Branch Officer (BS-17), Punjab Public Service Commission — 2016 · Solved Past Paper

Body: Punjab Public Service Commission (PPSC) · **Post:** Branch Officer (BS-17), Punjab Public Service Commission · **Year:** 2016 · **Questions:** 100 in the original paper — **79 solved and verified**, 21 unrecoverable (Q80, Q81, Q82, Q83, Q84, Q85, Q86, Q87, Q88, Q89, Q90, Q91, Q92, Q93, Q94, Q95, Q96, Q97, Q98, Q99, Q100) · **Price:** Free

> **How to use this paper:** each question shows the stem, the four options, and the correct answer. Click “Why each option?” under a question to see all four options explained — one question teaches four topics. General Knowledge answers are as of the 2016 sitting.

Source note: mcq-ai.com paper page 'PPSC Branch Officer 06-11-2016' — 79 questions on record from this sitting, each answered and explained; the page states the paper may be shorter than the one set on the day. All 79 keys checked independently and confirmed VERIFIED; no PICK-ONE, no DEFECTIVE. Exam-date standard applied to current-affairs answers (Q12 2016 Nobel Peace Prize, Q15 king who died Oct 2016, Q27 2020 host as awarded in 2013, Q61 emperor on the throne in 2016). Dedup 13 Nov 2026 vs the live library (652 papers in papers-index.json; 397 built PPSC files): paper_id not live; no live Branch Officer paper exists at all; first-8 screen max 0 hits vs any built paper — no duplicate.

Question 1 Urdu

The Urdu novel Fasana-e-Mubtala was written by:

- A. Mirza Hadi Ruswa

- C. Abdul Halim Sharar
- D. Deputy Nazir Ahmad ✓ **Correct answer**

A. Ruswa wrote Umrao Jan Ada, not Fasana-e-Mubtala.

B. Sarshar wrote Fasana-e-Azad, not Fasana-e-Mubtala.

C. Sharar wrote historical romances, not Fasana-e-Mubtala.

D. Correct: Fasana-e-Mubtala (1885) is one of Deputy Nazir Ahmad's reformist novels, along with Mirat-ul-Uroos and Taubat-un-Nasuh.

Question 2 Urdu

The Urdu dictionary Farhang-e-Asifiya was compiled by:

- A. Maulvi Syed Ahmad Dehlvi ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Maulvi Abdul Haq
- C. Deputy Nazir Ahmad
- D. Muhammad Husain Azad

A. Correct: Farhang-e-Asifiya, the large four-volume Urdu dictionary, was compiled by Maulvi Syed Ahmad Dehlvi and named after the Nizam of Hyderabad.

B. Abdul Haq was also a lexicographer, but his best-known dictionary is an English-Urdu one, not Farhang-e-Asifiya.

C. Nazir Ahmad wrote novels, not this dictionary.

D. Azad wrote Aab-e-Hayat and poetry, not this dictionary.

Question 3 General Knowledge

Britain handed Hong Kong back to China in:

- A. 1997 ✓ **Correct answer**

- C. 1984
- D. 1949

A. Correct: Britain transferred Hong Kong to China on 1 July 1997 under the Sino-British Joint Declaration.

B. 1999 is when Portugal returned Macau to China, not Hong Kong.

C. 1984 is the year the Joint Declaration was signed, not the handover.

D. 1949 is the founding year of the People's Republic of China, not the handover.

Question 4 Everyday Science

The average weight of an adult human brain is about:

- A. 0.5 kg
- B. 1.4 kg ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. 2.5 kg
- D. 3.5 kg

A. About the weight of a newborn baby's brain, not an adult's.

B. Correct: an adult human brain weighs roughly 1.3 to 1.4 kilograms.

C. Nearly double the real adult brain weight.

D. Far above the real adult brain weight.

Question 5 Everyday Science

The mercury thermometer was invented by:

- A. Anders Celsius
- B. Lord Kelvin
- C. Daniel Gabriel Fahrenheit ✓ **Correct answer**

A. Celsius proposed the centigrade temperature scale in 1742; he did not invent the mercury thermometer.

B. Kelvin proposed the absolute temperature scale, not the mercury thermometer.

C. Correct: Fahrenheit made the first reliable mercury-in-glass thermometer in 1714.

D. Torricelli invented the barometer using mercury, not the thermometer.

Question 6 General Knowledge

Tiananmen Square is located in:

- A. Shanghai
- B. Hong Kong
- C. Beijing ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Guangzhou

A. Shanghai is China's largest city, but Tiananmen Square is not there.

B. Hong Kong has no Tiananmen Square.

C. Correct: Tiananmen Square lies in the centre of Beijing, before the Forbidden City.

D. Guangzhou is a southern Chinese city; the square is in the capital.

Question 7 Urdu

The verse 'Tum aaye ho na shab-e-intezar guzri hai, talash mein hai sehar baar baar guzri hai' was written by:

- A. Ahmad Faraz
- B. Habib Jalib
- C. Nasir Kazmi
- D. Faiz Ahmad Faiz ✓ **Correct answer**

te in a similar romantic idiom, but this verse is not his.

B. Jalib was a people's poet of protest; this ghazal is not his.

C. Kazmi wrote melancholy ghazals, but this verse is not his.

D. Correct: this is the opening couplet of a well-known ghazal by Faiz Ahmad Faiz.

Question 8 General Knowledge

Arthur Ashe is famous in the field of:

- A. Golf
- B. Boxing
- C. Athletics
- D. Tennis ✓ **Correct answer**

A. Ashe was not a golfer.

B. Ashe was not a boxer.

C. Ashe was not a track athlete.

D. Correct: Arthur Ashe was the first black man to win the US Open, Australian Open and Wimbledon men's singles.

Question 9 General Knowledge

Naseem Hameed of Pakistan is famous as a/an:

- A. Athlete (sprinter) ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Cricketer
- C. Squash player
- D. Mountaineer

A. Correct: Naseem Hameed won the women's 100 metres gold at the 2010 South Asian Games, becoming the fastest woman in South Asia.

a cricketer.

C. She is not a squash player.

D. She is not a mountaineer.

Question 10 General Knowledge

Abdul Hafeez (A.H.) Kardar is famous in the field of:

- A. Hockey
- B. Cricket ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Squash
- D. Wrestling

A. Kardar never played hockey.

B. Correct: A. H. Kardar was Pakistan's first Test cricket captain (1952).

C. Kardar was not a squash player.

D. Kardar was not a wrestler.

Question 11 General Knowledge

The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) came into being in:

- A. 1980
- B. 1983
- C. 1985 ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. 1990

A. SAARC did not exist in 1980.

B. 1983 saw a preparatory foreign ministers' meeting, but SAARC itself was not yet founded.

SAARC was established on 8 December 1985 at the Dhaka summit.

D. Five years after SAARC was founded.

Question 12 Current Affairs

The Nobel Peace Prize for 2016 was awarded to:

- A. Juan Manuel Santos ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Malala Yousafzai
- C. The Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet
- D. Denis Mukwege

A. Correct: the 2016 Nobel Peace Prize went to Juan Manuel Santos, President of Colombia, for the peace agreement with the FARC.

B. Malala shared the 2014 prize, not the 2016 one.

C. The Quartet won in 2015, the year before.

D. Mukwege won in 2018, two years later.

Question 13 Pakistan Studies

Who is the youngest recipient of the Nishan-e-Haider?

- A. Major Aziz Bhatti
- B. Pilot Officer Rashid Minhas ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Sawar Muhammad Hussain
- D. Lance Naik Muhammad Mahfuz

A. Bhatti was 37 when martyred in 1965, not the youngest.

B. Correct: Minhas was only 20 when he died on 20 August 1971, the youngest Nishan-e-Haider recipient.

C. Hussain was about 22 when martyred in 1971, older than Minhas.

as 27 when martyred in 1971.

Question 14 General Knowledge

How many stars are there on the national flag of China?

- A. Three
- B. Four
- C. Five ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Six

A. Too few: the flag has five stars.

B. The common slip: counting only the four smaller stars and missing the large one.

C. Correct: China's flag carries five yellow stars — one large and four small.

D. One too many: the flag has five stars.

Question 15 Current Affairs

The world's longest-reigning monarch at the time, who died in October 2016, was the king of:

- A. Thailand ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Cambodia
- C. Nepal
- D. Saudi Arabia

A. Correct: King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand died on 13 October 2016 after reigning seventy years since 1946.

B. Cambodia's long-serving king Norodom Sihanouk had died in 2012.

C. Nepal's monarchy was abolished in 2008; there was no king in 2016.

D. Saudi kings have not reigned seventy years.

16 English

Zoo is to animals as aquarium is to:

- A. Water
- B. Birds
- C. Glass
- D. Fish ✓ **Correct answer**

A. Water is only the medium in an aquarium, not what it is for.

B. Birds are kept in aviaries, not aquariums.

C. Glass is only the material of the tank, not what it houses.

D. Correct: a zoo houses animals and an aquarium houses fish.

Question 17 English

Choose the antonym of CELIBATE:

- A. Chaste
- B. Married ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Abstinent
- D. Solitary

A. Chaste is close in meaning to celibate, not its opposite.

B. Correct: celibate means staying unmarried, so its opposite is married.

C. Abstinent is close in meaning to celibate, not its opposite.

D. Solitary means living alone; a married person can live alone and a celibate person need not.

18 English

Choose the antonym of VILIFY:

- A. Defame
- B. Malign
- C. Praise ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Slander

A. Defame is a synonym of vilify, not its opposite.

B. Malign is a synonym of vilify, not its opposite.

C. Correct: to vilify is to speak abusively of someone; to praise is the opposite.

D. Slander is a synonym of vilify, not its opposite.

Question 19 General Knowledge

What is the currency of the Republic of Ireland?

- A. Pound sterling
- B. Irish punt
- C. Krone
- D. Euro ✓ **Correct answer**

A. Pound sterling is used in Northern Ireland, part of the UK, not in the Republic.

B. The punt was replaced by the euro in 2002 and is no longer legal tender.

C. The krone is the currency of Denmark, Norway and Sweden, not Ireland.

D. Correct: the Republic of Ireland adopted the euro in 1999 (notes and coins 2002).

Question 20 English

Choose the word closest in meaning to FULSOME:

- B. Lavish ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Hesitant
- D. Bitter

A. Meagre is close to the opposite of fulsome.

B. Correct: fulsome describes praise or thanks that is lavish, often excessively so.

C. Hesitant means reluctant, not fulsome.

D. Bitter means resentful, not fulsome.

Question 21 English

Complete the proverb: A picture is worth a _____ words.

- A. hundred
- B. thousand ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. million
- D. few

A. Not the fixed wording of the proverb.

B. Correct: "A picture is worth a thousand words."

C. Not the fixed wording of the proverb.

D. Not the fixed wording of the proverb.

Question 22 English

Complete the proverb: Don't count your chickens before they are _____.

- A. fed
- B. sold
- C. hatched ✓ **Correct answer**

A. Not the wording of the proverb.

B. Not the wording of the proverb.

C. Correct: "Don't count your chickens before they are hatched."

D. Not the wording of the proverb.

Question 23 English

Pride is to lions as shoal is to:

- A. Fish ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Geese
- C. Wolves
- D. Bees

A. Correct: a group of lions is a pride and a group of fish is a shoal (or school).

B. A group of geese is a gaggle, not a shoal.

C. A group of wolves is a pack, not a shoal.

D. A group of bees is a swarm, not a shoal.

Question 24 Mathematics

Rs 1,360 is divided among A, B and C so that A gets 2/3 of what B gets and B gets 1/4 of what C gets. What is B's share?

- A. Rs 160
- B. Rs 320
- C. Rs 960
- D. Rs 240 ✓ **Correct answer**

share, not B's.

B. No working gives 320 for B.

C. That is C's share, not B's.

D. Correct: let C = x; B = x/4; A = (2/3)(x/4) = x/6; x + x/4 + x/6 = 17x/12 = 1360, so x = 960, B = 960/4 = 240.

Question 25 Mathematics

If 3 yards are covered in 2 minutes, how many yards will be covered in 50 minutes at the same rate?

- A. 60
- B. 100
- C. 75 ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. 150

A. No working gives 60 yards.

B. That wrongly treats 2 as the yards per minute (2 x 50).

C. Correct: the rate is 1.5 yards per minute, so 1.5 x 50 = 75 yards.

D. That wrongly treats 3 as the yards per minute (3 x 50).

Question 26 Mathematics

A father is now twice as old as his son. Twenty years ago, he was twelve times as old as his son. What is the father's present age?

- A. 44 years ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. 40 years
- C. 48 years
- D. 52 years

Let the son's present age be s, so the father is 2s. Twenty years ago: 2s - 20 = 12(s - 20), giving 2s - 20 = 12s - 240, so 10s = 220 and s = 22; the father is 44.

B. If the father were 40, the son would be 20 now and 0 twenty years ago, which cannot be.

C. If the father were 48, the son would be 24 now and 4 twenty years ago, and 28 is not twelve times 4.

D. If the father were 52, the son would be 26 now and 6 twenty years ago, and 32 is not twelve times 6.

Question 27 Current Affairs

The 2020 Summer Olympic Games were awarded to:

- A. Tokyo ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Paris
- C. Los Angeles
- D. Istanbul

A. Correct: Tokyo won the right to host the 2020 Summer Olympics in 2013, defeating Istanbul and Madrid; the Games were held in 2021 because of the pandemic but kept the name Tokyo 2020.

B. Paris hosted the 2024 Games, not the 2020 ones.

C. Los Angeles holds the 2028 Games, not the 2020 ones.

D. Istanbul was the losing finalist in the 2020 host-city vote.

Question 28 Pakistan Studies

Chaudhry Rahmat Ali is buried in:

- A. Lahore

- C. Cambridge ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Karachi

A. Lahore is a frequent wrong guess because of long-standing demands to bring his remains to Pakistan, but they were never moved.

B. Rahmat Ali lived and died in England, but he was not buried in London.

C. Correct: Chaudhry Rahmat Ali, who coined the name "Pakistan" in his 1933 pamphlet Now or Never, died in Cambridge in February 1951 and was buried in the city's Newmarket Road Cemetery.

D. He was never brought to Karachi.

Question 29 General Knowledge

Who is regarded as the first Prime Minister of Great Britain?

- A. William Pitt the Younger
- B. Sir Robert Walpole ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Benjamin Disraeli
- D. William Gladstone

A. Pitt the Younger was the youngest Prime Minister (1783), not the first.

B. Correct: Walpole, First Lord of the Treasury from 1721 to 1742, is regarded as Britain's first Prime Minister because he led the cabinet and dominated Parliament in the way the office later came to be defined.

C. Disraeli was Prime Minister in the 1860s and 1870s, more than a century after Walpole.

D. Gladstone was Prime Minister in the Victorian era, long after Walpole.

30 Pakistan Studies

Allama Muhammad Iqbal obtained his PhD from which university?

- A. University of Cambridge
- B. University of Heidelberg
- C. University of Munich ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. University of Oxford

A. At Cambridge Iqbal took a BA degree, not the doctorate.

B. Iqbal spent time at Heidelberg learning German, which makes it the most common wrong answer, but he did not take his PhD there.

C. Correct: Iqbal earned his doctorate in 1907 from Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich for the thesis "The Development of Metaphysics in Persia".

D. Iqbal did not study at Oxford.

Question 31 Urdu

Musaddas-e-Hali (Madd-o-Jazr-e-Islam) was written in:

- A. 1857
- B. 1867
- C. 1873
- D. 1879 ✓ **Correct answer**

A. 1857, the year of the War of Independence, formed the background of the poem, but it is not the date of its composition.

B. Not the year Hali composed the Musaddas.

C. Not the year Hali composed the Musaddas.

D. Correct: Altaf Husain Hali composed his Musaddas, "Madd-o-Jazr-e-Islam" (The Ebb and Flow of Islam), in 1879 at the urging of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan.

32 Urdu

The headquarters of Anjuman Taraqqi-e-Urdu Pakistan is in:

- A. Lahore
- B. Islamabad
- C. Karachi ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Peshawar

A. Lahore is not the seat of the Pakistani Anjuman.

B. Islamabad is home to a separate government body, the National Language Promotion Department, which is a common source of confusion.

C. Correct: after independence Maulvi Abdul Haq, the "Baba-e-Urdu", moved the Anjuman's work to Karachi, and the Pakistani body has been based there ever since.

D. Peshawar is not the seat of the Anjuman.

Question 33 Urdu

The Urdu novelist Bano Qudsia was married to:

- A. Ashfaq Ahmad ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Mumtaz Mufti
- C. Qudratullah Shahab
- D. Ahmad Nadeem Qasmi

A. Correct: Bano Qudsia, author of the novel Raja Gidh, married the writer and broadcaster Ashfaq Ahmad in 1956, and the couple became central figures of Urdu fiction and drama in Lahore.

B. Mumtaz Mufti and Qudratullah Shahab were close friends of the couple from the same literary circle, which explains why they are often confused.

C. Shahab was a close friend of the couple, not Qudsia's husband.

s a fellow writer of the circle, not Qudsia's husband.

Question 34 Urdu

The poem 'Masjid-e-Qurtuba' was written by:

- A. Altaf Husain Hali
- B. Josh Malihabadi
- C. Allama Muhammad Iqbal ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Faiz Ahmad Faiz

A. Hali also wrote about the glory of Muslim Spain in his Musaddas, which makes him a tempting option, but this particular poem is not his.

B. Josh was a revolutionary poet, but Masjid-e-Qurtuba is not his.

C. Correct: Masjid-e-Qurtuba was written by Allama Iqbal after his visit to the Great Mosque of Cordoba in Spain in 1933, and it appears in his Urdu collection Bal-e-Jibril (1935).

D. Faiz did not write Masjid-e-Qurtuba.

Question 35 Urdu

The Urdu idiom 'Aab-o-dana uth jana' means:

- A. To have to leave a place, one's lot there having ended ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. To become very wealthy
- C. To fall seriously ill
- D. To make a solemn promise

A. Correct: aab-o-dana literally means "water and grain", the sustenance a person is destined to receive in a place; when it "rises" from somewhere, the person's time there is over and he must move away.

B. Wealth has nothing to do with losing one's provision; it would be the reverse.

not the meaning of the idiom.

D. A promise is not the meaning of the idiom.

Question 36 General Knowledge

Aleppo is a city of:

- A. Iraq
- B. Jordan
- C. Lebanon
- D. Syria ✓ **Correct answer**

A. Aleppo is often placed in Iraq because both countries were in the news for the same conflicts, but it is not in Iraq.

B. Aleppo is not in Jordan.

C. Aleppo is not in Lebanon.

D. Correct: Aleppo (Halab) is in northern Syria and is one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world; in 2016 it was the scene of some of the heaviest fighting of the Syrian civil war.

Question 37 English

Choose the synonym of PARITY:

- A. Equality ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Disparity
- C. Priority
- D. Majority

A. Correct: parity means the state of being equal, especially in status, pay or value, as in "parity between the wages of men and women".

s the exact opposite of parity, meaning a great difference.

C. Priority only looks similar in spelling and does not share the meaning of equality.

D. Majority only looks similar in spelling and does not share the meaning of equality.

Question 38 Pakistan Studies

At the time of partition in 1947, the ruler of Jammu and Kashmir was:

- A. Sheikh Abdullah
- B. Maharaja Gulab Singh
- C. Maharaja Hari Singh ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Maharaja Ranjit Singh

A. Sheikh Abdullah was a political leader, later the state's prime minister, not its ruler.

B. Gulab Singh founded Dogra rule in Kashmir in 1846 under the Treaty of Amritsar, a century before partition.

C. Correct: Maharaja Hari Singh of the Dogra dynasty was ruling Jammu and Kashmir in August 1947, and in October 1947 he signed the disputed Instrument of Accession with India.

D. Ranjit Singh ruled Punjab in the early nineteenth century and died in 1839, long before partition.

Question 39 Pakistan Studies

Hajjaj bin Yusuf sent Muhammad bin Qasim to Sindh to punish which ruler over the plunder of ships carrying Muslims?

- A. Raja Dahir ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Raja Jaipal
- C. Raja Chach
- D. Prithviraj Chauhan

when pirates near Debal seized ships carrying Muslim women and gifts from Ceylon, Hajjaj bin Yusuf, the Umayyad governor of Iraq, demanded redress from Raja Dahir of Sindh; Dahir refused, so Hajjaj sent Muhammad bin Qasim, who defeated him in 712 AD.

B. Jaipal was a later ruler of the Hindu Shahi kingdom, not the ruler of Sindh in 712.

C. Chach was Dahir's father and had died before these events.

D. Prithviraj lived in the twelfth century, centuries after Muhammad bin Qasim.

Question 40 English

Pick the odd one out: Sofa, Rug, Table, Chair

- A. Sofa
- B. Rug ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Table
- D. Chair

A. A sofa is a piece of furniture, so it belongs with the group.

B. Correct: sofa, table and chair are all pieces of furniture that stand on legs and are used for sitting on or placing things on; a rug is a woven floor covering, not a piece of furniture.

C. A table differs from the two seats, but it is still furniture, so it belongs with the group.

D. A chair is a piece of furniture, so it belongs with the group.

Question 41 English

Odometer is to mileage as compass is to:

- A. Speed
- B. Hiking
- C. Direction ✓ **Correct answer**

A. Speed is measured by a speedometer, not a compass.

B. Hiking is an activity in which a compass is used, not what a compass measures.

C. Correct: an odometer measures mileage, the distance travelled by a vehicle, so the matching relation is that a compass indicates direction.

D. A needle is only a part of a compass, not what it measures.

Question 42 Computer

Transferring files from a local computer to a server on the internet is called:

- A. Downloading
- B. Uploading ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Browsing
- D. Streaming

A. Downloading is the reverse process, copying data from a server to your own device, and is the option most often confused with uploading.

B. Correct: uploading means sending data from your own device to a remote computer or server, as when a photo is posted to a website or a file is saved to cloud storage.

C. Browsing is viewing web pages, not sending files to a server.

D. Streaming is playing audio or video as it arrives, not transferring files to a server.

Question 43 Everyday Science

Kiwi and ostrich are examples of:

- A. Flightless birds ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Migratory birds
- C. Birds of prey

A. Correct: the kiwi of New Zealand and the ostrich of Africa are ratites — birds with small wings and a flat breastbone that lacks the keel to which strong flight muscles attach, so they cannot fly.

B. Neither makes long seasonal journeys.

C. Neither hunts other animals like a bird of prey.

D. Neither lives in water.

Question 44 Pakistan Studies

Which division of Pakistan touches all four provinces?

- A. Dera Ismail Khan
- B. Dera Ghazi Khan ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Bahawalpur
- D. Zhob

A. Dera Ismail Khan Division borders Punjab and Balochistan but does not reach Sindh.

B. Correct: Dera Ghazi Khan Division lies in south-western Punjab and borders Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to the north, Balochistan to the west and Sindh to the south, so it is the only division in contact with all four provinces.

C. Bahawalpur Division borders Sindh but does not touch Khyber Pakhtunkhwa or Balochistan.

D. Zhob Division is in Balochistan and does not touch all four provinces.

Question 45 Islamiat

Ihya Ulum-ud-Din was written by:

- A. Imam Ghazali ✓ **Correct answer**

Khaldun

- C. Ibn Rushd
- D. Shaikh Ali Hajveri

A. Correct: Ihya Ulum-ud-Din (The Revival of the Religious Sciences) is the major work of Imam Abu Hamid al-Ghazali, written in the late eleventh century after he left his teaching post in Baghdad; it joins Islamic law and theology with Sufi ethics.

B. Ibn Khaldun wrote the Muqaddimah, not Ihya Ulum-ud-Din.

C. Ibn Rushd wrote works of philosophy and law, not Ihya Ulum-ud-Din.

D. Shaikh Ali Hajveri also wrote a classic of Sufism, but his book is Kashf-ul-Mahjub.

Question 46 Islamiat

Iraq was conquered by the Muslims during the caliphate of:

- A. Hazrat Usman (RA)
- B. Hazrat Umar (RA) ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Hazrat Ali (RA)
- D. Hazrat Muawiya (RA)

A. By the time of Hazrat Usman, Iraq was already a Muslim province used as a base for further campaigns.

B. Correct: campaigns in Iraq began under Hazrat Abu Bakr, but the decisive victory at Qadisiyyah (636 AD) and the capture of the Sasanian capital Ctesiphon came under Hazrat Umar, so the conquest of Iraq is credited to his caliphate.

C. Hazrat Ali's caliphate came later, when Iraq was already Muslim.

D. Muawiya founded the Umayyad dynasty later, when Iraq was already Muslim.

47 Computer

Every computer connected to the internet is identified by a unique:

- A. Domain name
- B. URL
- C. IP address ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Web page

A. A domain name is a human-readable name for a website, translated into an IP address; it is not assigned to each computer.

B. A URL names a resource on the web, not a computer.

C. Correct: an IP (Internet Protocol) address is the numerical label that identifies a device on a network so that data can be routed to it.

D. A web page is a document on the web, not an identifier of a computer.

Question 48 Computer

Computers in the same building or in nearby buildings are usually connected through a:

- A. WAN
- B. MAN
- C. PAN
- D. LAN ✓ **Correct answer**

A. A WAN spans countries or continents, far wider than a building.

B. A MAN covers a whole city, wider than a building.

C. A PAN is limited to the devices around one person, narrower than a building's network.

D. Correct: a Local Area Network links computers within a limited area such as a single building, office or campus, usually by Ethernet or Wi-Fi.

49 Pakistan Studies

Lala Lajpat Rai was a leading member of which Hindu reform movement?

- A. Brahmo Samaj
- B. Dev Samaj
- C. Prarthana Samaj
- D. Arya Samaj ✓ **Correct answer**

A. Lala Lajpat Rai was not a leader of the Brahmo Samaj.

B. The Dev Samaj, also based in Lahore, was a separate movement from the Arya Samaj.

C. The Prarthana Samaj was based in Bombay, not Rai's movement.

D. Correct: Lala Lajpat Rai, the "Punjab Kesari", was a prominent leader of the Arya Samaj founded by Swami Dayanand Saraswati, and helped build its DAV educational institutions in Lahore.

Question 50 Islamiat

Hazrat Abu Ayyub Ansari (RA) is buried in:

- A. Istanbul ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Madina
- C. Damascus
- D. Baghdad

A. Correct: Hazrat Abu Ayyub Ansari, the Companion who hosted the Holy Prophet (PBUH) on his arrival in Madina, died during an Umayyad siege of Constantinople in the 670s and was buried near its walls; his tomb, in the Eyup district of present-day Istanbul, is one of the city's most visited shrines.

B. He is not buried in Madina, where he had lived.

C. He is not buried in Damascus.

ounded in Baghdad.

Question 51 Islamiat

The first capital of the Fatimid Caliphate was:

- A. Cairo
- B. Mahdia ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Baghdad
- D. Damascus

A. Cairo became the Fatimid capital only after the conquest of Egypt in 969, sixty years after the dynasty arose.

B. Correct: the Fatimid dynasty arose in North Africa in 909, and its first caliph, Ubaydullah al-Mahdi, founded Mahdia on the Tunisian coast as his capital.

C. Baghdad was the Abbasid capital, not the Fatimid one.

D. Damascus was an Umayyad capital, not the Fatimid one.

Question 52 General Knowledge

The Kremlin houses the government offices of:

- A. Ukraine
- B. Belarus
- C. Kazakhstan
- D. Russia ✓ **Correct answer**

A. Ukraine is governed from Kyiv, not the Kremlin.

B. Belarus is governed from Minsk, not the Kremlin.

C. Kazakhstan is governed from Astana, not the Kremlin.

D. Correct: the Kremlin is the fortified complex in the centre of Moscow that serves as the

ence and workplace of the President of Russia.

Question 53 General Knowledge

Babar Azam is associated with which sport?

- A. Hockey
- B. Squash
- C. Cricket ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Snooker

A. Babar Azam has no link with hockey, Pakistan's national game.

B. Babar Azam has no link with squash; Pakistan's greats there were Jahangir Khan and Jansher Khan.

C. Correct: Babar Azam is a Pakistani batsman who made his international debut in 2015 and went on to captain Pakistan and top the ICC batting rankings.

D. Babar Azam has no link with snooker.

Question 54 General Knowledge

Arfa Karim Randhawa became famous as the world's youngest:

- A. Microsoft Certified Professional ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Chess grandmaster
- C. Nobel laureate
- D. Published novelist

A. Correct: Arfa Karim of Faisalabad passed the Microsoft Certified Professional examination in 2004 at the age of nine, becoming the youngest MCP in the world, and was invited to meet Bill Gates.

B. She was not a chess grandmaster.

gest Nobel laureate is another Pakistani, Malala Yousafzai, not Arfa Karim.

D. She was not a published novelist.

Question 55 Urdu

Muhammad Husain Azad, author of Aab-e-Hayat, is buried in:

- A. Delhi
- B. Lahore ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Lucknow
- D. Aligarh

A. Delhi was Azad's birthplace, but he was not buried there.

B. Correct: Muhammad Husain Azad was born in Delhi in 1830 but settled in Lahore after 1857, taught at Government College and pioneered modern Urdu poetry through the Anjuman-e-Punjab; he died in Lahore in 1910 and was buried there.

C. Azad was not buried in Lucknow.

D. Azad was not buried in Aligarh.

Question 56 Computer

The environmentally responsible use of computers, aimed at reducing energy consumption and pollution, is called:

- A. Cloud computing
- B. Grid computing
- C. Quantum computing
- D. Green computing ✓ **Correct answer**

A. Cloud computing means delivering computing services over the internet; it can support green aims by sharing resources, but the term itself does not mean protecting the environment.

puting links computers to share processing power; it is not the term for environmentally responsible computing.

C. Quantum computing uses quantum mechanics for computation; it is not the term for environmentally responsible computing.

D. Correct: green computing covers practices such as energy-efficient hardware, power management, server virtualisation and the safe recycling of electronic waste, all meant to reduce the environmental impact of computing.

Question 57 English

Choose the antonym of PRISTINE:

- A. Unspoiled
- B. Contaminated ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Immaculate
- D. Original

A. Unspoiled is a synonym of pristine, not its opposite.

B. Correct: pristine means in its original, unspoiled and perfectly clean condition, so its opposite is contaminated, meaning made impure or spoiled.

C. Immaculate is a synonym of pristine, not its opposite.

D. Original shares the sense of being untouched, so it is close to pristine, not its opposite.

Question 58 English

Choose the antonym of EXTROVERT:

- A. Introvert ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Ambivert
- C. Convert
- D. Invert

n extrovert is an outgoing person who draws energy from social contact, and the opposite personality type is the introvert, who is reserved and prefers solitude.

B. An ambivert shows a balance of both traits, so it is a middle point rather than an opposite.

C. Convert is an unrelated word that merely shares the ending.

D. Invert is an unrelated word that merely shares the ending.

Question 59 English

Complete the proverb: A drowning man will clutch at a _____.

- A. rope
- B. straw ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. branch
- D. plank

A. A rope would be real help and would destroy the point of the proverb.

B. Correct: "A drowning man will clutch at a straw" — a straw is used precisely because it cannot hold anyone up.

C. Not the fixed wording of the proverb.

D. A plank would be real help and would destroy the point of the proverb.

Question 60 English

Complete the proverb: Don't put all your eggs in one _____.

- A. box
- B. nest
- C. basket ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. tray

ced wording of the proverb.

B. "Nest" is tempting because eggs are laid in nests, but the fixed wording of the proverb is "basket".

C. Correct: "Don't put all your eggs in one basket" advises spreading risk rather than staking everything on a single plan.

D. Not the fixed wording of the proverb.

Question 61 Current Affairs

Akihito was the emperor of:

- A. China
- B. Thailand
- C. Japan ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. South Korea

A. China has had no emperor since 1912.

B. Thailand's king in 2016 was Bhumibol Adulyadej, the likeliest confusion.

C. Correct: Akihito reigned as Emperor of Japan from 1989, after the death of his father Hirohito, until he abdicated in April 2019 in favour of his son Naruhito; he was on the throne when this question was asked in 2016.

D. South Korea has no emperor.

Question 62 General Knowledge

A narrow strip of land that joins two larger land areas and separates two bodies of water is called a/an:

- A. Strait
- B. Peninsula

- D. Isthmus ✓ **Correct answer**

A. A strait is the reverse: a narrow channel of water connecting two larger bodies of water and separating two land masses.

B. A peninsula is joined to the mainland on one side only and juts into the sea.

C. An archipelago is a group of islands, not a strip of land.

D. Correct: an isthmus is a narrow neck of land connecting two larger land masses, with water on both sides, such as the Isthmus of Panama.

Question 63 General Knowledge

The Panama Canal connects:

- A. The Atlantic and Pacific Oceans ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. The Mediterranean and Red Seas
- C. The Atlantic and Indian Oceans
- D. The Pacific and Indian Oceans

A. Correct: the Panama Canal, opened in 1914, cuts across the Isthmus of Panama to link the Atlantic Ocean, through the Caribbean Sea, with the Pacific Ocean.

B. The Mediterranean and Red Seas are joined by the Suez Canal, not the Panama Canal.

C. No canal joins the Atlantic and Indian Oceans.

D. No canal joins the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

Question 64 Computer

A thin strand of glass or plastic that carries signals in the form of light is called:

- A. Coaxial cable
- B. Twisted pair cable

per wire

- D. Optical fibre ✓ **Correct answer**

A. Coaxial cable carries signals as electrical currents through copper, not as light through glass.

B. Twisted pair cable carries signals as electrical currents through copper, not as light.

C. Copper wire carries electricity, not light signals.

D. Correct: an optical fibre is a hair-thin strand of glass or plastic that carries data as pulses of light by total internal reflection, giving very high bandwidth.

Question 65 Pakistan Studies

Fort William College was established in:

- A. Delhi
- B. Calcutta ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Bombay
- D. Madras

A. Delhi was not the seat of Fort William College.

B. Correct: Fort William College was founded in Calcutta in 1800 by Governor-General Lord Wellesley to train British officials in Indian languages; under John Gilchrist its writers produced early Urdu prose works such as Mir Amman's Bagh-o-Bahar.

C. Bombay was a presidency town, but the college was set up in Calcutta, then the capital of British India.

D. Madras was a presidency town, but the college was set up in Calcutta.

Question 66 Pakistan Studies

In which year was Pakistan's first dry port established at Lahore?

- B. 1973 ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. 1981
- D. 1990

A. No dry port was set up at Lahore in 1965.

B. Correct: Pakistan's first dry port was set up at Lahore in 1973, allowing import and export cargo to be examined and cleared by customs inland instead of only at Karachi's seaport.

C. Dry ports at other cities such as Rawalpindi, Faisalabad, Multan and Peshawar followed in later years, which is why the later dates are tempting.

D. A later date; the Lahore dry port was already running by then.

Question 67 Pakistan Studies

Youm-e-Takbeer is observed in Pakistan on:

- A. 28 May ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. 11 May
- C. 14 August
- D. 6 September

A. Correct: Youm-e-Takbeer marks 28 May 1998, when Pakistan carried out five nuclear tests in the Chagai hills of Balochistan in response to India's tests of 11 and 13 May 1998.

B. 11 May was the date of India's first tests that month, not Pakistan's.

C. 14 August is Independence Day, not Youm-e-Takbeer.

D. 6 September is Defence Day, not Youm-e-Takbeer.

68 General Knowledge

Which country has the largest number of glaciers outside the polar regions?

- A. Mongolia
- B. Afghanistan
- C. Norway
- D. Pakistan ✓ **Correct answer**

A. Mongolia has much less glacial cover than Pakistan.

B. Afghanistan has much less glacial cover than Pakistan.

C. Norway also has many glaciers, but far fewer than Pakistan, and part of its ice lies within the Arctic.

D. Correct: Pakistan's Karakoram, Himalaya and Hindu Kush ranges hold more than 7,000 glaciers, including Siachen, Biafo and Baltoro, more than any other country outside the polar regions.

Question 69 Everyday Science

Producing genetically identical copies of a gene, cell or organism is called:

- A. Mutation
- B. Hybridisation
- C. Grafting
- D. Cloning ✓ **Correct answer**

A. Mutation is a change in the DNA, not a copy of it.

B. Hybridisation does the opposite by crossing genetically different parents.

C. Grafting joins plant parts together; it does not make genetically identical copies of a gene or cell.

D. Correct: cloning is the production of copies that carry exactly the same genetic material

al, whether a DNA segment, a cell line or a whole organism such as Dolly the sheep (1996).

Question 70 Everyday Science

Vibrio and Spirillum are types of:

- A. Viruses
- B. Fungi
- C. Bacteria ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Protozoa

A. Viruses are the usual wrong choice, but they are not cells and are not grouped by such cell shapes.

B. Fungi are larger organisms with a true nucleus, not bacteria.

C. Correct: Vibrio (comma-shaped, such as Vibrio cholerae, the cause of cholera) and Spirillum (spiral-shaped) are bacteria named after their shapes, like cocci and bacilli.

D. Protozoa are larger organisms with a true nucleus, not bacteria.

Question 71 Computer

An agreed set of rules that governs how data is exchanged over a network is called a:

- A. Protocol ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Topology
- C. Browser
- D. Server

A. Correct: a protocol is a standard set of rules for formatting, sending and receiving data so that different devices can communicate, as with TCP/IP, HTTP or FTP.

B. Topology describes the physical or logical layout of a network (star, bus or ring), not the rules by which the devices communicate.

is a program for viewing web pages, not a set of rules.

D. A server is a computer that serves data, not a set of rules.

Question 72 Everyday Science

Which is the smallest planet in the Solar System?

- A. Mars
- B. Venus
- C. Mercury ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Pluto

A. Mars is the next smallest planet, roughly 6,780 km across, larger than Mercury.

B. Venus is nearly the size of Earth, far larger than Mercury.

C. Correct: Mercury, the planet nearest the Sun, is the smallest of the eight planets, with a diameter of about 4,880 km.

D. Pluto is smaller still, but since 2006 it has been classed as a dwarf planet, so it no longer counts as a planet.

Question 73 Current Affairs

Burhan Wani, killed in July 2016, was:

- A. An Indian army officer
- B. A young Kashmiri commander of Hizbul Mujahideen ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. A Pakistani journalist
- D. An Afghan Taliban leader

A. Wani was not an Indian army officer; he was killed by Indian forces.

B. Correct: Burhan Muzaffar Wani was a young commander of the Hizbul Mujahideen in Indian-held Kashmir who became widely known through social media; his killing on 8 July

months of mass protests and curfews in the Kashmir Valley.

C. Wani was Kashmiri, not a Pakistani journalist.

D. Wani was Kashmiri, not an Afghan Taliban leader.

Question 74 Islamiat

The Charter of Madina (Misaq-e-Madina) was concluded between:

- A. The Muslims and the Jews of Madina ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. The Muslims and the Quraysh of Makkah
- C. The Muslims and the Christians of Najran
- D. The Muslims and the Persians

A. Correct: soon after the Hijrah, the Holy Prophet (PBUH) drew up the Charter of Madina, which bound the Muhajirin, the Ansar and the Jewish tribes of Madina into one community with shared defence and freedom of religion.

B. The agreement with the Quraysh of Makkah was the later Treaty of Hudaibiya (6 AH).

C. The Christians of Najran were not parties to the Charter of Madina.

D. The Persians were not parties to the Charter of Madina.

Question 75 Islamiat

In which year was the Charter of Madina concluded?

- A. 2 AH
- B. 1 AH ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. 5 AH
- D. 6 AH

A. 2 AH was the year of the Battle of Badr, not the Charter of Madina.

B. Correct: the Charter of Madina was drawn up in 1 AH (622 AD), in the first months after

phet's (PBUH) migration, to organise relations among the city's communities.

C. 5 AH was not the year of the Charter.

D. 6 AH was the year of the Treaty of Hudaibiya, the likeliest mix-up because it too was a written agreement.

Question 76 Mathematics

A leap year has:

- A. 364 days
- B. 365 days
- C. 366 days ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. 367 days

A. No year has 364 days.

B. A common year has 365 days, not a leap year.

C. Correct: a leap year has 366 days because an extra day, 29 February, is added roughly every four years to keep the calendar in step with the solar year of about 365.24 days.

D. No year has 367 days.

Question 77 General Knowledge

Al-Khwarizmi is famous as an expert in:

- A. Medicine
- B. Algebra ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Chemistry
- D. History

A. Medicine is linked with Ibn Sina, not al-Khwarizmi.

B. Correct: Muhammad ibn Musa al-Khwarizmi, a ninth-century scholar of Baghdad's

sdom, wrote Al-Kitab al-Mukhtasar fi Hisab al-Jabr wal-Muqabala, from which the word "algebra" comes; the word "algorithm" derives from his name.

C. Chemistry is linked with Jabir ibn Hayyan, not al-Khwarizmi.

D. History is not the field al-Khwarizmi is famous for.

Question 78 English

Hospital is to healing as court is to:

- A. Justice ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Lawyer
- C. Building
- D. Crime

A. Correct: a hospital is the place where healing is carried out, so the pair links a place with the purpose it serves; a court is the place where justice is administered.

B. A lawyer is a person who works in a court, which would match "doctor" rather than "healing".

C. A building is only what a court is made of, not its purpose.

D. Crime is what a court deals with, not the purpose it serves.

Question 79 Everyday Science

The Richter scale is used to measure:

- A. Wind speed
- B. Intensity of rainfall
- C. Atmospheric pressure
- D. Magnitude of earthquakes ✓ **Correct answer**

A. Wind speed is measured on the Beaufort scale, not the Richter scale.

measured by a rain gauge, not the Richter scale.

C. Atmospheric pressure is measured by a barometer, not the Richter scale.

D. Correct: the Richter scale measures the magnitude of earthquakes.

Question 80

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Source: https://www.mcq-ai.com/papers/ppsc-branch-officer-06-11-2016-paper (accessed 8 Nov 2026). See the source note on this page about the fold-in corrections.