1. Which Directive Principle encourages the State to promote the educational and economic interests of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?  
   (A) Article 46  
   (B) Article 47  
   (C) Article 48  
   (D) Article 49

Answer 41. (A) Article 46

Explanation:

* Article 46 directs the State to promote the educational and economic interests of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections.
* It also enjoins the State to protect these groups from social injustice and all forms of exploitation.
* The other listed Articles concern nutrition and public health (47), agriculture/animal husbandry (48), and monuments/heritage (49), not targeted advancement of SCs/STs.

1. The constitutional mandate for the protection of the distinct language, script, and culture of Scheduled Tribes is predominantly found in:  
   (A) Article 24  
   (B) Article 371 (various clauses)  
   (C) Article 45  
   (D) Article 300

Answer 42. (B) Article 371 (various clauses)

Explanation:

* Special provisions under the Article 371 series (such as 371A for Nagaland, 371G for Mizoram, and other state-specific clauses) safeguard customary law, social practices, and cultural distinctiveness, including language and script, of tribal communities.
* Article 24 prohibits child labour in hazardous employment; Article 45 relates to early childhood care/education; Article 300 concerns legal proceedings—none focus on tribal cultural protections.

1. Which was the only state formed after the adoption of the Indian Constitution but before 1956?  
   (A) Rajasthan  
   (B) Jammu and Kashmir  
   (C) Sikkim  
   (D) Goa

Answer 43. (A) Rajasthan

Explanation:

* Post-1950, the integration and reorganization of princely states created the modern state of Rajasthan before the large-scale States Reorganisation Act of 1956.
* Jammu and Kashmir existed as a state at Constitution adoption; Sikkim became a state in 1975; Goa attained statehood in 1987 after earlier Union Territory status.

1. Which of the following states/regions were originally covered under Article 371B (special provisions for Assam) before later amendments expanded the 371 series?  
   (A) Bodoland Territorial Region  
   (B) Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills (Dima Hasao)  
   (C) Barak Valley Autonomous Region  
   (D) Sadiya and Lakhimpur tribal belts

Answer 44. (B) Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills (Dima Hasao)

Explanation:

* Article 371B provided for a committee of the Assam Legislative Assembly to ensure participation from the tribal areas of Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills.
* It was designed to reflect the interests of these autonomous hill districts within the state’s legislative processes.
* The other options are not the regions specified in the original constitutional provision.

1. Which Article of the Constitution enables the Supreme Court to punish for contempt of itself?  
   (A) Article 122  
   (B) Article 129  
   (C) Article 136  
   (D) Article 144

Answer 45. (B) Article 129

Explanation:

* Article 129 declares the Supreme Court a court of record with powers to punish for contempt of itself.
* Article 122 concerns parliamentary proceedings; Article 136 deals with special leave to appeal; Article 144 mandates civil and judicial authorities to act in aid of the Supreme Court.

1. Match the following Northeast leaders with their states:  
   List-I (Leaders) | List-II (State)  
   a. P. A. Sangma | 1. Meghalaya  
   b. Laldenga | 2. Mizoram  
   c. Neiphiu Rio | 3. Nagaland  
   d. B. B. Lyngdoh | 4. Meghalaya  
   (A) abcd → 1 2 3 4  
   (B) abcd → 4 3 2 1  
   (C) abcd → 1 2 4 3  
   (D) abcd → 2 1 3 4

Answer 46. (A) abcd → 1 2 3 4

Explanation:

* P. A. Sangma was a prominent leader from Meghalaya who also served as Lok Sabha Speaker.
* Laldenga led the Mizo movement and became Chief Minister of Mizoram.
* Neiphiu Rio has served multiple terms as Chief Minister of Nagaland.
* B. B. Lyngdoh was a veteran leader and multiple-term Chief Minister of Meghalaya.

1. Which of the following is true regarding the scope of amicus curiae in Indian Supreme Court?  
   (A) Amicus curiae can only be appointed in civil cases  
   (B) Their role is advisory and they do not represent any party  
   (C) Appointed only in Public Interest Litigations (PILs)  
   (D) Can decide the final verdict in a case

Answer 47. (B) Their role is advisory and they do not represent any party

Explanation:

* An amicus curiae assists the court by offering expertise or a neutral perspective and is not counsel for any litigant.
* Appointment may occur in civil, criminal, constitutional, or PIL matters at the court’s discretion.
* Amicus curiae does not render the judgment; the bench does.

1. The principle of Rule of Law was first explicitly incorporated in the Indian Constitution in which way?  
   (A) Through the Preamble  
   (B) Through the Fundamental Rights chapter  
   (C) Through Directive Principles of State Policy  
   (D) Through the inclusion of Article 14

Answer 48. (D) Through the inclusion of Article 14

Explanation:

* While the Preamble and Fundamental Rights collectively support constitutionalism, Article 14’s guarantee of equality before the law and equal protection of the laws most explicitly embodies Rule of Law ideals.
* Directive Principles are non-justiciable guidelines and do not explicitly state Rule of Law.

1. The concept of “Balanced Growth” in development economics was primarily advocated by:  
   (A) Ragnar Nurkse  
   (B) Arthur Lewis  
   (C) Walt Rostow  
   (D) Paul Rosenstein-Rodan

Answer 49. (A) Ragnar Nurkse

Explanation:

* Ragnar Nurkse championed balanced growth, arguing for simultaneous investments across sectors to overcome demand constraints and poverty traps.
* Rosenstein-Rodan is associated with the “big push” (a related but distinct idea), Lewis with dual-sector models, and Rostow with stages of growth.

1. Which of the following statements about the lifecycle emissions of biofuels is/are true?  
   (i) Emissions depend on feedstock type and cultivation practices.  
   (ii) Lifecycle emissions of biofuels are always lower than fossil fuels.  
   (iii) Land-use change related emissions can offset biofuel carbon savings.  
   (iv) Advanced biofuels have lower emissions than first-generation biofuels.  
   Select the correct answer using the codes given below.  
   (A) (i), (iii), and (iv) only  
   (B) (ii) and (iii) only  
   (C) (i) and (ii) only  
   (D) All are correct

Answer 50. (A) (i), (iii), and (iv) only

Explanation:

* Lifecycle greenhouse gas performance varies with feedstock (e.g., waste oils vs. food crops) and agricultural practices (e.g., fertilizer use, irrigation).
* Indirect or direct land-use change can release stored carbon, negating some or all climate benefits.
* Advanced biofuels (e.g., cellulosic, waste-based) generally offer better lifecycle emissions profiles than first-generation fuels.
* It is incorrect to claim biofuels are always lower-emission than fossil fuels; outcomes depend on context.