Match the following concepts with their most applicable descriptions:  
1. Concepts Description  
I. Hashtag Activism A. Reduced to minimal effort interaction online  
II. Slacktivism B. Enhances social change via social media campaigns  
III. Grassroots Mobilization C. Participation mainly in physical rallies  
IV. Clicktivism D. A form of digital activism that involves more clicks than actions  
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:  
(1) I-B, II-A, III-C, IV-D  
(2) I-C, II-B, III-A, IV-D  
(3) I-D, II-A, III-B, IV-C  
(4) I-A, II-D, III-C, IV-B  
Answer Key: 3   
Solution:   
• Hashtag Activism: Often critiqued as clicktivism, it involves supporting causes through social media with more clicks than substantial actions, thus matching description D.  
• Slacktivism: Typically viewed as low-effort activism that does not translate into significant practical change, fitting description A.  
• Grassroots Mobilization: Involves direct, often physical participation in initiatives or protests, aligning with description C.  
• Clicktivism: Similar to hashtag activism, but generally used pejoratively to describe minimal-effort online activities; hence, fits with description D.  
Hence, Option (3) is the right answer.  
  
Match the following terms with their appropriate implications:  
1. Terms Implications  
I. Data Localization A. Enhances national security by storing data within the country  
II. Digital Sovereignty B. Leads to potential balkanization of the internet  
III. Cross-border Data Flow C. Creates complexities in international business operations  
IV. Global Data Standards D. Facilitates uniformity in data handling worldwide  
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:  
(1) I-B, II-D, III-A, IV-C  
(2) I-A, II-B, III-C, IV-D  
(3) I-C, II-A, III-B, IV-D  
(4) I-D, II-C, III-A, IV-B  
Answer Key: 3   
Solution:   
• Data Localization: Often implemented for protecting national interests and enhancing security, but it can complicate international business, aligning it with description C.  
• Digital Sovereignty: By asserting control over data, nations aim to protect their autonomy but risk promoting internet balkanization, matching description A.  
• Cross-border Data Flow: Essential for global commerce and communication but can be challenging due to varying regulations, fitting description B.  
• Global Data Standards: Aim to create a consistent approach to data management across borders, aligning with description D.  
Hence, Option (3) is the right answer.  
  
Match the following aspects of the digital divide with their corresponding descriptions:  
1. Aspects Description  
I. Access Divide A. Lack of necessary skills to use the internet effectively  
II. Skills Divide B. Disparities in achieving beneficial outcomes through digital means  
III. Usage Divide C. Inequalities in the quality and extent of internet use  
IV. Outcome Divide D. Barriers to internet connection and technological resources  
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:  
(1) I-A, II-D, III-B, IV-C  
(2) I-D, II-A, III-C, IV-B  
(3) I-B, II-C, III-A, IV-D  
(4) I-C, II-B, III-D, IV-A  
Answer Key: 4   
Solution:   
• Access Divide: Refers to the basic issues of connectivity and availability of technology, correctly described by D.  
• Skills Divide: Highlights the lack of skills necessary for effective internet usage, fitting description A.  
• Usage Divide: Focuses on differences in how and for what purposes individuals use the internet, aligning with description C.  
• Outcome Divide: Concerns the varying degrees of benefit that different groups receive from digital engagement, matching description B.  
Hence, Option (4) is the right answer.  
  
1. Considering the impact of civic technology and open data, a local government agency recently launched a platform to track municipal spending and contractor performance. The platform integrates data visualization tools and allows public comments on each project. How can this initiative primarily enhance accountability in municipal governance?  
(1) By increasing transparency and enabling public scrutiny, which can deter misallocation and encourage better project execution.  
(2) By automating all government transactions, thus eliminating the need for human oversight and reducing corruption risks.  
(3) By focusing solely on data collection without providing mechanisms for public interaction or feedback integration.  
(4) By replacing traditional public governance structures with technology-driven decision-making processes.  
Answer Key: 1  
Solution:  
• Option 1 (Correct): Transparency through open data allows citizens to view detailed information about municipal spending and contractor performance, enabling public scrutiny that can lead to better governance by deterring misallocation and improving project execution.  
• Option 2 (Incorrect): Automation reduces manual handling but does not inherently eliminate the need for oversight or fully address accountability without transparency and engagement components.  
• Option 3 (Incorrect): A platform that collects data but fails to engage with the public or integrate feedback misses a critical component of accountability — civic engagement and responsiveness.  
• Option 4 (Incorrect): Technology supports decision-making but does not replace governance structures; accountability also involves human judgment and ethical governance.  
Hence, Option (1) is the right answer.  
  
2. An urban local body has introduced an online portal that encompasses features like e-petitions, real-time public opinion polls, and a system for filing RTI (Right to Information) requests online. How might these e-participation tools influence democratic engagement and governmental responsiveness?  
(1) They enhance accessibility, allowing more citizens, including those from remote or underserved areas, to participate in governance and demand accountability.  
(2) They replace traditional in-person civic engagement methods, rendering previous forms of participation obsolete.  
(3) They diminish the role of direct human interaction in governance, leading to a decrease in public trust and engagement.  
(4) They create an overload of information that confuses citizens, thus reducing effective participation.  
Answer Key: 1  
Solution:  
• Option 1 (Correct): By making participation tools available online, the portal increases accessibility and convenience for citizens, potentially increasing participation from a broader demographic, including those in remote areas or with mobility constraints, thereby enhancing democratic engagement and governmental responsiveness.  
• Option 2 (Incorrect): While e-participation tools provide additional ways to engage, they complement rather than replace traditional methods, which remain important for inclusive governance.  
• Option 3 (Incorrect): Although online tools reduce face-to-face interactions, they can increase public trust and engagement by making governance processes more transparent and accessible.  
• Option 4 (Incorrect): Properly managed and user-friendly platforms can help in making information clear and accessible rather than overwhelming citizens, thus fostering rather than hindering participation.  
Hence, Option (1) is the right answer.  
  
3. In a multilingual country, a new policy mandates that all official digital communication tools must include features supporting multiple languages to accommodate various linguistic groups. What potential impact could this policy have on addressing intersectional divides related to language and accessibility in public services?  
(1) It directly addresses linguistic barriers, potentially increasing engagement and access to public services for non-dominant language speakers.  
(2) It imposes unnecessary complexities and costs on public systems, possibly leading to inefficiencies in service delivery.  
(3) It benefits only those with digital literacy, thereby excluding significant portions of the population from equitable access.  
(4) It leads to the homogenization of cultural identities by prioritizing certain languages over others.  
Answer Key: 1  
Solution:  
• Option 1 (Correct): By incorporating multiple language support, the policy effectively lowers linguistic barriers, enhancing access and inclusivity in public services, and ensuring that language diversity is respected and accommodated.  
• Option 2 (Incorrect): While there may be initial costs and complexities, the long-term benefits of inclusivity and enhanced accessibility outweigh these challenges.  
• Option 3 (Incorrect): Although digital literacy is a concern, the policy primarily aims to make digital tools linguistically inclusive, which is a separate issue from digital literacy itself.  
• Option 4 (Incorrect): Supporting multiple languages promotes cultural diversity and prevents the dominance of any single language, contrary to causing homogenization.  
Hence, Option (1) is the right answer.  
  
23.Which of the following factors influence the efficacy of platform governance and content moderation as a political process?  
I. Regulatory frameworks  
II. Platform algorithms  
III. User behavior  
IV. Economic incentives  
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:  
(1)I, II, and III only  
(2)II and III only  
(3)I, III, and IV only  
(4)All of the above  
Answer Key: 1  
Solution:  
Statement I (Correct): Regulatory frameworks dictate the legal boundaries within which platforms operate, influencing moderation policies.  
Statement II (Correct): Algorithms determine the visibility and suppression of content, central to the governance process.  
Statement III (Correct): User behavior impacts how content is generated and interacted with, affecting moderation needs.  
Statement IV (Incorrect): While economic incentives influence platform design, they do not directly affect political processes of governance.  
Hence, the correct answer is Option (1).  
  
24.Which of the following are considered crucial for the effectiveness of assistive technologies in inclusive design?  
I. Customizability  
II. Interoperability  
III. Aesthetic appeal  
IV. Accessibility standards compliance  
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:  
(1)I, II, and III only  
(2)II and III only  
(3)I, II, and IV only  
(4)All of the above  
Answer Key: 3  
Solution:  
Statement I (Correct): Customizability allows users to adjust technologies to their specific needs, which is crucial for effectiveness.  
Statement II (Correct): Interoperability ensures that assistive devices can work seamlessly with various systems and platforms.  
Statement III (Incorrect): While aesthetic appeal may enhance user experience, it is not crucial for the functionality of assistive technologies.  
Statement IV (Correct): Compliance with accessibility standards ensures that assistive technologies meet minimum required functionality and accessibility.  
Hence, the correct answer is Option (3).  
  
25.In the context of platform/gig workers’ collective action, which of the following are effective strategies for algorithmic bargaining?  
I. Data transparency  
II. Collective bargaining agreements  
III. Worker rating systems  
IV. Platform-specific unions  
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:  
(1)I, II, and III only  
(2)II and III only  
(3)I, II, and IV only  
(4)All of the above  
Answer Key: 3  
Solution:  
Statement I (Correct): Data transparency allows workers to understand and contest the algorithms that manage their work.  
Statement II (Correct): Collective bargaining agreements can formalize negotiations between workers and platforms, enhancing their bargaining power.  
Statement III (Incorrect): Worker rating systems are typically controlled by platforms and may not necessarily empower workers in bargaining.  
Statement IV (Correct): Platform-specific unions can provide a structured way for workers to organize and engage in collective action effectively.  
Hence, the correct answer is Option (3).  
  
23. Which of the following initiatives aim to enhance digital inclusion in India?  
I. BharatNet  
II. Digital India  
III. PMGDISHA  
IV. CSCs  
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:  
(1) I and IV only  
(2) I, III, and IV only  
(3) II and IV only  
(4) III and IV only  
Answer Key: 2  
Solution:  
Statement I (Correct): BharatNet is a project aimed at providing high-speed digital connectivity to rural areas.  
Statement II (Incorrect): Digital India is a broader initiative not specifically targeted in the question focused on inclusion strategies mentioned.  
Statement III (Correct): PMGDISHA focuses on imparting digital literacy to rural and underserved communities.  
Statement IV (Correct): Common Service Centers (CSCs) facilitate access to essential public utility services, social welfare schemes, healthcare, financial, education, and agriculture services.  
Hence, the correct answer is Option (2).  
  
24. Which practices are indicative of digital authoritarianism?  
I. Internet censorship  
II. Internet shutdowns  
III. Content moderation  
IV. Data throttling  
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:  
(1) I and III only  
(2) II and IV only  
(3) I, II, and IV only  
(4) All of the above  
Answer Key: 2  
Solution:  
Statement I (Incorrect): While internet censorship can be a part of authoritarian practices, it is not specified in the focus of the question on shutdowns and throttling.  
Statement II (Correct): Internet shutdowns are a direct form of digital control often used by authoritarian regimes to limit communication.  
Statement III (Incorrect): Content moderation can be a part of normal operations for many platforms and does not directly indicate authoritarian practices.  
Statement IV (Correct): Throttling, or intentionally slowing down the internet, is another method used to control or restrict access to information.  
Hence, the correct answer is Option (2).  
  
25. Which of the following are associated with computational propaganda?  
I. Social bots  
II. Fake news  
III. Astroturfing  
IV. Algorithmic trading  
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:  
(1) I and II only  
(2) I and III only  
(3) II and IV only  
(4) All of the above  
Answer Key: 2  
Solution:  
Statement I (Correct): Social bots are automated accounts that can be used to amplify or generate misleading information or propaganda.  
Statement II (Incorrect): Fake news is a related concept but not specified under the study of computational propaganda by Philip N. Howard.  
Statement III (Correct): Astroturfing involves creating an illusion of widespread grassroots support that is actually controlled by a few entities, a common technique in computational propaganda.  
Statement IV (Incorrect): Algorithmic trading pertains to finance and has no direct relation to computational propaganda.  
Hence, the correct answer is Option (2).  
  
1. Consider the following statements regarding the debates around the use of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and Voter Verified Paper Audit Trails (VVPATs):  
I. EVMs and VVPATs enhance the transparency of the voting process by allowing voters to verify their vote before final submission.  
II. One of the key criticisms of EVMs without VVPATs is their inability to be audited for accuracy and authenticity post-election.  
III. EVMs are designed to automatically tally votes which makes them less susceptible to human counting errors, but more susceptible to hacking.  
IV. The introduction of VVPATs has conclusively settled all debates regarding the trust and transparency concerns associated with EVMs.  
V. Due to their electronic nature, both EVMs and VVPATs require rigorous and regular software updates to ensure security against emerging cyber threats.  
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:  
(1) I, II, and IV only  
(2) I, II, III and V only  
(3) I, III, and V only  
(4) II, III, IV, and V only  
Answer Key: 3  
Solution:  
• Statement I (Correct): EVMs paired with VVPATs allow voters to see a printout of their vote, verifying their selection before the final submission, enhancing transparency.  
• Statement III (Correct): While EVMs minimize human errors in counting, they introduce risks related to electronic security, including potential vulnerabilities to hacking.  
• Statement V (Correct): The electronic components of EVMs and VVPATs necessitate ongoing updates to safeguard against new types of cyber threats, maintaining their integrity and trustworthiness.  
• Statement II (Incorrect): Although the lack of auditability is a significant criticism of EVMs alone, VVPATs address this issue by providing a paper trail that can be manually audited, enhancing the auditability of the electoral process.  
• Statement IV (Incorrect): While VVPATs have addressed many concerns, debates regarding trust and transparency continue, particularly concerning the implementation and procedural integrity.  
Hence, Option (3) is the right answer.  
  
2. Consider the following statements regarding networked social movements and connective action:  
I. Networked social movements rely solely on hierarchical structures similar to traditional organizations to mobilize collective action.  
II. In connective action, personal action frames linked through digital media networks replace the need for a unified group identity.  
III. Manuel Castells argues that the power of networked social movements primarily derives from their capacity to form a central leadership.  
IV. Bennett and Segerberg's concept of connective action illustrates how customization of messages fosters individual engagement in collective processes.  
V. The use of social media platforms in connective action inherently strengthens democratic engagement by increasing participation.  
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:  
(1) I, II, and IV only  
(2) II, IV, and V only  
(3) I, III, and V only  
(4) II, III, IV, and V only  
Answer Key: 2  
Solution:  
• Statement II (Correct): Connective action does not require a unified group identity, as personal action frames and digital media allow for individualized expressions of support that are networked together.  
• Statement IV (Correct): Bennett and Segerberg highlight how personalized content in social media enables individuals to engage more deeply in movements, by aligning their personal narratives with broader social issues.  
• Statement V (Correct): Social media platforms increase democratic engagement by enabling more extensive participation and interaction among individuals, even though the quality of this engagement can vary.  
• Statement I (Incorrect): Networked social movements are characterized by decentralized, non-hierarchical structures, contrasting with traditional organizational models.  
• Statement III (Incorrect): Castells emphasizes the decentralized, networked nature of power in social movements, rather than centralized leadership.  
Hence, Option (2) is the right answer.  
  
3. Consider the following statements about microtargeting in political advertising on digital platforms:  
I. Microtargeting inherently violates ethical standards as it manipulates voter behavior by exploiting personal data.  
II. The effectiveness of microtargeting in political advertising hinges on the granularity of the data collected and the precision of the targeting algorithms.  
III. Political campaigns can use microtargeting to deliver customized messages that resonate with individual preferences and values, enhancing voter engagement.  
IV. There is a consensus among political scientists that microtargeting in political campaigns leads to increased polarization within electorates.  
V. Regulations such as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) have completely eliminated the use of microtargeting in political advertising.  
Choose the correct answer from the options given below:  
(1) I, III, and V only  
(2) I, II, and IV only  
(3) I, II, III and IV only  
(4) II, III, IV, and V only  
Answer Key: 4  
Solution:  
• Statement II (Correct): The success of microtargeting relies on detailed data and sophisticated algorithms to effectively tailor political messages to individual voters' profiles, enhancing the relevance and impact of these messages.  
• Statement III (Correct): By aligning campaign messages with individual beliefs and values, microtargeting can increase engagement and potentially voter turnout, making political communication more effective.  
• Statement IV (Correct): While there is significant debate, many scholars argue that microtargeting contributes to political polarization by reinforcing existing beliefs and isolating voters from opposing viewpoints.  
• Statement V (Incorrect): Despite strict regulations like GDPR, microtargeting is still used in political advertising, though with more constraints to protect personal data and ensure transparency.  
• Statement I (Incorrect): While ethical concerns about manipulation and privacy are prevalent, microtargeting itself does not inherently violate ethical standards; the ethical implications depend on the methods and transparency of data use.  
Hence, Option (4) is the right answer.