1. Which of the following Directive Principles relate to the organization and regulation of agriculture and animal husbandry?  
   (A) State shall take steps to secure the operation of economic system in a way that justice, social, economic and political, shall inform all institutions  
   (B) State shall endeavor to raise the level of nutrition and the standard of living  
   (C) State shall endeavor to promote cottage industries on an individual or cooperative basis in rural areas  
   (D) State shall take steps to organize village panchayats and endow them with powers

Answer 41. (B) State shall endeavor to raise the level of nutrition and the standard of living

Explanation:

* The Directive Principle specifically tied to agriculture and animal husbandry is the one urging the State to raise nutrition and standard of living because it explicitly references improving public health and nutrition, which directly depends on agricultural development and animal husbandry support.
* Separate DPSPs address organization of agriculture and animal husbandry on modern and scientific lines and prohibit slaughter of certain cattle; these fall within the broader goal of improving nutrition and living standards, which is why option (B) captures the linked emphasis.
* The other options relate to economic organization generally, promotion of rural cottage industries, and local self-government—important, but not directly the clause referencing agriculture and animal husbandry’s aims for nutrition and public health.

1. The constitutional provision to raise a Development Council for Scheduled Tribes exists under:  
   (A) Article 275  
   (B) Article 330  
   (C) Article 340  
   (D) Article 371

Answer 42. (C) Article 340

Explanation:

* Article 340 provides for appointment of a commission to investigate the conditions of socially and educationally backward classes and recommend steps, which has been used to constitute bodies addressing developmental needs of backward groups including Scheduled Tribes.
* Article 275 deals with grants-in-aid and special grants for tribal areas but does not itself create a “Development Council”; Article 330 concerns reservation of seats in the House of the People; Article 371 relates to special provisions for certain states.
* Hence the enabling constitutional space for such development commissions/councils is anchored in Article 340.

1. Among the following, which was the last state formed in Northeast India?  
   (A) Nagaland  
   (B) Mizoram  
   (C) Arunachal Pradesh  
   (D) Meghalaya

Answer 43. (C) Arunachal Pradesh

Explanation:

* Nagaland attained statehood in 1963, Meghalaya in 1972, while both Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh became states in 1987.
* Arunachal Pradesh’s statehood in 1987 came alongside but is generally listed after Mizoram in formal enumeration, making it the last among the given options.
* Therefore, Arunachal Pradesh is the correct choice in the context of the listed states.

1. Which of the following Articles empowers the Governor of Assam to modify or annul acts of Parliament/State Legislature in Sixth Schedule areas, if deemed unsuitable?  
   (A) Article 244(2)  
   (B) Article 371B  
   (C) Article 163  
   (D) Article 123

Answer 44. (A) Article 244(2)

Explanation:

* Article 244(2) applies the Sixth Schedule to tribal areas in Assam (and certain northeastern states) and, within the Sixth Schedule framework, empowers the Governor with specific powers over applicability of laws to autonomous districts.
* Article 371B deals with a committee of the Assembly for certain tribal areas in Assam; Article 163 concerns the Council of Ministers’ aid and advice; Article 123 concerns the President’s ordinance-making power.
* Thus, the operative authority within Sixth Schedule context is anchored under Article 244(2).

1. Powers of the Supreme Court under Article 136 include:  
   (A) Hearing appeals against High Court judgments in civil, criminal, and constitutional matters  
   (B) Reviewing its own judgments  
   (C) Administering oaths to the President  
   (D) Declaring a state of emergency

Answer 45. (A) Hearing appeals against High Court judgments in civil, criminal, and constitutional matters

Explanation:

* Article 136 confers a special leave to appeal jurisdiction, allowing the Supreme Court to grant leave to appeal from any judgment, decree, determination, sentence or order in any cause or matter passed by any court or tribunal.
* Review of its own judgments is under Article 137, not Article 136; administering oaths to the President is done by the Chief Justice under separate provisions; declaration of emergency is an executive act under Part XVIII.
* Hence, the defining feature of Article 136 is the discretionary appellate power.

1. Match the following Chief Ministers of Assam with their historic firsts:  
   List-I (CM) | List-II (Historic Note)  
   a. Gopinath Bordoloi | 1. First CM of Independent Assam  
   b. Anwara Taimur | 2. First woman CM of Assam  
   c. Golap Borbora | 3. First non-Congress CM  
   d. Himanta Biswa Sarma | 4. Longest-serving in post after Tarun Gogoi  
   (A) abcd → 1 2 3 4  
   (B) abcd → 2 3 4 1  
   (C) abcd → 3 1 4 2  
   (D) abcd → 4 2 1 3

Answer 46. (A) abcd → 1 2 3 4

Explanation:

* Gopinath Bordoloi is remembered as the first Chief Minister (Premier) of Independent Assam.
* Syeda Anwara Taimur became the first woman Chief Minister of Assam.
* Golap Borbora led a non-Congress government, marking the first such Chief Ministership.
* Himanta Biswa Sarma’s tenure follows Tarun Gogoi’s record in length, aligning with the noted ordering.

1. What role does the ‘amicus curiae’ typically NOT perform in a court hearing?  
   (A) To offer expert opinion when parties are unrepresented  
   (B) To assist courts in complex legal matters  
   (C) To replace the defence counsel of the accused  
   (D) To ensure fair presentation of facts relevant to the case

Answer 47. (C) To replace the defence counsel of the accused

Explanation:

* An amicus curiae is a “friend of the court,” appointed or allowed to assist by offering expertise, context, or balanced facts to aid adjudication.
* The amicus does not supplant or replace the counsel of any party; representation of parties remains with their respective lawyers or legal aid.
* Their role is advisory and facilitative to the court’s understanding, not substitutionary advocacy for a litigant.

1. Which of the following is/are NOT consistent with the Rule of Law?  
   (i) Arbitrary arrest and detention without fair trial  
   (ii) Equality before law and non-discrimination  
   (iii) Access to justice for all citizens  
   (iv) Transparency in legal processes  
   Select the correct answer:  
   (A) (i) only  
   (B) (i) and (ii) only  
   (C) (ii) and (iii) only  
   (D) All of the above

Answer 48. (A) (i) only

Explanation:

* Arbitrary arrest and detention without due process violates the Rule of Law, which requires legality, fairness, and judicial oversight.
* Equality before law, non-discrimination, access to justice, and transparency are integral to upholding the Rule of Law.
* Therefore, only (i) is inconsistent; the others are consistent with Rule of Law.

1. Which of the following are the key features of the Solow Growth Model?  
   (i) Role of technological progress  
   (ii) Steady state equilibrium  
   (iii) Fixed savings rate  
   (iv) Capitalistic class struggle  
   Select the correct option:  
   (A) (i), (ii), and (iii) only  
   (B) (ii) and (iv) only  
   (C) (i) and (iv) only  
   (D) All of the above

Answer 49. (A) (i), (ii), and (iii) only

Explanation:

* The Solow (neoclassical) model emphasizes exogenous technological progress as a driver of long-run per capita growth.
* It features convergence to a steady state where capital per worker stabilizes given savings, population growth, and depreciation.
* It typically assumes a fixed savings rate in the basic formulation; class struggle is not a Solow model element but associated with Marxian frameworks.

1. Consider the environmental concerns related to biofuel use:  
   (i) Increased use may lead to soil degradation  
   (ii) Biofuels produced from crops always reduce carbon footprint  
   (iii) Excess nitrogen fertilizers used for biofuel crops may cause water pollution  
   (iv) Large-scale cultivation may lead to loss of natural habitats  
   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:

* Intensive cultivation for biofuels can degrade soils via nutrient mining, erosion, and reduced organic matter if not managed sustainably.
* Excess fertilizer use for higher yields can leach nitrates and phosphates into water bodies, causing eutrophication and ecosystem harm.
* Converting forests, grasslands, or wetlands to biofuel crops results in habitat loss and potential carbon debt; hence land-use change is a key concern.
* Biofuels do not “always” reduce carbon footprints; lifecycle emissions can exceed fossil fuels when land-use change and inputs are accounted for, so (ii) is not universally true.