1. Read the following passage carefully and answer Question No. 28:

Rajiv noticed that his friendships shifted as his speech did. In the hostel he learned to flatten vowels and sharpen consonants until they matched the cadences of the city; with that came invitations to study groups and internships he had previously only heard about. He was not deceived into thinking that pronunciation alone conferred competence, but he also could not deny that a new pronunciation unlocked old locks. He wondered whether he had gained access or merely changed the shape of the key. When he called home, his mother asked, gently, why he sounded like a stranger. Later, during a mock interview, he caught himself trimming a story about his village to fit a metropolitan appetite and felt a small betrayal stir. He began to keep two registers of speech and two ledgers of debt: one to opportunity, the other to origin. The question that remained, stubborn as a stone in a shoe, was whether the road ahead required that he walk with a limp.

The metaphor of “unlocked old locks” suggests that Rajiv’s altered speech  
(A) exposed him to new biases against him  
(B) granted entry to existing networks  
(C) diminished his technical abilities  
(D) removed all barriers to success

2. Read the following passage carefully and answer Question No. 29:

Rajiv noticed that his friendships shifted as his speech did. In the hostel he learned to flatten vowels and sharpen consonants until they matched the cadences of the city; with that came invitations to study groups and internships he had previously only heard about. He was not deceived into thinking that pronunciation alone conferred competence, but he also could not deny that a new pronunciation unlocked old locks. He wondered whether he had gained access or merely changed the shape of the key. When he called home, his mother asked, gently, why he sounded like a stranger. Later, during a mock interview, he caught himself trimming a story about his village to fit a metropolitan appetite and felt a small betrayal stir. He began to keep two registers of speech and two ledgers of debt: one to opportunity, the other to origin. The question that remained, stubborn as a stone in a shoe, was whether the road ahead required that he walk with a limp.

Rajiv’s question about “the shape of the key” reflects uncertainty about whether his progress was due to  
(A) improved competence or accommodated identity  
(B) lower academic standards  
(C) reduced competition in the hostel  
(D) family pressure to conform

3. Read the following passage carefully and answer Question No. 30:

Rajiv noticed that his friendships shifted as his speech did. In the hostel he learned to flatten vowels and sharpen consonants until they matched the cadences of the city; with that came invitations to study groups and internships he had previously only heard about. He was not deceived into thinking that pronunciation alone conferred competence, but he also could not deny that a new pronunciation unlocked old locks. He wondered whether he had gained access or merely changed the shape of the key. When he called home, his mother asked, gently, why he sounded like a stranger. Later, during a mock interview, he caught himself trimming a story about his village to fit a metropolitan appetite and felt a small betrayal stir. He began to keep two registers of speech and two ledgers of debt: one to opportunity, the other to origin. The question that remained, stubborn as a stone in a shoe, was whether the road ahead required that he walk with a limp.

The mother’s remark primarily highlights  
(A) pride in her son’s adaptability  
(B) concern over cultural and linguistic distance  
(C) disapproval of higher education  
(D) misunderstanding of his academic field

4. Read the following passage carefully and answer Question Nos. 28, 29 and 30:

The final frontier for platformized home services may be integration: not just booking a one-off task but choreographing a household’s recurring needs with predictive cadence. Imagine a dashboard that knows the AC’s service cycle, the RO filter’s lifespan, the preferred stylist’s monthly slot, and the elder-care nurse’s vitals schedule, and then negotiates these with school exams, religious observances, and salary credit dates. The technology exists in fragments; the challenge is consent and control. Who sees which data? Can a teenager opt out of reminders? Does the system nudge a reschedule when a landslide closes the usual approach road? Integration without autonomy becomes surveillance; autonomy without integration becomes noise.

A second challenge is equity. If premium subscribers receive priority during peak seasons, do non-premium users face systematic delays? If so, the platform risks reproducing offline inequities in a digital wrapper. The antidote is transparency: clear communication of tiers, fair access windows, and emergency overrides that elevate vulnerability over wallet size. In a decade, the winners will be those who make a household feel less like a market and more like a partnership—where convenience is the welcome, professionalism the meal, and respect the aftertaste.

The author warns that predictive integration must balance  
(A) speed over privacy  
(B) integration with user autonomy and consent  
(C) dashboards over provider discretion  
(D) nudges over local conditions

5. Read the following passage carefully and answer Question Nos. 28, 29 and 30:

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A second challenge is equity. If premium subscribers receive priority during peak seasons, do non-premium users face systematic delays? If so, the platform risks reproducing offline inequities in a digital wrapper. The antidote is transparency: clear communication of tiers, fair access windows, and emergency overrides that elevate vulnerability over wallet size. In a decade, the winners will be those who make a household feel less like a market and more like a partnership—where convenience is the welcome, professionalism the meal, and respect the aftertaste.

The equity concern raised is that premium tiers may  
(A) shorten delays for all users  
(B) create systematic delays for non-premium users  
(C) eliminate peak seasons entirely  
(D) reduce transparency about bookings

6. Read the following passage carefully and answer Question Nos. 28, 29 and 30:

The final frontier for platformized home services may be integration: not just booking a one-off task but choreographing a household’s recurring needs with predictive cadence. Imagine a dashboard that knows the AC’s service cycle, the RO filter’s lifespan, the preferred stylist’s monthly slot, and the elder-care nurse’s vitals schedule, and then negotiates these with school exams, religious observances, and salary credit dates. The technology exists in fragments; the challenge is consent and control. Who sees which data? Can a teenager opt out of reminders? Does the system nudge a reschedule when a landslide closes the usual approach road? Integration without autonomy becomes surveillance; autonomy without integration becomes noise.

A second challenge is equity. If premium subscribers receive priority during peak seasons, do non-premium users face systematic delays? If so, the platform risks reproducing offline inequities in a digital wrapper. The antidote is transparency: clear communication of tiers, fair access windows, and emergency overrides that elevate vulnerability over wallet size. In a decade, the winners will be those who make a household feel less like a market and more like a partnership—where convenience is the welcome, professionalism the meal, and respect the aftertaste.

The metaphor about “welcome, meal, and aftertaste” implies that the most enduring differentiator is  
(A) convenience alone  
(B) professionalism alone  
(C) respect experienced across the service journey  
(D) discounts offered at checkout

7. Read the following passage carefully and answer Question No. 28:

A science museum unveiled an exhibit on the cryosphere, inviting visitors to tilt a model Earth beneath a lamp and watch how reflective surfaces cool the planet compared to darker ones. Children delighted in the demonstration, but the curators’ notes threaded a harder truth: the albedo effect that makes ice a planetary parasol also makes its loss a warming accelerant. A panel contrasted two maps—one showing historical multi-year ice extent, the other a recent minimum—prompting conversations not just about physics but about memory: what generations consider “normal” contracts as baselines shift. The exhibit closed with a question rather than a verdict: if the future coastline will be drawn by choices made today, what stories will museums tell our grandchildren about how we measured, modeled, and decided?

The albedo lesson in the exhibit illustrates that  
(A) ice reflects sunlight and helps cool the planet  
(B) darker surfaces increase reflection  
(C) albedo has no effect on temperature  
(D) melting ice decreases absorbed sunlight

8. Read the following passage carefully and answer Question No. 29:

A science museum unveiled an exhibit on the cryosphere, inviting visitors to tilt a model Earth beneath a lamp and watch how reflective surfaces cool the planet compared to darker ones. Children delighted in the demonstration, but the curators’ notes threaded a harder truth: the albedo effect that makes ice a planetary parasol also makes its loss a warming accelerant. A panel contrasted two maps—one showing historical multi-year ice extent, the other a recent minimum—prompting conversations not just about physics but about memory: what generations consider “normal” contracts as baselines shift. The exhibit closed with a question rather than a verdict: if the future coastline will be drawn by choices made today, what stories will museums tell our grandchildren about how we measured, modeled, and decided?

The juxtaposition of historical and recent maps aims to highlight  
(A) the stability of multi-year ice  
(B) shifting baselines that alter perceptions of “normal”  
(C) the irrelevance of observation to public memory  
(D) the superiority of models over measurements

9. Read the following passage carefully and answer Question No. 30:

A science museum unveiled an exhibit on the cryosphere, inviting visitors to tilt a model Earth beneath a lamp and watch how reflective surfaces cool the planet compared to darker ones. Children delighted in the demonstration, but the curators’ notes threaded a harder truth: the albedo effect that makes ice a planetary parasol also makes its loss a warming accelerant. A panel contrasted two maps—one showing historical multi-year ice extent, the other a recent minimum—prompting conversations not just about physics but about memory: what generations consider “normal” contracts as baselines shift. The exhibit closed with a question rather than a verdict: if the future coastline will be drawn by choices made today, what stories will museums tell our grandchildren about how we measured, modeled, and decided?

The final question of the exhibit primarily calls attention to  
(A) the inevitability of future coastlines  
(B) the role of present decisions in shaping outcomes and narratives  
(C) museums’ inability to communicate science  
(D) the sufficiency of demonstrations without policy action

10. Read the following passage carefully and answer Question Nos. 28, 29 and 30:

Across Mizoram and southern Assam, a new cartography of landslide risk has replaced tourist brochures in the public imagination. What earlier was a monsoon inconvenience is now a season-long negotiation: school calendars written in pencil, supply chains that budget for detours, and a citizen’s weather app that has acquired the intimacy of a family member. In villages perched on knife-edge ridges, the difference between a near miss and a headline is sometimes a roadside drain cleared on a Tuesday. The question hanging over every project file is not whether to build, but how to build and maintain in a world where yesterday’s slope is not today’s. Resilience here is not an abstraction; it is a shovel, a schedule, and a stubbornness that keeps the road open one more day.

The grammar of prevention, locals say, is mostly verbs: to clear, to anchor, to revegetate, to inspect. Sensors help, but their sentences still need subjects—people who read their warnings and move stones before stones move people. Insurance, where available, prices risk as if roads were numbers and not lifelines; yet shopkeepers know that a fortnight’s closure can unravel a season’s profit. In the end, the best technology is attention paid on time. The best innovation is continuity of care for things that look inert until they slide.

The central idea of the passage is that landslide risk  
(A) has diminished due to improved tourism  
(B) requires continuous, mundane acts of maintenance for resilience  
(C) is purely a matter of installing sensors  
(D) can be solved by cancelling the monsoon school term

11. Read the following passage carefully and answer Question Nos. 28, 29 and 30:

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The sentence “yesterday’s slope is not today’s” underscores  
(A) geological stability over time  
(B) dynamic slope conditions demanding adaptive management  
(C) the success of one-time engineering fixes  
(D) overreliance on tourist maps

12. Read the following passage carefully and answer Question Nos. 28, 29 and 30:

Across Mizoram and southern Assam, a new cartography of landslide risk has replaced tourist brochures in the public imagination. What earlier was a monsoon inconvenience is now a season-long negotiation: school calendars written in pencil, supply chains that budget for detours, and a citizen’s weather app that has acquired the intimacy of a family member. In villages perched on knife-edge ridges, the difference between a near miss and a headline is sometimes a roadside drain cleared on a Tuesday. The question hanging over every project file is not whether to build, but how to build and maintain in a world where yesterday’s slope is not today’s. Resilience here is not an abstraction; it is a shovel, a schedule, and a stubbornness that keeps the road open one more day.

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The phrase “a citizen’s weather app… intimacy of a family member” suggests that people  
(A) ignore weather updates during monsoon  
(B) have integrated real-time risk information into daily life  
(C) distrust forecasts entirely  
(D) rely solely on official advisories without local judgment