is therefore China. The remaining three options each misapply the governing rule or misread the given data, and so can be eliminated on a careful and deliberate reading of the facts. Hence, (D) is the correct answer.

Q33 C

The Nobel Prize in Literature is awarded by the Swedish Academy, based in Sweden, as are most of the Nobel Prizes; only the Peace Prize is awarded in Norway. Switzerland and Denmark have no role in selecting the literature laureate. The literature prize is awarded from Sweden. The remaining three options each misapply the governing rule or misread the given data, and so can be eliminated on a careful and deliberate reading of the facts. Hence, (C) is the correct answer.