# Assistant in S&GAD — 2018 · Solved Past Paper

**Body:** Punjab Public Service Commission (PPSC) · **Post:** Assistant in S&GAD · **Year:** 2018 · **Questions:** 100 in the original paper — **76 solved and verified**, 24 unrecoverable (Q25, Q27, Q34, Q41, Q45, Q56, Q60, Q61, Q64, Q70, Q77, Q81, Q83, Q84, Q85, 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 2018 sitting.

**Source note:** MCQ-AI reconstruction of the PPSC Assistant (Services & General Administration Department) paper of 15 April 2018 (https://www.mcq-ai.com/papers/ppsc-assistant-services-general-administration-department-15-04-2018-paper), fetched 13 Nov 2026. 86 questions on record numbered 1-92 with 6 numbers absent; 10 of the 86 are repeat recalls of another number, so 76 distinct questions are served and 24 slots are recorded as gaps (14 unrecovered + 10 repeats). No PICK-ONE and no DEFECTIVE. Dedup 13 Nov 2026 vs the live library (636 papers): paper_id not in the live index; content screen vs the live Assistant S&GAD papers (2024 PPSC-2024-ASSISTANT-SGAD-PUNJAB-POLICE, 2019 PPSC-2019-ASSISTANT-BS16-SGAD, 2022 ppsc-assistant-2022-sgad): 0 hits for the screened distinctive stems (Sadiq Sanjrani, Saindak, Chart Wizard, Ilmi Urdu Lughat, teen harf, Plutocracy, Asbab-e-Baghawat) — different sittings, not a duplicate paper.

## Question 1 English

Choose the word closest in meaning to LIMPID.

- A. Clear ✓ **Correct answer**

- C. Murky
- D. Sluggish

**Note:** Limpid means clear, transparent or free from anything that clouds it, as in limpid water or limpid prose that is easy to understand; murky is its opposite, describing water or ideas that are dark and unclear, while lame and sluggish are traps built on the sound of the word, since limpid has nothing to do with limping or slowness, only with clarity.

## Question 2 English

Complete the proverb: Familiarity breeds _____.

- A. respect
- B. affection
- C. contempt ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. trust

**Note:** The proverb is "Familiarity breeds contempt": when we know someone or something too closely and for too long, we start to notice faults and lose the respect we once had, while respect is the nearest wrong option because it is the very quality the proverb says is lost, and affection and trust likewise run against its warning about over-closeness.

## Question 3 English

Complete the proverb: A rolling stone gathers no _____.

- A. dust
- B. moss ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. rust
- D. mud

**Note:** The full proverb is "A rolling stone gathers no moss": moss grows only on stones

one place, so a stone that keeps rolling never collects it, and the saying describes a person who keeps changing jobs or homes and so never builds up wealth, ties or responsibilities, while dust, rust and mud may sound plausible but are not part of the fixed expression.

## Question 4 History

Thomas Jefferson was the _____ President of the United States.

- A. first
- B. second
- C. third ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. fourth

**Note:** Thomas Jefferson, principal author of the Declaration of Independence (1776), served as the third President of the United States from 1801 to 1809; the nearest wrong option is "second", which was John Adams (1797-1801), under whom Jefferson served as Vice President, while George Washington was the first President and James Madison, Jefferson's successor, was the fourth.

## Question 5 Urdu Literature

Asbab-e-Baghawat-e-Hind was written by:

- A. Sir Syed Ahmad Khan ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Maulana Altaf Hussain Hali
- C. Maulana Shibli Nomani
- D. Deputy Nazir Ahmad

**Note:** Asbab-e-Baghawat-e-Hind (The Causes of the Indian Revolt) was written by Sir Syed Ahmad Khan in 1859; in it he argued that the War of 1857 arose mainly from the absence of Indians in the Legislative Council and from misunderstanding between rulers and ruled, not from a Muslim conspiracy, while Altaf Hussain Hali, the nearest distractor, wrote Hayat-e-Javed, a biography of Sir Syed, and neither Shibli Nomani nor Deputy Nazir Ahmad

## Question 6 Urdu Literature

Asar-us-Sanadid was written by:

- A. Muhammad Husain Azad
- B. Sir Syed Ahmad Khan ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Mirza Asadullah Khan Ghalib
- D. Maulana Altaf Hussain Hali

**Note:** Asar-us-Sanadid (Remnants of Ancient Heroes), published in 1847, is Sir Syed Ahmad Khan's detailed survey of the monuments and historic buildings of Delhi, and it is regarded as one of his earliest major scholarly works; Muhammad Husain Azad, a tempting distractor, is known for Aab-e-Hayat, a history of Urdu poetry, while Hali and Ghalib are remembered mainly as poets.

## Question 7 Current Affairs

Who was elected Chairman of the Senate of Pakistan in March 2018?

- A. Mian Raza Rabbani
- B. Raja Zafar-ul-Haq
- C. Sadiq Sanjrani ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Saleem Mandviwalla

**Note:** Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani, a senator from Balochistan, was elected Chairman of the Senate of Pakistan on 12 March 2018, defeating Raja Zafar-ul-Haq, the candidate of the then ruling PML-N; Mian Raza Rabbani had been Chairman from 2015 until March 2018, and Saleem Mandviwalla was elected Deputy Chairman in the same session.

## Question 8 Pakistan Studies

Article 9 of the Constitution of Pakistan, 1973 deals with:

- B. Security of person (right to life and liberty) ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Freedom of speech
- D. Equality of citizens

**Note:** Article 9 of the Constitution of Pakistan, headed "Security of person", provides that no person shall be deprived of life or liberty save in accordance with law; the superior courts have read it broadly as the right to life, while safeguards as to arrest and detention fall under Article 10, freedom of speech is Article 19, and equality of citizens is Article 25.

## Question 9 Pakistan Studies

Under the Constitution of Pakistan, 1973, who has the power to proclaim a state of emergency?

- A. The President ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. The Prime Minister
- C. The Chief Justice of Pakistan
- D. The Speaker of the National Assembly

**Note:** Part X of the Constitution (Articles 232 to 237) gives the President the power to issue a Proclamation of Emergency when the security of Pakistan is threatened by war, external aggression or internal disturbance beyond a province's control; the Prime Minister is the nearest wrong option, since the President normally acts on the Prime Minister's advice, but the Proclamation itself is issued by the President, and neither the Chief Justice nor the Speaker holds this power.

## Question 10 Mathematics

If a price is first increased by 20% and then decreased by 20%, the net result is:

- A. no change
- B. a 4% decrease ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. a 4% increase

**Note:** Take a starting value of 100: a 20% increase gives 120, and a 20% decrease is then taken on 120, which is 24, leaving 96, so the net result is a 4% decrease, not zero change, because the second percentage is applied to a larger base than the first; the shortcut for an equal rise and fall of x% is a net loss of x squared divided by 100, here 400/100 = 4%.

## Question 11 History

The two Sikh Wars of 1845-46 and 1848-49 were fought between the Sikhs and the:

- A. Mughal Empire
- B. Afghan Durrani Empire
- C. Marathas
- D. British East India Company ✓ **Correct answer**

**Note:** The First Anglo-Sikh War (1845-46) and the Second Anglo-Sikh War (1848-49) were fought between the Sikh kingdom of Punjab and the British East India Company, and after the Company's victory at Gujrat in 1849, Punjab was annexed to British India; the Afghans are the nearest wrong option, since the Sikhs did fight them, for example at Jamrud in 1837, but those clashes are not the Sikh Wars, and neither the Mughal Empire nor the Marathas was the enemy in these wars.

## Question 12 General Knowledge

The headquarters of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is located in:

- A. New York
- B. Geneva
- C. Washington, D.C. ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Paris

**Note:** The International Monetary Fund, created at the Bretton Woods Conference of 1944, has its headquarters in Washington, D.C., close to its sister institution the World

ork is the nearest wrong option because it hosts the headquarters of the United Nations, while Geneva is home to the WTO and several UN agencies, and Paris hosts the OECD and UNESCO.

## Question 13 Sports

The Asian Games are held after every:

- A. 2 years
- B. 3 years
- C. 4 years ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. 5 years

**Note:** The Asian Games are held every four years under the Olympic Council of Asia, usually in the middle of the Olympic cycle, and the first Games were held in New Delhi in 1951; two years is the nearest wrong option, a gap sometimes confused with the gap between the Summer and Winter Olympics, but the Asian Games, like the Olympics and the Commonwealth Games, follow a four-year cycle.

## Question 14 Urdu

محاورہ "جوتیاں چٹخانا" کا مطلب ہے:

A. خدمت کرنا

**Correct answer** ✓ B. مارے مارے پھرنا

C. آپس میں جھگڑنا

D. ذلیل کرنا

**Note:** "جوتیاں چٹخانا" (jootiyan chatkhana) often used as "جوتیاں چٹخاتے پھرنا", means "مارے مارے پھرنا": to wander from place to place in distress or in search of work until one's shoes wear out and crack; "جوتیاں سیدھی کرنا" is a different idiom meaning to serve someone humbly, which is why "خدمت کرنا" is the nearest trap, and "جوتیوں میں دال بٹنا" means

## Question 15 English

Plutocracy means government by:

- A. a few persons
- B. the elderly
- C. the wealthy ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. religious leaders

**Note:** Plutocracy, from the Greek "ploutos" (wealth) and "kratos" (power), is government by the wealthy, or a system in which the rich hold the real political power; oligarchy, rule by a few persons, is the nearest wrong option because the few may or may not be rich, while gerontocracy is rule by the elderly and theocracy is rule by religious leaders in the name of God.

## Question 16 English

Complete the saying: Hell hath no fury like a woman _____.

- A. scorned ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. wronged
- C. angered
- D. forgotten

**Note:** The saying "Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned" means that no anger is fiercer than that of a woman whose love has been rejected; it adapts a line by the English playwright William Congreve (1697), while "wronged" is the nearest wrong option because it is close in meaning, but the fixed expression uses "scorned", meaning rejected with contempt, and neither "angered" nor "forgotten" is part of it.

## 17 Sports

What was the result of the two-match Test series between Pakistan and Sri Lanka played in the UAE in 2017?

- A. Pakistan won 2-0
- B. Pakistan won 1-0
- C. The series was drawn 1-1
- D. Sri Lanka won 2-0 ✓ **Correct answer**

**Note:** Sri Lanka won the two-match Test series in the UAE in 2017 by 2-0; they won the first Test in Abu Dhabi by 21 runs and the day-night second Test in Dubai by 68 runs, inflicting a whitewash on Pakistan in their first Test series after Misbah-ul-Haq's retirement, and a 1-1 draw is the nearest wrong option, but Pakistan did not win either Test.

## Question 18 Science

The basic unit of heredity is the:

- A. chromosome
- B. gene ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. nucleus
- D. ribosome

**Note:** A gene is a segment of DNA that carries the coded instructions for a particular trait and is passed from parents to offspring, which makes it the basic unit of heredity; the chromosome is the nearest wrong option, since it is a larger structure of DNA and protein that carries many genes, while the nucleus houses the chromosomes and ribosomes make proteins but do not carry hereditary information.

## Question 19 History

Who was the Prime Minister of India during the 1965 war with Pakistan?

- B. Gulzarilal Nanda
- C. Lal Bahadur Shastri ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Indira Gandhi

**Note:** Lal Bahadur Shastri became Prime Minister of India after Jawaharlal Nehru died in May 1964 and was in office during the 1965 war with Pakistan; he signed the Tashkent Declaration with President Ayub Khan in January 1966 and died in Tashkent the next day, while Indira Gandhi succeeded him only in January 1966 and Gulzarilal Nanda served only briefly as interim Prime Minister.

## Question 20 Geography

The capital of Zimbabwe is:

- A. Lusaka
- B. Maputo
- C. Gaborone
- D. Harare ✓ **Correct answer**

**Note:** Harare, called Salisbury until 1982, is the capital and largest city of Zimbabwe; Lusaka is the nearest wrong option because it is the capital of neighbouring Zambia, a country whose name is often confused with Zimbabwe, while Maputo is the capital of Mozambique and Gaborone the capital of Botswana, both also neighbours of Zimbabwe.

## Question 21 History

Ibn Khaldun, the famous Muslim historian, was born in present-day:

- A. Tunisia ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Egypt
- C. Morocco
- D. Algeria

Ibn Khaldun (1332-1406), the historian and thinker known for the Muqaddimah, was born in Tunis, in present-day Tunisia; he later served rulers across North Africa and Muslim Spain and spent his final years in Cairo as a Maliki judge, which is why Egypt is the nearest wrong option, and he is often described as a founder of sociology and of the philosophy of history.

## Question 22 Pakistan Studies

The Gandhi-Jinnah talks of 1944 failed mainly because Gandhi refused to accept:

- A. the Communal Award
- B. the Two-Nation Theory ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. the Cripps proposals
- D. the Nehru Report

**Note:** The Gandhi-Jinnah talks were held in Bombay in September 1944; Gandhi, working from the Rajagopalachari formula, treated Muslims as a minority rather than a separate nation and wanted any separation of Muslim areas to come after independence through a plebiscite, while Jinnah insisted on the Two-Nation Theory and the Lahore Resolution, so the talks broke down, and the Cripps proposals of 1942 had already been rejected and were not the issue.

## Question 23 Geography

Port Dickson is a seaport of:

- A. Indonesia
- B. Brunei
- C. Malaysia ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Singapore

**Note:** Port Dickson is a coastal town and port on the Strait of Malacca in the state of Negeri Sembilan on the west coast of Peninsular Malaysia; Singapore is the nearest wrong option because it also lies on the Strait of Malacca and was briefly part of Malaysia from

, but Port Dickson lies on the Malay Peninsula well to the north-west of Singapore, and neither Indonesia nor Brunei is on that coast.

## Question 24 History

In which year was the Falklands War fought between Argentina and the United Kingdom?

- A. 1971
- B. 1976
- C. 1979
- D. 1982 ✓ **Correct answer**

**Note:** The Falklands War was fought from April to June 1982 after Argentina invaded the British-held Falkland Islands in the South Atlantic, which it calls the Islas Malvinas; Britain sent a naval task force and retook the islands, and Argentine forces surrendered on 14 June 1982, while the sovereignty dispute remains unresolved, but the war itself took place only in 1982.

## Question 25

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Repeat recall of Q11 in the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting: the same question (the two Sikh Wars were fought between the Sikhs and the British East India Company) is remembered twice; served once under Q11.

## Question 26 Science

Most of the digestion and absorption of food takes place in the:

- A. Stomach
- B. Large intestine
- C. Oesophagus
- D. Small intestine ✓ **Correct answer**

nall intestine is where most chemical digestion is completed and nearly all nutrients are absorbed, helped by bile, pancreatic enzymes and intestinal juices and by the huge surface area of its villi; the stomach begins protein digestion with acid and pepsin but absorbs little, while the large intestine mainly absorbs water and salts and the oesophagus only carries food to the stomach.

## Question 27

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Repeat recall of Q17 in the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting: the same question (Sri Lanka won the two-match Test series against Pakistan in the UAE in 2017 by 2-0) is remembered twice; served once under Q17.

## Question 28 Sports

Under the rally-point scoring system, a game of badminton is won by the first side to reach:

- A. 11 points
- B. 15 points
- C. 21 points ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. 25 points

**Note:** Since 2006, under the rally-point scoring system, a badminton game is won by the first side to reach 21 points, with a two-point lead needed at 20-all and a cap at 30 points, and a match is the best of three games; eleven points is the target in a table tennis game, and 25 points is the target in a volleyball set.

## Question 29 Sports

In table tennis, a game is won by the first player to reach:

- A. 15 points
- B. 21 points

- D. 11 points ✓ **Correct answer**

**Note:** Since 2001 a table tennis game is won by the first player to score 11 points, with a two-point margin required after 10-all, and a match is usually the best of five or seven games; before 2001 games were played to 21 points, which is why 21 is the tempting wrong choice, and 21 is still the target in badminton.

## Question 30 Sports

What is the standard weight of the javelin used in senior women's athletics?

- A. 400 g
- B. 600 g ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. 800 g
- D. 1 kg

**Note:** Under World Athletics rules the senior women's javelin weighs 600 g and is about 2.2 to 2.3 m long, while the men's javelin weighs 800 g and is about 2.6 to 2.7 m long, so 800 g is the men's implement, not the women's, and the 400 g and 1 kg figures do not match either senior specification.

## Question 31 General Knowledge

Sri Dalada Maligawa, the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic of the Buddha, is located in:

- A. Kandy ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Bodh Gaya
- C. Anuradhapura
- D. Lumbini

**Note:** Sri Dalada Maligawa in Kandy, Sri Lanka, houses a relic believed to be a tooth of the Buddha and stands within the former royal palace complex of the Kandyan kings; the sacred city of Kandy is a UNESCO World Heritage site, while Anuradhapura is an older Sri

ar, and Bodh Gaya in India and Lumbini in Nepal are linked with the Buddha's enlightenment and birth.

## Question 32 History

The Camp David Accords (1978) between Egypt and Israel were brokered by US President:

- A. Richard Nixon
- B. Gerald Ford
- C. Ronald Reagan
- D. Jimmy Carter ✓ **Correct answer**

**Note:** In September 1978 President Jimmy Carter hosted Egypt's Anwar Sadat and Israel's Menachem Begin at Camp David, the presidential retreat in Maryland, where they agreed the frameworks that led to the 1979 Egypt-Israel peace treaty; Nixon and Ford were Carter's predecessors, and Reagan succeeded him in 1981, so none of them presided over the accords.

## Question 33 English

Complete the proverb: "To kill two birds with one ___."

- A. stone ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. arrow
- C. shot
- D. blow

**Note:** The proverb is "to kill two birds with one stone", meaning to achieve two aims with a single action or effort, for example posting a letter on the way to work; words such as "arrow" or "shot" fit the idea of hunting, but they are not part of the fixed expression, and proverbs must be completed in their standard form.

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Q34 is absent from the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting: the numbering jumps from Q33 straight to Q35. The question was never captured and is NOT reconstructed.

## Question 35 Geography

Which of the following countries has a coastline on the Black Sea?

- A. Georgia ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Azerbaijan
- C. Armenia
- D. Kazakhstan

**Note:** Georgia lies on the eastern shore of the Black Sea, with ports such as Batumi and Poti; the other Black Sea states are Turkey, Bulgaria, Romania, Ukraine and Russia, while Armenia is landlocked, and Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan border the Caspian Sea, which is a separate inland body of water with no link to the Black Sea.

## Question 36 English

The word "implicate" most nearly means:

- A. to acquit
- B. to praise
- C. to simplify
- D. to involve ✓ **Correct answer**

**Note:** To implicate is to show or suggest that someone is involved in something, usually a crime or wrongdoing, as in "the documents implicated two officials in the fraud"; "acquit" is nearly its opposite, since it means to declare someone not guilty, and "simplify" and "praise" have no connection with the idea of involvement.

## 37 Geography

The Taurus Mountains are located in:

- A. Iran
- B. Armenia
- C. Greece
- D. Turkey ✓ **Correct answer**

**Note:** The Taurus Mountains run in an arc across southern Turkey, separating the Mediterranean coast from the central Anatolian plateau, and the Euphrates and Tigris rise in the highlands to their east; Iran's main ranges are the Zagros and the Alborz, and the best-known range of mainland Greece is the Pindus, so the other options are wrong.

## Question 38 Geography

Aleppo is a city in:

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

**Note:** Aleppo (Halab) is in northern Syria and, with Damascus, one of the country's two largest cities; it is among the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world and suffered heavy destruction during the Syrian civil war, while Mosul, often mentioned alongside it in reports of that period, is in Iraq, which makes Iraq the most likely wrong choice.

## Question 39 General Knowledge

The yuan is the unit of currency of:

- A. Japan
- B. South Korea
- C. Vietnam

na ✓ Correct answer

**Note:** The yuan is the basic unit of the renminbi, the currency of the People's Republic of China, issued by the People's Bank of China; Japan uses the yen, South Korea the won and Vietnam the dong, and the yen and the won share a historical root with the yuan, which is why they are the options most easily confused with it.

## Question 40 Islamic Studies

The people of which prophet were destroyed by a rain of stones?

- A. Hazrat Hud (AS)
- B. Hazrat Salih (AS)
- C. Hazrat Lut (AS) ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Hazrat Shuaib (AS)

**Note:** The Quran relates that the people of Hazrat Lut (AS) were punished for their sins by having their towns overturned and stones of baked clay rained upon them; the people of Aad, to whom Hazrat Hud (AS) was sent, were destroyed by a furious wind, and the Thamud of Hazrat Salih (AS) by a mighty blast, so neither was destroyed by stones.

## Question 41

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Q41 is absent from the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting: the numbering jumps from Q40 straight to Q42. The question was never captured and is NOT reconstructed.

## Question 42 Science

Metacarpal bones are found in the:

- A. Foot
- B. Spine
- C. Skull

nd ✓ **Correct answer**

**Note:** The five metacarpals form the palm of the hand, linking the carpal bones of the wrist to the phalanges of the fingers; the matching bones of the foot are the metatarsals, which is why "foot" is the most tempting wrong choice, while the skull and spine are made of cranial bones and vertebrae respectively.

## Question 43 Science

Which of the following is a chemical change?

- A. Melting of ice
- B. Dissolving sugar in water
- C. Rusting of iron ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Boiling of water

**Note:** Rusting is a chemical change because iron reacts with oxygen and water to form a new substance, hydrated iron(III) oxide, which cannot be turned back into iron by simple physical means; melting, boiling and dissolving only change the state of a substance or mix it with another, and the original material can be recovered, so they are physical changes.

## Question 44 Islamic Studies

The first revelation to the Holy Prophet (PBUH) consisted of the opening verses of:

- A. Surah Al-Fatiha
- B. Surah Al-Muddaththir
- C. Surah Al-Alaq ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Surah Al-Muzzammil

**Note:** The first revelation came in the Cave of Hira, when the angel Jibrail brought the first five verses of Surah Al-Alaq, beginning "Iqra bismi rabbika"; the opening verses of Surah Al-Muddaththir came after the pause in revelation, and Al-Fatiha is the first surah in the

t of the Quran, not the first to be revealed.

## Question 45

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Q45 is absent from the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting: the numbering jumps from Q44 straight to Q46. The question was never captured and is NOT reconstructed.

## Question 46 Science

Which gas is the largest contributor to the greenhouse effect caused by human activities?

- A. Carbon monoxide
- B. Sulphur dioxide
- C. Nitrogen
- D. Carbon dioxide ✓ **Correct answer**

**Note:** Carbon dioxide, released mainly by burning coal, oil and gas and by deforestation, is the largest contributor to human-caused global warming; water vapour is the most abundant greenhouse gas overall, but its amount follows temperature rather than being emitted directly, while carbon monoxide is a toxic pollutant and only an indirect, minor greenhouse agent, and sulphur dioxide and nitrogen are not the main contributors.

## Question 47 Science

An echo is produced by the:

- A. Refraction of sound
- B. Reflection of sound ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Diffraction of sound
- D. Absorption of sound

**Note:** An echo is sound heard again after it bounces back from a distant hard surface such

wall, to be heard separately from the original sound it must return at least about 0.1 second later, so the surface must be roughly 17 m or more away, while refraction bends sound passing between layers of air but does not send it back, and diffraction and absorption do not produce echoes.

## Question 48 Geography

The Taklamakan Desert is located in:

- A. Mongolia
- B. China ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Kazakhstan
- D. Afghanistan

**Note:** The Taklamakan lies in the Tarim Basin of Xinjiang in north-western China, ringed by the Tian Shan, Kunlun and Pamir mountains, and the ancient Silk Road skirted its edges; the Gobi, the other great desert of the region, lies further east across Mongolia and northern China, which is why Mongolia is the most tempting wrong answer.

## Question 49 General Knowledge

The painter Pablo Picasso belonged to:

- A. France
- B. Italy
- C. Spain ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. the Netherlands

**Note:** Pablo Picasso was born in Malaga, Spain, in 1881 and co-founded Cubism with Georges Braque; he spent most of his adult life in France, which makes France the nearest wrong option, but he remained a Spanish national, and his painting Guernica depicts the bombing of a Basque town during the Spanish Civil War.

## 50 Geography

The Gobi Desert lies mainly in:

- A. Mongolia ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Kazakhstan
- C. Iran
- D. India

**Note:** The Gobi is a vast cold desert covering southern Mongolia and parts of northern China, including Inner Mongolia; the other options have their own deserts, since the Kyzylkum extends into Kazakhstan, Iran has the Dasht-e-Kavir and Dasht-e-Lut, and India has the Thar, but none of them contains the Gobi.

## Question 51 Science

Alessandro Volta is best known for inventing the:

- A. Electric battery (voltaic pile) ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Electric bulb
- C. Telephone
- D. Dynamo

**Note:** In 1800 the Italian physicist Alessandro Volta built the voltaic pile, a stack of zinc and copper discs separated by brine-soaked cloth, the first battery to give a steady electric current; the unit volt is named after him, while the electric bulb is linked with Edison and Swan, the telephone with Graham Bell, and the dynamo with Faraday's work on induction.

## Question 52 English

Which word is closest in meaning to "eradicate"?

- A. Eliminate ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Nurture
- C. Establish

**Note:** To eradicate is to destroy something completely or pull it out by the roots, as in eradicating polio; it comes from the Latin "radix", meaning root, so "eliminate" is the synonym, while "establish" and "nurture" are nearly its opposites, since they mean to set something up or help it grow, and "spread" means to extend it.

## Question 53 English

Choose the antonym of "oblivion":

- A. Forgetfulness
- B. Obscurity
- C. Awareness ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Neglect

**Note:** Oblivion is the state of being unaware of what is happening, or of being forgotten, as in "the old custom faded into oblivion", so its opposite is awareness or remembrance; "forgetfulness" and "obscurity" are close in meaning to oblivion, so they are synonyms rather than antonyms, and "neglect" also points the same way.

## Question 54 Pakistan Studies

Who moved the Objectives Resolution in the Constituent Assembly of Pakistan in March 1949?

- A. Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah
- B. Khawaja Nazimuddin
- C. Liaquat Ali Khan ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Sardar Abdur Rab Nishtar

**Note:** Prime Minister Liaquat Ali Khan moved the Objectives Resolution on 7 March 1949 and the Constituent Assembly adopted it on 12 March 1949; it declared that sovereignty belongs to Allah and set out the principles for future constitutions, while the Quaid-e-

ed in September 1948, and Khawaja Nazimuddin was then Governor-General.

## Question 55 Pakistan Studies

Who was the President of Pakistan when the Pakistan-China Boundary Agreement was signed in 1963?

- A. Iskander Mirza
- B. Ayub Khan ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Yahya Khan
- D. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto

**Note:** The Sino-Pakistan Boundary Agreement was signed in Beijing on 2 March 1963, during Field Marshal Ayub Khan's presidency, by Foreign Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and Chinese Foreign Minister Chen Yi; Bhutto signed the document but was then a minister, not the head of state, which makes him the nearest wrong option, while Iskander Mirza and Yahya Khan were not president in 1963.

## Question 56

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Q56 is absent from the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting: the numbering jumps from Q55 straight to Q57. The question was never captured and is NOT reconstructed.

## Question 57 Mathematics

An article sold at a loss of 5% fetches Rs. 475. At what price should it be sold to gain 5%?

- A. Rs. 500
- B. Rs. 522.50
- C. Rs. 525 ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Rs. 550

**Note:** A 5% loss means the selling price is 95% of the cost, so the cost is 475 / 0.95 = Rs.

in means selling at 105% of the cost, which is 500 x 1.05 = Rs. 525, while Rs. 500 is only the cost price, and Rs. 522.50 comes from wrongly adding 10% of 475 to 475, taking the percentages on the selling price instead of the cost.

## Question 58 Mathematics

A cube has a volume of 8 cubic metres. If each side is doubled, its new volume will be:

- A. 16 cubic metres
- B. 24 cubic metres
- C. 32 cubic metres
- D. 64 cubic metres ✓ **Correct answer**

**Note:** A volume of 8 cubic metres means each side is 2 m, since 2 x 2 x 2 = 8; doubling the side to 4 m gives 4 x 4 x 4 = 64 cubic metres, and because volume depends on the cube of the side, doubling the side multiplies the volume by 2 cubed, which is 8, not by 2, so 16 cubic metres is the result of that common mistake.

## Question 59 Computer

The speed of a laser printer is usually measured in:

- A. Characters per second
- B. Pages per minute ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Lines per minute
- D. Dots per inch

**Note:** Laser printers form a whole page at a time on a drum, so their speed is stated in pages per minute (ppm); characters per second was the measure for dot-matrix and daisy-wheel printers, lines per minute for line printers, and dots per inch measures print resolution, not speed, which is why it is a common distractor.

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Repeat recall of Q18 in the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting: the same question (a gene is the basic unit of heredity) is remembered twice; served once under Q18.

## Question 61

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Repeat recall of Q4 in the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting: the same question (Thomas Jefferson was the third President of the United States) is remembered twice; served once under Q4.

## Question 62 Islamic Studies

Salat al-Istisqa is offered:

- A. At the time of a solar eclipse
- B. To pray for rain during a drought ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. For a deceased person
- D. On the night before Eid

**Note:** Salat al-Istisqa is a prayer of two rak'ahs offered in congregation, usually in an open field, to ask Allah for rain in times of drought, and it is accompanied by a sermon and supplication; the prayer offered during an eclipse is Salat al-Kusuf, and the prayer for a deceased person is Salat al-Janazah.

## Question 63 Geography

The Saindak and Reko Diq copper-gold deposits are located in which district of Balochistan?

- A. Chagai ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Gwadar
- C. Khuzdar
- D. Loralai

ak, where copper-gold mining has run since the early 2000s, and Reko Diq, one of the world's largest undeveloped copper-gold deposits, both lie in Chagai district in north-western Balochistan, near the borders with Iran and Afghanistan; Chagai is also the site of Pakistan's 1998 nuclear tests, while Gwadar is known for its deep-sea port.

## Question 64

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Repeat recall of Q21 in the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting: the same question (Ibn Khaldun was born in Tunis, in present-day Tunisia) is remembered twice; served once under Q21.

## Question 65 Islamic Studies

Which document is commonly described as the first written constitution of the world?

- A. Magna Carta
- B. Misaq-e-Madina (Charter of Madinah) ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Constitution of the United States
- D. Treaty of Hudaybiyyah

**Note:** The Charter of Madinah, drawn up by the Holy Prophet (PBUH) around 622 CE soon after the Hijrah, set out the rights and duties of the Muslims, the Jewish tribes and other groups of Madinah as one community, and is widely described as the first written constitution; Magna Carta dates from 1215 and the US Constitution from 1787, while Hudaybiyyah was a truce.

## Question 66 Islamic Studies

Kitab-ul-Asar is attributed to:

- A. Imam Malik
- B. Imam Abu Hanifa ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Imam Shafi'i
- D. Imam Bukhari

ul-Asar is a collection of hadith and legal reports attributed to Imam Abu Hanifa and transmitted by his students Imam Abu Yusuf and Imam Muhammad al-Shaybani; Imam Malik's corresponding work is the Muwatta, Imam Shafi'i is known for Al-Umm and Al-Risala, and Imam Bukhari compiled the Sahih, so each distractor has a different signature book.

## Question 67 Pakistan Studies

The tune (music) of Pakistan's national anthem was composed by:

- A. Hafeez Jalandhari
- B. Ahmed Ghulamali Chagla ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Sohail Rana
- D. Nisar Bazmi

**Note:** Ahmed Ghulamali Chagla composed the music of the national anthem in 1949, and the tune was first played officially in 1950; the words were written later by Hafeez Jalandhari and approved in 1954, so Jalandhari is the lyricist, not the composer, which makes him the most tempting wrong option, while Sohail Rana and Nisar Bazmi were noted film composers.

## Question 68 Geography

The Tigris and Euphrates rivers join to form the:

- A. Shatt al-Arab ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Karun
- C. Jordan
- D. Orontes

**Note:** The Tigris and Euphrates meet at Al-Qurnah in southern Iraq to form the Shatt al-Arab, which flows past Basra, forms part of the Iraq-Iran border and enters the Persian Gulf; the Karun is an Iranian river that flows into the Shatt al-Arab rather than forming it, while the Jordan and Orontes are rivers of the Levant.

## 69 Computer

Which of the following is a database management system?

- A. Oracle ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Adobe Photoshop
- C. Mozilla Firefox
- D. CorelDRAW

**Note:** Oracle Database is a relational database management system used to store, organise and query large amounts of data with SQL, in the same family as MySQL and Microsoft SQL Server; Photoshop and CorelDRAW are graphics programs and Firefox is a web browser, so none of the other options is designed to manage databases.

## Question 70

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Q70 is absent from the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting: the numbering jumps from Q69 straight to Q71. The question was never captured and is NOT reconstructed.

## Question 71 General Knowledge

Pedagogy is the science or art of:

- A. Teaching ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Treating children's diseases
- C. Studying rocks
- D. Public speaking

**Note:** Pedagogy, from the Greek "paidagogos", a person who leads a child, is the theory and practice of teaching and education; it is often confused with paediatrics, the branch of medicine that deals with children's health, because both words come from the Greek word for child, while the study of rocks is petrology and public speaking is rhetoric or oratory.

## 72 Science

Who is credited with giving the first public demonstration of television?

- A. Guglielmo Marconi
- B. John Logie Baird ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Alexander Graham Bell
- D. Thomas Edison

**Note:** The Scottish engineer John Logie Baird gave the first public demonstration of television, transmitting moving images, in London in 1926 with a mechanical system, and he is usually named as its inventor; fully electronic television was developed soon afterwards by Philo Farnsworth and Vladimir Zworykin, while Marconi is credited with radio and Bell with the telephone.

## Question 73 General Knowledge

NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) is best described as a:

- A. Military alliance ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Trade bloc
- C. United Nations specialised agency
- D. Development bank

**Note:** NATO was founded in 1949 by the North Atlantic Treaty, signed in Washington, as a collective defence alliance; under Article 5 an armed attack on one member is treated as an attack on all, and its headquarters is in Brussels, while it is not a trade bloc such as the European Union's single market, nor a UN agency or a lending institution.

## Question 74 Urdu Literature

Who is regarded as the most celebrated writer of Urdu detective (jasoosi) novels?

- A. Naseem Hijazi
- B. Ibn-e-Safi ✓ **Correct answer**

- D. Qurratulain Hyder

**Note:** Ibn-e-Safi (Asrar Ahmad, 1928-1980) created the Jasoosi Duniya and Imran Series and wrote some 250 detective novels, making him the best-known name in Urdu spy fiction; Naseem Hijazi wrote historical novels about Muslim history, Razia Butt wrote social and romantic novels, and Qurratulain Hyder wrote literary fiction such as Aag ka Darya.

## Question 75 Islamic Studies

Which angel is entrusted with the provision of sustenance (rizq) and rain?

- A. Hazrat Jibrail (AS)
- B. Hazrat Israfil (AS)
- C. Hazrat Izrail (AS)
- D. Hazrat Mikail (AS) ✓ **Correct answer**

**Note:** Hazrat Mikail (AS) is the angel charged with the distribution of provision, including rain and sustenance for creation; Hazrat Jibrail (AS) brought revelation to the prophets, which makes him the most common wrong pick, while Hazrat Israfil (AS) will blow the trumpet on the Day of Judgement and Hazrat Izrail (AS) takes souls at death.

## Question 76 Geography

Pakistan's largest copper deposits are found in which district?

- A. Attock
- B. Chagai ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Khuzdar
- D. Chitral

**Note:** Chagai district in north-western Balochistan holds the Saindak copper-gold project, in production since the early 2000s, and Reko Diq, one of the largest undeveloped copper-gold deposits in the world; Khuzdar is better known for barytes and lead-zinc, and Attock

## Question 77

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Repeat recall of Q65 in the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting: the same question (Misaq-e-Madina is commonly described as the first written constitution of the world) is remembered twice; served once under Q65.

## Question 78 English

Choose the synonym of ELIMINATE:

- A. Include
- B. Illuminate
- C. Enlist
- D. Eradicate ✓ **Correct answer**

**Note:** To eliminate is to remove or get rid of something completely, which is also the meaning of eradicate, literally "to pull out by the roots"; include and enlist mean the opposite, bringing something in, while illuminate is a sound-alike trap, since it means to light up or explain, not to remove.

## Question 79 Urdu

"The Urdu idiom "teen harf bhejna (تین حرف بھیجنا) means:

- A. To send a curse (lanat bhejna) ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. To write a short letter
- C. To send greetings
- D. To apologise

**Note:** "Teen harf bhejna" means to curse or to reject something with disgust, the same as lanat bhejna (ل ع ن), and it is used when

.since salam also has three letters, but the idiom always carries contempt

## Question 80 Urdu

which denote time, are classified ,(raat) رات and (din) دن In Urdu grammar, words such as :as

- A. Ism-e-Zarf-e-Makan
- B. Ism-e-Zarf-e-Zaman ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. Ism-e-Aala
- D. Ism-e-Sifat

**Note:** Ism-e-Zarf is a noun that indicates time or place; when it indicates time, such as subah, shaam, din or raat, it is Ism-e-Zarf-e-Zaman, while when it indicates place, such as masjid or bazaar, it is Ism-e-Zarf-e-Makan, the nearest wrong choice, and Ism-e-Aala names an instrument, like qalam, while Ism-e-Sifat describes a quality.

## Question 81

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Repeat recall of Q66 in the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting: the same question (Kitab-ul-Asar is attributed to Imam Abu Hanifa) is remembered twice; served once under Q66.

## Question 82 English

The idiom "to kill two birds with one stone" means:

- A. To punish two people for one fault
- B. To waste effort on useless work
- C. To achieve two aims with a single action ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. To be cruel to animals

two birds with one stone is to achieve two goals with one action or effort, for example posting a letter on the way to work; the idiom is figurative and has nothing to do with cruelty or punishment, and wasting effort is the opposite idea, since the phrase praises getting double value from a single act.

## Question 83

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Repeat recall of Q40 in the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting: the same question (the people of Hazrat Lut (AS) were destroyed by a rain of stones) is remembered twice; served once under Q40.

## Question 84

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Repeat recall of Q72 in the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting: the same question (John Logie Baird gave the first public demonstration of television) is remembered twice; served once under Q72.

## Question 85

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Q85 is absent from the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting: the numbering jumps from Q84 straight to Q86. The question was never captured and is NOT reconstructed.

## Question 86 English

The idiom "to put one's hand to the plough" means:

- A. To become a farmer
- B. To undertake a task seriously ✓ **Correct answer**
- C. To give up a task halfway
- D. To ask others for help

**Note:** To put one's hand to the plough means to begin a serious or difficult task and commit oneself to completing it; the image comes from farming, but the idiom is

to become a farmer" is a literal-minded trap, while giving up halfway is the opposite of the commitment the phrase expresses.

## Question 87 Computer

The term "Chart Wizard" is associated with:

- A. MS Excel ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. MS Paint
- C. Notepad
- D. Windows Media Player

**Note:** In Microsoft Excel 2003 and earlier versions, the Chart Wizard walked the user through the steps of building a chart from selected worksheet data: chart type, data range, options and location; later versions replaced it with the Insert > Charts group, while Paint, Notepad and Windows Media Player have no charting feature.

## Question 88 Urdu Literature

Ilmi Urdu Lughat (علمی اردو لغت) was compiled by:

- A. Maulvi Abdul Haq
- B. Syed Ahmad Dehlvi
- C. Noor-ul-Hasan Nayyar
- D. Waris Sirhindi ✓ **Correct answer**

**Note:** Ilmi Urdu Lughat, a widely used Urdu-to-Urdu dictionary published in Lahore, was compiled by Waris Sirhindi; the other names are also lexicographers, which makes them tempting, since Syed Ahmad Dehlvi compiled Farhang-e-Asifiya, Noor-ul-Hasan Nayyar compiled Noor-ul-Lughat, and Maulvi Abdul Haq compiled a standard English-Urdu dictionary.

## 89 Urdu Literature

The couplet «درد منت کشِ دوا نہ ہوا / میں نہ اچھا ہوا، برا نہ ہوا» was written by:

- A. Mir Taqi Mir
- B. Allama Muhammad Iqbal
- C. Mirza Ghalib ✓ **Correct answer**
- D. Momin Khan Momin

**Note:** This is the opening couplet (matla) of a well-known ghazal by Mirza Asadullah Khan Ghalib: the pain never became indebted to any cure, so the poet neither recovered nor grew worse; Momin Khan Momin, Ghalib's Delhi contemporary, is the nearest wrong choice, while Mir Taqi Mir belongs to the previous century and Iqbal to the next.

## Question 90 Urdu

"The Urdu proverb "haath kangan ko aarsi kya (ہاتھ کنگن کو آرسی کیا) means:

- A. What is obvious needs no proof ✓ **Correct answer**
- B. Ornaments are useless without beauty
- C. Every task needs the right tool
- D. Vanity leads to ruin

**Note:** Literally, "what need is there of a mirror to see a bracelet on the wrist?" The bracelet is plainly visible, so the proverb means that something evident needs no proof or demonstration; it is often extended as "parhe likhe ko Farsi kya", and it has nothing to do with vanity or with the value of ornaments.

## Question 91 Pakistan Studies

Anjuman Himayat-e-Islam, founded in Lahore in 1884, was established mainly to:

- A. Demand a separate homeland for the Muslims
- B. Organise the Muslims as a political party against the Congress

mote education among Muslims and counter missionary propaganda ✓

**Correct answer**

- D. Promote agriculture in the Punjab

**Note:** The Anjuman Himayat-e-Islam was founded in Lahore in 1884 to spread modern and religious education among Muslims, care for orphans and answer the propaganda of Christian missionaries; it ran schools and Islamia College Lahore, and it was not a political party, since organised Muslim politics came with the All-India Muslim League in 1906.

## Question 92

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Repeat recall of Q78 in the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting: the same question (the synonym of ELIMINATE is eradicate) is remembered twice; served once under Q78.

## Question 93

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Q93 was not captured: the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting ends at Q92. The question was never captured and is NOT reconstructed.

## Question 94

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Q94 was not captured: the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting ends at Q92. The question was never captured and is NOT reconstructed.

## Question 95

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Q95 was not captured: the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting ends at Q92. The question was never captured and is NOT reconstructed.

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Q96 was not captured: the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting ends at Q92. The question was never captured and is NOT reconstructed.

## Question 97

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Q97 was not captured: the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting ends at Q92. The question was never captured and is NOT reconstructed.

## Question 98

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Q98 was not captured: the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting ends at Q92. The question was never captured and is NOT reconstructed.

## Question 99

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Q99 was not captured: the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting ends at Q92. The question was never captured and is NOT reconstructed.

## Question 100

**No answer is given for this question, and none is taught.** Q100 was not captured: the MCQ-AI reconstruction of this sitting ends at Q92. The question was never captured and is NOT reconstructed.

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