CLAT Gurukul
By Ready For Exam

# Daily RC & CR Sheet — Answers, Skills & Examiner Notes — 11 November 2026

**20 Qs · 0 Min**
Answer key + skill tags + examiner notes

## ANSWER KEY — 11 NOVEMBER 2026

| Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q5 | Q6 | Q7 | Q8 | Q9 | Q10 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| B | D | A | C | A | C | A | D | B | C |
| **Q11** | **Q12** | **Q13** | **Q14** | **Q15** | **Q16** | **Q17** | **Q18** | **Q19** | **Q20** |
| D | B | A | C | D | A | C | B | D | B |

READING COMPREHENSION

### Q1 B Central concern MED

The passage spends four paragraphs establishing Hariprasad's practice: his customers 'dictated; he translated', and he turns Sushila Devi's anger and a young man's evasion into gentle, hopeful lines. The last three paragraphs turn that habit back on him. Reading his son's 'perfectly polite' Diwali letter, he tilts it 'towards the light as if a second message might surface beneath the first', and finally wonders 'what a letter looked like before someone made a fair copy of it'. The central concern is therefore the link between his softening of other people's words and his new suspicion of the politeness he receives, which the keyed option states. The pride option ignores the ending's doubt. The bitterness option overstates a single phrase, 'slightly resented', into the theme. The decline-of-literacy option introduces a social trend the passage never mentions.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** The bitterness option is tempting because the son's letters do disappoint the father, but 'slightly resented' is a passing note; the story's turn is about doubt, not grievance.

### Q2 D Inference about character HARD

The key sentence closes paragraph 2: his customers nodded, 'hearing in his gentle phrasing exactly what they believed they had said'. The phrase 'believed they had said' tells us that the customers did not register the gap between their words and his; they recognised in his version the feeling they meant to send. Sushila Devi's insult is, beneath the anger, a mother's longing, and that is what she hears read back. The keyed option captures exactly this. The option that they noticed but stayed silent contradicts 'exactly what they believed they had said', which implies no awareness of a change. The post-office option is refuted by the passage itself: 'the post office had never employed anyone for the purpose', and no rule of phrasing is mentioned. The option that they could not follow the reading is unsupported; he reads 'slowly', which suggests clarity, not confusion.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** The 'noticed but too polite' option feels psychologically plausible, but the text says they heard what they 'believed they had said', which rules out a conscious objection held back.

### Q3 A Vocabulary in context HARD

The narrator flags the word as special: 'That was the word he used privately, though the language never changed.' So 'translated' cannot mean moving between languages or dialects; the language is the same on both sides. The examples that follow show what he does instead: a mother's 'worthless boy' becomes 'thought of him daily', and 'when it comes' becomes 'very soon, God willing'. He changes the message to what he thinks the distant reader should receive, guided by his belief that 'a letter travelled alone and arrived without a face to soften it'. The keyed option states this. The dialect option is exactly what 'the language never changed' denies. The word-for-word option is contradicted by every example of alteration. The petition option invents a genre; these are private letters to sons and wives, not complaints to officials.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** The dialect option is the trap for readers who take 'translated' literally; the narrator's aside 'the language never changed' is placed precisely to block that reading.

### Q4 C Narrative irony (Stretch) ELITE

Irony here is situational: the man who manufactures polite surfaces for a living is, at the end, on the receiving end of one. He wonders 'what a letter looked like before someone made a fair copy of it', and whether his son 'had found a man like him, or had simply become one'. The force lies in Hariprasad recognising his own method in the 'short and perfectly polite' letters that 'never said anything he could take hold of'. The keyed option names this reversal. The option about the son never writing in his own hand is contradicted: Vinod writes 'in a neat English hand that Hariprasad admired'. The deceit option goes too far; Hariprasad wonders, he does not condemn his life's work, and the text offers no such verdict. The option that the son employed a scribe treats the father's speculation as a discovered fact; the passage leaves it as a question.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** The professional-scribe option seizes on 'found a man like him', but that is one half of a question Hariprasad asks himself, not something he learns; the irony needs no such fact.

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### Q5 A Tone / narrator's stance MED

The narration is warm towards Hariprasad: it gives his own defence at length ('He considered this a service, not a deceit'), lends him a gently witty line about love letters 'none of them had been his own', and lets us share his private feelings about his son's 'neat English hand that Hariprasad admired and slightly resented'. Yet the narrator also lets the irony work against him. His reasoning that someone must 'stand between' ink and temper is exactly what returns to unsettle him when his son's letter gives him nothing to 'take hold of'. That combination of sympathy and gentle exposure is the keyed answer. The scornful option is contradicted by the sympathetic treatment and by the fact that no fee or exploitation is stressed. The reverent option ignores the ending's doubt. The detached option misses the closely shared interiority of the last three paragraphs.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** The reverent option attracts readers who notice the warmth, but the ending deliberately unsettles his judgement, so 'beyond doubt' cannot fit.

### Q6 C Primary purpose MED

The passage concedes that 'the electoral half of that promise has largely been kept' but says the 'financial half' has not, so that 'the elections decide less than they appear to'. Paragraph 2 traces the cause to state control of taxes and late, ignored State Finance Commission reports; paragraph 3 describes the result, a tier 'elected but not empowered'; and paragraph 4 proposes the remedy: 'money that a council may spend at its own discretion', that is, untied grants. Diagnosis plus remedy is the keyed option. The celebration option takes one supporting statistic, the million women, for the purpose. The abolition option invents a proposal; the author criticises how commissions are treated, not their existence, and never mentions central grants. The election-procedure option describes a topic the passage touches in one clause only.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** The celebration option is drawn from a true detail in paragraph 1, but that detail is the concession the author moves past with 'What has not been kept'.

### Q7 A Inference HARD

The author says the electoral half 'has largely been kept': elections are 'held on schedule in most states'. That is presented as real achievement, so the elections are valued. But the same paragraph adds that 'without it', meaning the financial half, 'the elections decide less than they appear to', and paragraph 3 calls the tier 'elected but not empowered'. Elections are thus needed but cannot by themselves deliver effective local government, which is the keyed inference. The failure option contradicts 'held on schedule in most states'. The tied-grants option misplaces the cause; dependence on grants arises because 'the amendments did not give local bodies taxes of their own' and states have been reluctant, not because of the electoral provisions. The reservation option ranks two things the passage never compares; reserved seats are listed as part of the electoral design.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** The failure option tempts readers who carry the passage's critical mood back into paragraph 1, but the author explicitly credits the electoral half.

### Q8 D Function of a detail HARD

The example follows the claim that a panchayat 'depends for the rest on grants that arrive tied to particular schemes'. A sarpanch who wants to fix 'a drain that no scheme covers must often wait for a scheme to be invented'. The point is that money tied to schemes cannot be spent on a need the scheme did not foresee, so the elected council lacks discretion. That is why paragraph 4 prescribes 'money that a council may spend at its own discretion'. The keyed option names this function. The engineers option introduces a capacity problem the example does not raise; the obstacle is funding, not skill. The narrow-schemes option shifts the blame to scheme design, whereas the author's target is tying itself. The voters-care option misreads the example; voters appear in the next sentence, and the passage says they stop asking the panchayat for help, not that drains outrank elections.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** The narrow-schemes option is close, but the author's remedy is untied money, not better schemes; a broader scheme would still leave the council waiting.

### Q9 B Application of the author's principle (Stretch) ELITE

The author's remedy is 'money that a council may spend at its own discretion and must answer for at its next election'. The keyed policy gives exactly that: a predictable share spent freely, with accountability after the fact. The decisive sentence for the elite step is 'Untied grants are not a reward for capacity already shown; they are the means by which capacity is built.' The option that releases untied funds only after capacity is proved looks like a compromise but makes autonomy a reward for capacity, which is precisely the view the author rejects, and it ends with the question 'whether autonomy can ever be learned without first being given'. Doubling tied grants increases money but not discretion, so it reproduces the drain problem. Transferring functions to district officials is the officials' conclusion that 'panchayats cannot be trusted with more', which the author treats as part of the loop to be broken.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** The capacity-first option is the trap: it sounds prudent and mentions untied funds, but it adopts the 'reward for capacity' logic the author explicitly denies.

### Q10 C Reference in context MED

'That loop' points back to the last sentence of paragraph 3: voters who see that the panchayat cannot help 'stop asking it to', and 'officials who see the voters' indifference conclude that panchayats cannot be trusted with more'. Because officials then withhold power, panchayats stay weak, voters stay indifferent, and the cycle repeats. The keyed option describes this self-reinforcing cycle. The finance-commission option refers to paragraph 2; those delays are a cause of weakness, but they are a single failure, not the circular process the demonstrative 'That loop' picks up. The five-year-election option invents a repetition the passage never describes. The property-tax

option misstates the finances; the passage says own revenue is 'a small fraction' and grants arrive tied, not that panchayats spend tax on schemes and then ask for more.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** The finance-commission option is tempting because it names a real failure, but 'That loop' refers to the nearest circular process, the voters-and-officials cycle that ends paragraph 3.

CRITICAL REASONING

### Q11 D Main conclusion MED

The conclusion is stated at the end of paragraph 1: 'It should be confined again, because a hearing in which one party cannot know the case against it is not a hearing at all.' The rest of the passage supports it: paragraph 2 explains why untested material defeats a fair hearing, paragraph 3 concedes genuine secrets but insists that 'secrecy is a matter of degree', and paragraph 4 says the state must bear the cost of less restrictive alternatives. The keyed option restates the conclusion with its reason. The 2023 option overstates the judgment; the passage says the Court 'said much the same' about justifying harm and preferring alternatives, not that it abolished the procedure. The read-aloud option contradicts 'no one suggests that such material be read aloud in open court'. The informants option contradicts the author's concession that such information 'genuinely cannot be disclosed'.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** The 2023 option tempts readers who treat the cited judgment as the point; it is evidence for the conclusion, and 'abolished' goes beyond what the passage reports.

### Q12 B Assumption HARD

The author grants that some information 'genuinely cannot be disclosed' but argues that courts should prefer 'disclosing a summary, redacting names, or appointing an amicus'. For these to be better than the sealed cover, two things must hold: the secret must stay protected, otherwise the government's concern is not met, and the litigant must gain enough to answer, otherwise the alternative is no fairer. The keyed option states both. Negate it: if partial disclosure either leaked the secret or gave the litigant nothing usable, the case for preferring it collapses. The conscientious-judges option is not assumed; the author says a judge 'however conscientious' cannot catch unsuspected errors, which is about information, not diligence. The 'seldom have' option contradicts the concession. The never-mistaken option is far stronger than needed; the argument only requires that the alternatives work reasonably well.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** The 'seldom have' option tempts readers who sense the author's suspicion of the state, but the argument expressly accepts that genuine secrets exist.

### Q13 A Weaken HARD

The author's case rests on the claim that less restrictive alternatives can meet the state's legitimate need for secrecy; the state merely has to make the 'effort'. If summaries and redactions frequently allow hostile parties to identify informants, then these alternatives do not protect what the author concedes must be protected, and the sealed cover may be the only safe course in such cases. The keyed option strikes at this link. The unpersuasive-material option, if anything, helps the author: it shows judges are a check, but it says nothing about whether litigants should see material. The other-countries option is weakly relevant at best; that some countries also use sealed material in some cases does not show the alternatives fail. The redaction-of-survivors option supports the author's point that Indian courts 'routinely redact documents in other settings'.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** The other-countries option tempts because it seems to undercut the comparative evidence, but it does not show that the alternatives fail to protect secrets or allow a reply.

### Q14 C Application of the principle (Stretch) ELITE

The author's principle has two parts: a person must be able to know the case against her, and secrecy, being 'a matter of degree', must be limited to what genuinely needs protection rather than treated 'as all or nothing'. The keyed situation violates both. The teacher is dismissed without seeing the substance of the complaint, so she cannot answer it, and the board withholds everything although only the complainant's identity needed protection, which is exactly the 'single envelope' approach the author attacks. The informant option is the model the author endorses: withhold the name, disclose the substance. The amicus option reproduces one of the alternatives listed in paragraph 3. The redaction option is the 'redacting names' alternative. The elite step lies in seeing that the principle extends beyond courts and national security to any decision-maker who withholds more than it needs to.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** The informant option tempts because something is withheld, but the author accepts withholding names; what the author condemns is withholding the substance of the case.

### Q15 D Role of a statement HARD

In paragraph 3 the author first concedes the government's reply: some information 'genuinely cannot be disclosed', and 'that is true'. The next sentence begins 'But secrecy is a matter of degree, and the sealed cover treats it as all or nothing'. The statement thus grants that secrets exist while turning that very point against the sealed cover: because secrecy comes in degrees, the remedy should be graded disclosure, not total concealment. That is the keyed role. It is not the main conclusion, which is that the sealed cover 'should be confined again'. It is not the government's objection; it is the author's answer to that objection. It is not drawn from the 2023 judgment; the judgment is introduced afterwards as agreeing with it ('said much the same'), so the statement is the author's own premise, which the case then supports.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** The 2023-judgment option tempts because the next sentence cites the Court, but the passage says the Court 'said much the same', which marks the statement as the author's own claim.

### Q16 A Main conclusion MED

The argument moves from the harm of free power, a 'subsidy to the depletion of the aquifer', to a remedy: meters that let the state 'pay' rather than 'charge', with cash for every unit not used. Paragraph 3 explains the incentive and paragraph 4 answers the critics, ending with the conclusion: such a policy 'is the only form of support that agriculture there can still afford'. The keyed option combines the remedy and the claim of sustainability. The full-tariff option contradicts the passage, which says 'a meter does not oblige the state to charge'. The water-table option is a supporting fact from paragraph 1. The larger-farmers option is part of the author's reply to critics; it is used to defend the cap, not offered as the conclusion.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** The full-tariff option tempts readers who equate metering with charging, which is the very confusion the author says 'misreads what metering requires'.

### Q17 C Assumption HARD

The author's reason is that 'power that is not drawn is power it need not buy'. For the scheme to be cost-neutral, the payment the state makes for each unit not used must be no greater than what supplying that unit would have cost. If the state paid farmers more per unit saved than the unit costs to buy, every saving would increase spending, and the claim would fail. That is the keyed assumption, and the negation test destroys the argument. The sell-back option is not required; the claim holds whatever share of the allowance is saved, as long as each saved unit is paid at or below its cost. The falling-cost option is not needed; the argument compares the two policies at today's costs. The leaking-channels option is irrelevant to the cost claim and contradicts the report that farmers saved 'by repairing leaking channels'.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** The sell-back option tempts because full participation sounds necessary, but the cost claim is about each unit, so partial saving leaves it intact.

### Q18 B Weaken HARD

The argument links fewer units of electricity to less water pumped: farmers who are paid for unused power will save power, and saving power saves the aquifer. The keyed option breaks that link. If farmers cut metered electricity by running diesel pumps instead, the meter shows savings and the state pays cash, yet the same water, or more, is drawn from the ground. The reported fall in consumption would then measure a shift of fuel, not a saving of water. The paperwork option describes an early teething problem that does not show the scheme fails to reduce water use. The other-states option is irrelevant to whether payments change behaviour here. The paddy-price option might affect what farmers grow, but without more information it does not show whether payments reduce pumping.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** The paddy-price option tempts because higher prices could encourage more irrigation, but the option gives no evidence that pumping actually rose, so its effect is speculative.

### Q19 D Parallel reasoning (Stretch) ELITE

The reasoning has a specific structure: an existing free benefit is kept free up to an allowance, and the user is paid in cash for the unused part, so that restraint becomes income while total support is unchanged ('changes the decision at the margin while leaving the farmer's total support intact'). The keyed option reproduces each element: free up to a limit, cash for what is not used, and a reward for restraint. The parking-charge option raises revenue from a different group; it charges rather than pays. The water-cap option uses an allowance but enforces it with a penalty, which is the 'charge' logic the author sets aside, and offers no reward for saving. The loyalty-bonus option rewards more use, the opposite of the author's incentive. The elite step is to separate a rationing allowance, which the cap shares, from a paid-for unused allowance, which only the keyed option has.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** The water-cap option tempts because it shares the 'fixed allowance', but it punishes excess instead of paying for restraint, so it misses the core of the reasoning.

### Q20 B Strengthen HARD

The claim is that because a flat charge is 'unconnected to what they use', farmers have no reason to save, and the subsidy 'rewards the farmer whether he wastes water or not'. The keyed option supplies direct behavioural evidence: farmers run pumps unattended precisely because additional hours cost them nothing, which is waste caused by the flat price. The Rajasthan option shows depletion elsewhere but says nothing about the pricing mechanism or about flat tariffs. The seeds-and-fertiliser option bears on farmers' poverty, which might support the original reason for free power, not the claim about waste. The electricity-board option shows a fiscal cost of the subsidy, which is a different objection from waste of water; a subsidy can be expensive without encouraging wasteful use.

> **Examiner's note — the trap:** The electricity-board option tempts because it also criticises the subsidy, but a financial loss to the boards is not evidence that farmers waste water.

## RAPID FIRE — ANSWERS

**1.** At what hour did Hariprasad set up his table each morning? — **Nine o'clock**

**2.** Where did Hariprasad set up his card table? — **Outside the head post office**

**3.** For how many years had Hariprasad been writing letters for others? — **Thirty-one years**

**4.** What kind of letter forms did Hariprasad stack on his table? — **Inland letter forms**

**5.** Besides pens and letter forms, what bottle did Hariprasad set out? — **A bottle of gum**

**6.** Hariprasad claimed to have written more love letters than whom? — **Any poet in the district**

**7.** How many of the love letters Hariprasad wrote were his own? — **None**

**8.** Which word did Hariprasad privately use for what he did with dictation? — **Translated**

**9.** Where did Sushila Devi work? — **At the brick kiln**

**10.** In which city did Sushila Devi's son work? — **Surat**

**11.** What did Sushila Devi call her son in her dictation? — **A worthless boy who had forgotten his mother**

**12.** How did Hariprasad render 'when it comes' about the money? — **'Very soon, God willing'**

**13.** How did Hariprasad read each letter back to the customer? — **Aloud and slowly**

**14.** Hariprasad considered his softening a service, not a what? — **A deceit**

**15.** For whom, in Hariprasad's view, was anger a luxury? — **Those present when it is answered**

**16.** According to Hariprasad, what is permanent while tempers are not? — **Ink**

**17.** What is the name of Hariprasad's son? — **Vinod**

**18.** To which city had Hariprasad's son moved? — **Pune**

**19.** How long ago had Vinod left home? — **Eleven years ago**

**20.** On which two occasions did Vinod write each year? — **Diwali and his father's birthday**

**21.** In what language did Vinod write his letters? — **English**

**22.** Which two feelings did Vinod's neat hand stir in his father? — **Admiration and slight resentment**

**23.** About which two things did Vinod's letters ask? — **His father's knee and the monsoon**

**24.** What did Vinod's letters never contain, in his father's view? — **Anything he could take hold of**

**25.** What did the children send, according to Vinod's Diwali letter? — **Their respects**

**26.** Why did Hariprasad tilt the letter towards the light? — **As if a second message might surface**

**27.** What does a 'fair copy' of a letter mean? — **A clean, finished version of a draft**

**28.** Which phrase in the story names a clean final version of a draft? — **Fair copy**

**29.** What is the narrator's stance towards Hariprasad? — **Affectionate but quietly ironic**

**30.** Situational irony in the story: the softener of letters becomes what? — **A reader suspecting softened letters**

**31.** In which year were the 73rd and 74th Amendments passed? — **1992**

**32.** What tier did the 73rd and 74th Amendments create? — **A constitutional tier of local government**

**33.** What fixed term did the amendments give local bodies? — **Five years**

**34.** Besides women, for whom were seats reserved in local bodies? — **Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes**

**35.** Roughly how many women now sit on local bodies, per the passage? — **More than a million**

**36.** Which half of the 1992 promise has largely been kept? — **The electoral half**

**37.** Which half of the 1992 promise has not been kept? — **The financial half**

**38.** Who decides which levies a panchayat may collect? — **The state legislature**

**39.** Which body recommends sharing state revenue with local bodies? — **The State Finance Commission**

**40.** How often must a State Finance Commission be appointed? — **Every five years**

**41.** Name one way states have neglected finance commission reports. — **Tabled years late or quietly ignored**

**42.** The passage calls local government 'elected but not' what? — **Empowered**

**43.** What are a gram panchayat's chief own sources of revenue? — **Property tax and fees**

**44.** On what does a panchayat depend for most of its spending? — **Grants tied to particular schemes**

**45.** What does a sarpanch wait for to repair an uncovered drain? — **A scheme to be invented**

**46.** What do voters do when they see the panchayat cannot help? — **Stop asking it to**

**47.** What do officials conclude from voters' indifference? — **Panchayats cannot be trusted with more**

**48.** According to the author, the loop is not broken by what? — **Exhortation**

**49.** What kind of money breaks the loop, per the author? — **Money spent at the council's discretion**

**50.** The author says untied grants are not a reward for what? — **Capacity already shown**

**51.** According to the author, untied grants are the means of building what? — **Capacity**

**52.** What does 'exhortation' mean? — **Urgent encouragement or appeal**

**53.** What does 'untied' mean when applied to grants? — **Free of conditions on its use**

**54.** What is a 'sarpanch'? — **The elected head of a gram panchayat**

**55.** What is the author's closing question for the states? — **Can autonomy be learned without being given?**

**56.** What does the state hand the judge in the procedure criticised? — **A sealed cover**

**57.** Who never sees the contents of the sealed cover? — **The other side**

**58.** Name two grounds governments give for sealed covers. — **National security or a pending investigation**

**59.** Name one setting where sealed covers have been used. — **Bail hearings, promotions or licences**

**60.** What is a hearing where one party cannot know the case, per the author? — **Not a hearing at all**

**61.** Which principle is 'older than the Constitution'? — **One cannot answer what one is not told**

**62.** Name one way of testing evidence that sealed covers rule out. — **Cross-examination**

**63.** Who becomes the only check on the state's evidence? — **The judge**

**64.** What can a conscientious judge not catch, per the author? — **Errors she has no reason to suspect**

**65.** Name one item of information the author accepts must stay secret. — **An informant's name**

**66.** How does the author describe secrecy? — **A matter of degree**

**67.** How does the sealed cover treat secrecy? — **As all or nothing**

**68.** In which year did the Supreme Court rule on the news channel's licence? — **2023**

**69.** What did the state refuse to renew in the 2023 case? — **A news channel's broadcasting licence**

**70.** What must the state show before withholding material, per the 2023 ruling? — **Why disclosure would cause harm**

**71.** Name one less restrictive alternative to the sealed cover. — **A summary, redaction or an amicus**

**72.** What is an 'amicus' in the passage? — **A court-appointed friend of the court**

**73.** Who may see secret material and argue against it? — **A security-cleared amicus or special advocate**

**74.** What do several common-law countries use instead of sealed covers? — **Security-cleared special advocates**

**75.** What do the alternatives to the sealed cover demand from the state? — **Effort**

**76.** Who, per the author, should pay the price of a fair hearing? — **The state, not the litigant**

**77.** What does 'redact' mean? — **To black out sensitive parts of a document**

**78.** What does 'conscientious' mean? — **Careful and guided by a sense of duty**

**79.** What is the electricity for farm pumps in north-western India? — **Free or nearly free**

**80.** What do farmers pay under a flat charge, per the passage? — **A charge unconnected to their use**

**81.** Who was free farm power meant to protect? — **Small cultivators**

**82.** What is the scarcest farm input in the region? — **Groundwater**

**83.** By how much is the water table falling in many blocks? — **Close to a metre a year**

**84.** Which two states does the passage name? — **Punjab and Haryana**

**85.** From what depth did tube-wells once draw water? — **Thirty feet**

**86.** Below what depth do tube-wells now chase water? — **Two hundred feet**

**87.** Free power, the author says, subsidises the depletion of what? — **The aquifer**

**88.** What does a meter allow the state to do, instead of charge? — **Pay**

**89.** What were farmers paid for under the Punjab pilot? — **Every unit of power they did not use**

**90.** Under the pilot, what did saving power become for farmers? — **Income**