CLAT Community

daily AR

SECTIONAL TEST

17

DAYS TO GO FOR

CLAT 2027

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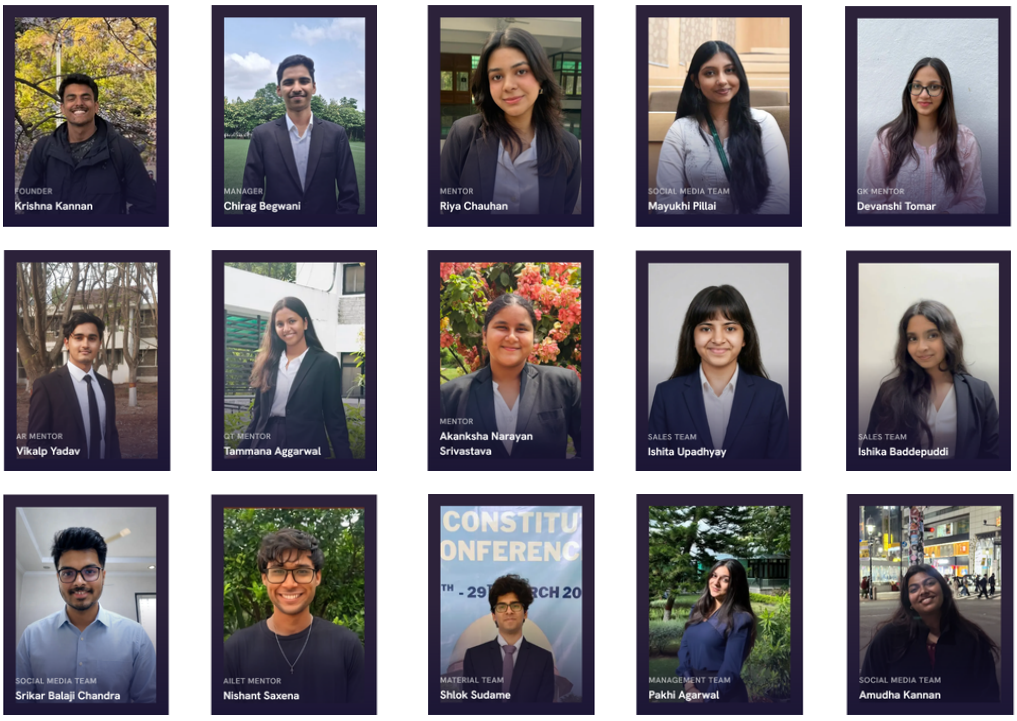








OUR MENTORS



MENTORS' NOTE

Good morning everyone,

If you're reading this, you're already doing something that thousands of CLAT aspirants never do—you've shown up today. That might sound like a small thing, but over the next few months you'll realise that success in CLAT is rarely decided by one brilliant mock or one 12-hour study session. It's decided by the hundreds of ordinary days where you choose to sit down and study even when you don't feel like it.

The entire CLAT Community team is rooting for you. Whenever you're stuck, ask doubts, discuss questions, and make use of the people around you. You don't have to prepare alone. We hope today's material helps you take one more step towards your dream.

Now stop reading this note and get to work. Your future self will thank you for the effort you put in today.

All the best.

clat community

DAILY AR

Passage 1

The stores section of a government silk-reeling centre keeps each bin under a bin name in capital letters, never containing the letter Z, but the bin itself carries only a label made from the name with the help of a grid. The letters A to Y are written in a 5 × 5 grid, row by row: row 1 holds A B C D E, row 2 holds F G H I J, and so on down to row 5, which holds U V W X Y. So N, for example, is in row 3, column 4.

To make a label, the storekeeper writes the row numbers of the name's letters from left to right and then, on the same line, their column numbers from left to right. This line of digits is cut into consecutive pairs from the left, and each pair, read as (row, column), gives one letter of the label. For example, BEAN gives rows 1 1 1 3 and columns 2 5 1 4, so the line is 11132514, the pairs are 11, 13, 25 and 14, and the label is ACJD. A label always has as many letters as its name.

1. What is the label of the bin named MULBERRY?

(A) KGWOOKDT

(B) OKDTKGWO

(C) KOXCNHEJ

(D) WCPXCGOW

2. The label on one bin reads TPTDC. What is the bin's name?

(A) SPEER

(B) XESAN

(C) XSARU

(D) TUSAR

3. By mistake, a new clerk applied the labelling rule to the label of a four-letter bin name and fixed this second result on the bin instead of the label. The bin now shows RBEA. What is the bin's name?

(A) POAF

(B) ADEH

(C) PALU

(D) The name cannot be recovered from RBEA alone

4. Consider every two-letter name that can be made from the letters A to Y, a letter being allowed to repeat. For how many of these names is the label exactly the same as the name?

(A) 125

(B) 25

(C) 5

(D) 625

5. On night duty, a different storekeeper wrote the column numbers first and then the row numbers on the line, but otherwise followed the rule exactly (cutting into pairs and reading each pair as row, column). One of his labels reads ETCNP. What is the bin's name?

(A) CWSXA

(B) DCTWP

(C) YNAPN

(D) KOSTA

6. On one four-letter bin, only the first two letters of the label, AM, can be read; the rest is torn away. Which of the following could be the bin's name?

(A) AMID

(B) CLAM

(C) BALM

(D) DEAL

7. Starting from a three-letter name, the labelling rule is applied again and again — to the name, then to its label, then to that result, and so on. What is the smallest number of applications after which every three-letter name is certain to have returned to itself?

(A) 2

(B) 4

(C) 3

(D) 6

8. Consider the following statements about the storekeeper's rule:

(i) For every two-letter name, applying the rule to its label gives back the name.

(ii) If the label of a two-letter name is the same as the name, the two letters of the name are the same.

(iii) No two different names of the same length have the same label.

(iv) For every four-letter name, applying the rule twice in succession gives the same result as decoding the name once (that is, finding the name of which it is the label).

Which of the statements are true?

(A) (i) and (iii) only

(B) (i), (ii) and (iii) only

(C) (iii) and (iv) only

(D) (i), (iii) and (iv) only

Passage 2

A women's federation in a tribal mandal runs a turmeric-processing unit. Its register for January to June 2026 records the following about the unit's monthly output of turmeric powder, every monthly figure being a whole multiple of 10 quintals.

January's output was 160 quintals. February's output was 25% more than January's, and March's output was 20% less than February's. April's output was one-eighth more than March's. The register gives no separate figures for May and June, but notes that the total output of the second quarter (April to June) was 25% more than that of the first quarter (January to March). It also notes that May's output was lower than April's, that June's output did not exceed twice May's output, and that June's output was the highest of the six months.

In the questions below, output is said to have fallen (or risen) in a month if that month's output was lower (or higher) than the output of the month before it; January is not compared with any earlier month.

9. Which of the following must be true?

(A) May's output was equal to January's.

(B) Output in May was lower than in every other month of the half-year.

(C) June's output was at least 50% more than February's.

(D) June's output was at least twice May's.

10. For how many of the six months was the output definitely below the average monthly output of the half-year?

(A) 3

(B) 5

(C) Cannot be determined

(D) 4

11. Which of the following can be determined uniquely from the register?

(A) The number of months in which output rose

(B) The difference between June's output and February's output

(C) The number of months whose output exceeded January's

(D) The month or months in which output was lowest

12. Which one of the following, if added to the register, would on its own fix May's output?

(A) No two consecutive months had the same output.

(B) Apart from January and March, no two months had the same output.

(C) June's output exceeded May's by more than 100 quintals.

(D) The output of the second quarter was 130 quintals more than that of the first quarter.

13. Consider the two conclusions:

I. In every month in which output fell, it fell by more than 10%.

II. June's output was more than one and a half times the average monthly output of the other five months.

Which of the conclusions follow from the register?

(A) Only I follows

(B) Only II follows

(C) Both I and II follow

(D) Neither I nor II follows

14. Which of the following conclusions is valid?

(A) March's output was 5% more than January's.

(B) June's output was more than double April's.

(C) May's output was exactly 5% less than April's.

(D) April's output was 12.5% more than January's.

15. The register for July later shows that July's output was exactly 10% less than June's, and that July's figure also obeys the rule of being a whole multiple of 10 quintals. What was July's output?

(A) 279 quintals

(B) 290 quintals

(C) 270 quintals

(D) Cannot be determined

16. Consider the following statements:

(i) March's output was equal to January's.

(ii) The average monthly output of the half-year was higher than April's output.

(iii) May's output was at least 10% lower than April's.

(iv) June's output was more than the combined output of January and March.

Which of the statements can be concluded with certainty?

(A) (i) and (ii) only

(B) (i), (ii) and (iii) only

(C) (ii) only

(D) (ii) and (iii) only

Passage 3

A district water-quality cell grades each of six villages' hand-pumps weekly for four weeks, from grade 1 (best) to grade 5 (worst). A pump is called unsafe in any week in which its grade is 4 or 5. A village writes its four grades as a two-letter plain word on the grid of Passage 1: the first letter lies in the row given by the week-1 grade and the column given by the week-2 grade, and the second letter lies in the row given by the week-3 grade and the column given by the week-4 grade. This word is turned into a label by the storekeeper's rule, and only the label is sent.

This month the cell received: Alur QK, Bodhan HT, Chandur AG, Dharur XK and Elkurthi DJ. Farooqnagar's message arrived with first letter I and its second letter smudged; the field officer's note says that Farooqnagar's grade changed by exactly 1 from each week to the next. The cell later learnt that exactly one of the six villages had sent its plain word without turning it into a label. No pump's grade ever changes by more than 2 from one week to the next.

17. Which village or villages had a pump whose grade improved (became lower) in every week after the first?

(A) Alur only

(B) Dharur only

(C) Alur and Dharur

(D) Elkurthi only

18. In how many villages was the pump's week-4 grade definitely worse than its week-1 grade?

(A) 2

(B) 4

(C) 3

(D) 6

19. For how many villages can it be concluded with certainty that the pump was unsafe in at least two of the four weeks?

(A) 2

(B) 4

(C) Cannot be determined

(D) 3

20. Which of the following must be true of Farooqnagar's pump?

(A) Its week-2 grade was 4.

(B) It was unsafe in week 4.

(C) Its week-2 grade was 3.

(D) Its week-4 grade was 3.

21. Consider the two conclusions:

I. Exactly four pumps had a better grade in week 3 than in week 2.

II. Every pump that was graded 2 in week 1 had a worse grade in week 4 than in week 3.

Which of the conclusions follow?

(A) Only I follows

(B) Only II follows

(C) Both I and II follow

(D) Neither I nor II follows

22. Next month Alur's four grades turn out to be this month's four grades in reverse order (next month's week 1 equals this month's week 4, and so on). If Alur sends a correct label, what will it be?

(A) KQ

(B) CI

(C) BN

(D) IC

23. For a certain village, the cell would decode exactly the same four grades whether or not the plain word had been turned into a label before sending. Which of the following must be true of that village's grades?

(A) Its week-2 and week-3 grades were equal.

(B) Its week-1 and week-4 grades were equal.

(C) The two letters sent were the same.

(D) All four of its grades were equal.

24. Consider the following statements:

(i) Exactly two pumps were unsafe in week 3.

(ii) The sum of the six pumps' week-4 grades is an odd number.

(iii) Farooqnagar's pump was unsafe in week 4.

(iv) Had Elkurthi sent its plain word instead of its label, the cell would have decoded the same four grades.

Which of the statements can be concluded with certainty?

(A) (ii) only

(B) (i), (ii) and (iii) only

(C) (i) and (ii) only

(D) (ii) and (iii) only

ANSWER KEY

1. Answer: (B) OKDTKGWO

Explanation: Find each letter's row and column. M is (3, 3), U is (5, 1), L is (3, 2), B is (1, 2), E is (1, 5), R is (4, 3), R is (4, 3), Y is (5, 5). The rows, in order, are 3 5 3 1 1 4 4 5 and the columns, in order, are 3 1 2 2 5 3 3 5. The line is 3531144531225335. Cutting it into pairs gives 35, 31, 14, 45, 31, 22, 53, 35, which are O, K, D, T, K, G, W, O. So the label is OKDTKGWO.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) KGWOOKDT — writes the column numbers first and the row numbers after them (order of the two halves reversed).

(C) KOXCNHEJ — runs the rule backwards, treating MULBERRY as if it were a label to be decoded (direction of the rule reversed).

(D) WCPXCGOW — cuts the line correctly but reads each pair as (column, row) (pair read the wrong way round).

Topic / sub-skill: Coding Decoding — forward encoding with a grid fold (letter to row/column, rows then columns, re-pairing)

Difficulty: Hard — eight letters must be carried through the fold without losing their place in the line.

2. Answer: (D) TUSAR

Explanation: Decoding means undoing the fold. Turn each label letter back into its pair: T is 45, P is 41, T is 45, D is 14, C is 13. The line is 4541451413. The name has five letters, so the first five digits, 4 5 4 1 4, are the rows of the name's letters and the last five, 5 1 4 1 3, are the columns. Pairing them place by place gives (4, 5), (5, 1), (4, 4), (1, 1), (4, 3), that is T, U, S, A, R. The name is TUSAR. Check: TUSAR gives rows 4 5 4 1 4 and columns 5 1 4 1 3, which re-pair to TPTDC.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) SPEER — applies the labelling rule to the label instead of undoing it. The result even looks like a word, which makes the error tempting (forward rule used for decoding).

(B) XESAN — takes the first five digits as columns and the last five as rows (halves swapped).

(C) XSARU — writes each label letter's digits as (column, row) before splitting the line (letter-to-pair conversion reversed).

Topic / sub-skill: Coding Decoding — reverse decoding of a fold code; the half-split is the hidden step

Difficulty: Hard — the decoder must realise that decoding is not a second application of the rule.

3. Answer: (C) PALU

Explanation: RBEA is the label of the label, so it must be decoded twice. First decoding: R 43, B 12, E 15, A 11 give the line 43121511; rows 4 3 1 2 and columns 1 5 1 1 give (4, 1), (3, 5), (1, 1), (2, 1) = P, O, A, F. So the true label was POAF. Second decoding: P 41, O 35, A 11, F 21 give the line 41351121; rows 4 1 3 5 and columns 1 1 2 1 give (4, 1), (1, 1), (3, 2), (5, 1) = P, A, L, U. The name is PALU. (Check: PALU labels to POAF, and POAF labels to RBEA.)

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) POAF — decodes only once and stops at the true label (one of the two decodings missed).

(B) ADEH — decodes twice but each time takes the first half of the line as columns (halves swapped in both decodings).

(D) Cannot be recovered — assumes that labelling a label scrambles the information; in fact every step of the rule can be undone, so nothing is lost (reversibility of the rule overlooked).

Topic / sub-skill: Coding Decoding — repeated decoding; reversibility of a transposition code

Difficulty: Very Hard — two full decodings, and the tempting 'cannot be recovered' must be rejected by reasoning.

4. Answer: (A) 125

Explanation: Let the name's letters be (r1, c1) and (r2, c2). The line is r1 r2 c1 c2, so the label's letters are (r1, r2) and (c1, c2). For the label to equal the name we need (r1, r2) = (r1, c1), that is r2 = c1, and (c1, c2) = (r2, c2), which is the same condition r2 = c1. So the only requirement is that the row of the second letter equals the column of the first. The first letter can be any of 25; its column then fixes the second letter's row, and the second letter's column is free (5

choices). The count is 25 × 5 = 125. For example, AB works: A is in column 1 and B is in row 1.

Why the other options are wrong:

(B) 25 — demands that both letters lie on the diagonal A, G, M, S, Y, which is sufficient but not necessary (sufficient condition taken as the whole condition).

(C) 5 — counts only doubled diagonal letters such as AA and GG (only repeated-letter names considered).

(D) 625 — believes every two-letter name is unchanged because the rule is its own reverse for two letters (self-reversing confused with leaving unchanged).

Topic / sub-skill: Coding Decoding — structural counting of fixed points of a code

Difficulty: Very Hard — the count needs an algebraic condition (r2 = c1), not enumeration.

5. Answer: (D) KOSTA

Explanation: Turn the label back into its line: E 15, T 45, C 13, N 34, P 41, giving 1545133441. On the night rule the first five digits, 1 5 4 5 1, are the columns of the name's letters and the last five, 3 3 4 4 1, are the rows. Pairing row with column place by place: (3, 1), (3, 5), (4, 4), (4, 5), (1, 1) = K, O, S, T, A. The name is KOSTA. Check: KOSTA has columns 1 5 4 5 1 and rows 3 3 4 4 1, so the night line is 1545133441, which pairs to E, T, C, N, P.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) CWSXA — decodes with the day rule, taking the first half as rows (the clerk's change of order ignored).

(B) DCTWP — applies the day labelling rule to the label instead of decoding it (forward rule used for decoding).

(C) YNAPN — applies the night labelling rule to the label instead of decoding it (forward rule used for decoding, night version).

Topic / sub-skill: Coding Decoding — decoding under a changed rule (halves reversed)

Difficulty: Hard — the student must reverse the specific change, not the original rule.

6. Answer: (C) BALM

Explanation: For a four-letter name the line is r1 r2 r3 r4 c1 c2 c3 c4, so the first two label letters are (r1, r2) and (r3, r4): they show the rows of all four letters of the name and say nothing about the columns. A is (1, 1) and M is (3, 3), so the four letters of the name lie in rows 1, 1, 3, 3 in that order. The first two letters must come from A–E and the last two from K–O. BALM (B and A in row 1; L and M in row 3) fits; its full label is AMFH. AMID has rows 1, 3, 2, 1; CLAM has rows 1, 3, 1, 3; DEAL has rows 1, 1, 1, 3. Only BALM is possible.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) AMID — reads the legible letters as the start of the name itself (the fold ignored altogether).

(B) CLAM — thinks the first label letter carries the rows of the 1st and 3rd name letters and the second the rows of the 2nd and 4th (wrong positions assigned to the pairs).

(D) DEAL — uses only the first legible letter (rows 1, 1 for the first two letters) and does not check the second (partial use of the legible data).

Topic / sub-skill: Coding Decoding — partial information from a damaged code; what the visible part fixes

Difficulty: Very Hard — the solver must see that the visible half of the label holds only row information.

7. Answer: (B) 4

Explanation: Write a three-letter name as the pairs (r1, c1), (r2, c2), (r3, c3) and follow where each digit goes. First application: the line r1 r2 r3 c1 c2 c3 gives the letters (r1, r2), (r3, c1), (c2, c3). Second: the rows r1, r3, c2 and columns r2, c1, c3 give (r1, r3), (c2, r2), (c1, c3). Third: rows r1, c2, c1 and columns r3, r2, c3 give (r1, c2), (c1, r3), (r2, c3). Fourth: rows r1, c1, r2 and columns c2, r3, c3 give the line r1 c1 r2 c2 r3 c3, that is (r1, c1), (r2, c2), (r3, c3) — the original name. After 1, 2 or 3 applications the digits are out of place, so a name with all six digits different does not return earlier (for example ABC → AAH → AFC → BAC → ABC). The answer is 4.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) 2 — carries over the two-letter fact that labelling twice gives back the name (two-letter result generalised).

(C) 3 — assumes the number of steps equals the number of letters; in fact four-letter names return after 3 steps and three-letter names after 4 (length assumed to equal the cycle).

(D) 6 — assumes the cycle equals the number of digits in the line (digit count taken as the cycle).

Topic / sub-skill: Coding Decoding — repeated application; position tracking of a transposition

Difficulty: Elite — the cycle must be found by tracking positions; the obvious guesses 2, 3 and 6 are all wrong.

8. Answer: (D) (i), (iii) and (iv) only

Explanation: (i) True: a two-letter name (r1, c1)(r2, c2) labels to (r1, r2)(c1, c2), and labelling that gives (r1, c1)(r2, c2) again. (ii) False: AB is its own label (Q4) though A and B differ. (iii) True: every step of the rule can be undone, so different names of one length cannot share a label. (iv) True: for four letters the rule returns every name after exactly 3 applications, so applying it twice is the same as stepping back once, which is decoding. (PALU → POAF → RBEA in Q3, and decoding PALU gives RBEA as well.)

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) (i) and (iii) only — rejects (iv), assuming 'twice forward' can never equal 'once backward' (cycle of 3 not found).

(B) (i), (ii) and (iii) only — accepts (ii), believing only doubled letters such as GG can be their own label (fixed-point condition misread).

(C) (iii) and (iv) only — rejects (i), forgetting that for two letters the rule is its own reverse (two-letter case not checked).

Topic / sub-skill: Coding Decoding — capstone statement verification

Difficulty: Very Hard — four independent checks, one of which needs the three-step cycle.

9. Answer: (C) June's output was at least 50% more than February's.

Explanation: First build the known months. February = 160 × 5/4 = 200; March = 200 × 4/5 = 160; April = 160 × 9/8 = 180. First quarter = 520, so the second quarter = 520 × 5/4 = 650, and May + June = 650 − 180 = 470. May < 180 and May is a multiple of 10. June ≤ 2 × May

means 470 − May ≤ 2 × May, so May ≥ 156⅔, i.e. May is 160 or 170, and June is 310 or 300. In both cases June ≥ 300 = 1.5 × 200, so June is at least 50% more than February. (C) must be true.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) May = January — true only if May is 160; May could be 170 (possible taken as certain).

(B) May lowest of all — fails because March fell back to 160, so May is at best tied with January and March (the 25%-up, 20%-down return to 160 missed).

(D) June ≥ 2 × May — reverses the register's note, which says June did NOT exceed twice May (direction of a bound misread).

Topic / sub-skill: Conclusions — must-be-true from a time series with a hidden range

Difficulty: Hard — two derived constraints narrow May to two values before any option can be tested.

10. Answer: (D) 4

Explanation: The half-year total is 520 + 650 = 1,170 quintals, so the average is 1,170 ÷ 6 = 195. January (160), March (160) and April (180) are below 195; February (200) is above. May is 160 or 170 — below 195 either way. June (300 or 310) is above. So exactly 4 months are below the average whatever May's true figure is.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) 3 — leaves out May because its exact figure is unknown, though both possible values lie below 195 (unknown value treated as undecidable).

(B) 5 — compares with the second-quarter average 650 ÷ 3 ≈ 217 instead of the half-year average, which wrongly brings February in (wrong base for the average).

(C) Cannot be determined — thinks the uncertainty about May and June makes the count unknowable (range not tested against the threshold).

Topic / sub-skill: Conclusions — definite conclusion despite an undetermined value

Difficulty: Hard — the solver must show both possible scenarios give the same count.

11. Answer: (A) The number of months in which output rose

Explanation: The two possible pictures are (May, June) = (160, 310) or (170, 300). Rises: February (200 > 160), April (180 > 160) and June (above May) rise in both pictures; March and May fall in both. So the number of rising months is 3 in either case — determined. The June–February difference is 110 or 100; the months above January are 3 (Feb, Apr, Jun) or 4 (adding May at 170); the lowest month is January and March, or January, March and May. These three are not fixed.

Why the other options are wrong:

(B) June − February — assumes June is fixed because the register says June was the highest, which does not give its value (a qualitative clue mistaken for a quantity).

(C) Months above January — counts with May = 160 only (one scenario taken as the only one).

(D) Lowest month(s) — sees that the lowest value is 160 in both pictures, but the months holding it differ (value confused with the set of months).

Topic / sub-skill: Conclusions — determinable versus undeterminable quantities

Difficulty: Very Hard — each option must be tested in both scenarios.

12. Answer: (B) Apart from January and March, no two months had the same output.

Explanation: May is 160 or 170. Statement (B) forbids May = 160, because 160 is also January's and March's output; so May = 170 and June = 300. (A) holds in both pictures (no neighbouring months are equal either way), so it decides nothing. (C) holds in both (150 and 130 are both more than 100). (D) is already implied by the register (650 − 520 = 130).

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) No two consecutive months equal — true in both pictures, since May (160) is not next to January or March (adjacency confused with any repetition).

(C) June − May > 100 — true in both pictures (150 and 130), so it removes nothing (statement not tested against both cases).

(D) Second quarter 130 more — merely restates what the register already gives (derivable fact mistaken for new information).

Topic / sub-skill: Conclusions — sufficiency of added information

Difficulty: Very Hard — three options are true in both scenarios and only one splits them.

13. Answer: (B) Only II follows

Explanation: Falls occur in March and May. March fell from 200 to 160, a 20% fall. May fell from 180 to 160 (a fall of 1/9, about 11.1%) or to 170 (a fall of 1/18, about 5.6%). So I need not be true. For II: if June is 310, the other five total 860, average 172, and $1.5 \times 172 = 258 < 310$; if June is 300, the other five total 870, average 174, and $1.5 \times 174 = 261 < 300$. II holds in both cases.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) Only I — takes May = 160 as the only case and also fails to compute II (one scenario assumed; second conclusion not tested).

(C) Both — assumes May = 160, so May's fall is 11.1% (one scenario taken as certain).

(D) Neither — rejects II because June is not known exactly, without testing both possible values (unknown treated as undecidable).

Topic / sub-skill: Conclusions — follows / does not follow under two scenarios

Difficulty: Very Hard — each conclusion must be checked against both possible (May, June) pairs.

14. Answer: (D) April's output was 12.5% more than January's.

Explanation: A 25% rise followed by a 20% fall returns exactly to the start: 160 → 200 → 160, so March equals January. April is one-eighth more than March, that is $180 = 160 \times 9/8$, which is 12.5% more than January as well. (B) fails: double April is 360, and June is at most 310. (C) fails: 5% less than 180 is 171, not a multiple of 10 and not 160 or 170.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) March 5% more — adds the percentages (+25% − 20% = +5%) instead of applying the second on the changed base (percentages added across different bases).

(B) June more than double April — compares June with April's increase or with March (wrong comparison base).

(C) May exactly 5% below April — treats 'lower than April' as a small round fall without checking it against the multiple-of-10 rule (unsupported specific value).

Topic / sub-skill: Conclusions — percentage change on a changed base

Difficulty: Hard — the classic +25%/−20% trap must be seen through before April can be compared with January.

15. Answer: (C) 270 quintals

Explanation: June is 310 or 300. Ten per cent less gives 279 or 270. Only 270 is a multiple of 10, so June must have been 300 (and May 170), and July's output was 270 quintals. The new July fact also settles the earlier uncertainty about May and June.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) 279 — uses June = 310 and forgets that July's figure must be a multiple of 10 (stated rule ignored).

(B) 290 — subtracts 10 quintals instead of 10% from June = 300 (percentage read as an absolute amount).

(D) Cannot be determined — stops at the two possible June values and does not use the multiple-of-10 rule to eliminate one (eliminating constraint unused).

Topic / sub-skill: Conclusions — new data resolving an earlier ambiguity

Difficulty: Hard — the eliminating condition is the divisibility rule stated at the top of the passage.

16. Answer: (A) (i) and (ii) only

Explanation: (i) Certain: 160 → 200 → 160. (ii) Certain: the average is 195, April is 180. (iii) Not certain: if May is 160 the fall is 11.1%, but if May is 170 it is only 5.6%. (iv) False: January + March = 320, while June is 310 or 300.

Why the other options are wrong:

(B) (i), (ii) and (iii) — assumes May = 160 (one scenario taken as certain).

(C) (ii) only — rejects (i), adding +25% and −20% to get +5% (percentages added across bases).

(D) (ii) and (iii) only — rejects (i) through the same percentage error and also assumes May = 160 (two errors combined).

Topic / sub-skill: Conclusions — capstone certainty check

Difficulty: Very Hard — each statement depends on a different derived fact; one depends on the unresolved scenario.

17. Answer: (C) Alur and Dharur

Explanation: Decode a label XY: since the plain word is (w1, w2)(w3, w4), the fold makes the label (w1, w3)(w2, w4). So the first label letter gives weeks 1 and 3, the second gives weeks 2 and 4. Alur QK: Q (4, 2), K (3, 1) gives 4, 3, 2, 1. Bodhan HT: 2, 4, 3, 5. Chandur AG: 1, 2, 1, 2. Elkurthi DJ: 1, 2, 4, 5. Dharur XK decoded as a label gives 5, 3, 4, 1, a jump of 3 from week 3 to week 4, which is impossible; so Dharur is the village that sent its plain word, and its grades are read directly: X (5, 4), K (3, 1) gives 5, 4, 3, 1. Farooqnagar (see Q20) rises from week 2 to week 3. So Alur and Dharur improved every week.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) Alur only — decodes Dharur's message as a label and never detects that it was the unfolded one (error clue unused).

(B) Dharur only — reads every message as a plain word, so Alur becomes 4, 2, 3, 1 (fold ignored for all villages).

(D) Elkurthi only — decodes correctly but treats a higher grade as better (grade scale reversed).

Topic / sub-skill: Synthesis — Coding Decoding (fold of a two-letter word; detecting the unfolded message) + Conclusions (trend)

Difficulty: Very Hard — fusion at the point where the 'no change of more than 2' rule identifies Dharur as the unfolded message.

18. Answer: (B) 4

Explanation: From the decoded grades: Alur 4 → 1 (better), Bodhan 2 → 5 (worse), Chandur 1 → 2 (worse), Dharur 5 → 1 (better), Elkurthi 1 → 5 (worse). For Farooqnagar the first letter I = (2, 4) gives week 1 = 2 and week 3 = 4; with changes of exactly 1, week 4 is 3 or 5 — worse than 2 either way. So 4 villages.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) 2 — treats a higher grade as better and counts Alur and Dharur (grade scale reversed).

(C) 3 — leaves out Farooqnagar because its week-4 grade is not fixed, though both possibilities are worse than 2 (unknown value treated as undecidable).

(D) 6 — counts every village whose grade changed between week 1 and week 4 (changed read as worsened).

Topic / sub-skill: Synthesis — Coding Decoding (partial label) + Conclusions (definite comparison)

Difficulty: Hard — Farooqnagar must be resolved to a range before it can be counted.

19. Answer: (D) 3

Explanation: Count weeks with grade 4 or 5. Alur (4, 3, 2, 1): one week. Bodhan (2, 4, 3, 5): two. Chandur (1, 2, 1, 2): none. Dharur (5, 4, 3, 1): two. Elkurthi (1, 2, 4, 5): two. Farooqnagar (2, 3, 4, then 3 or 5): one or two — not certain. So 3 villages for certain.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) 2 — sets Dharur aside as unreliable because it sent the wrong form, instead of reading its plain word (erroneous message discarded rather than corrected).

(B) 4 — assumes Farooqnagar's week-4 grade was 5 (possible taken as certain).

(C) Cannot be determined — thinks one unknown grade makes the whole count unknowable, though the question asks only for the certain cases (certain count confused with exact count).

Topic / sub-skill: Synthesis — Coding Decoding + Conclusions (certain versus possible)

Difficulty: Hard — every village must be decoded, one corrected, one left as a range.

20. Answer: (C) Its week-2 grade was 3.

Explanation: The label's first letter I is (2, 4), and the first label letter carries weeks 1 and 3: week 1 = 2 and week 3 = 4. Week 2 must differ by exactly 1 from both 2 and 4, so it is 3. Week 4 differs by exactly 1 from 4, so it is 3 or 5. (Farooqnagar's message cannot be the unfolded one, since Dharur is.) Only 'week-2 grade was 3' is certain.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) Week-2 grade 4 — reads I as (week 1, week 2), as in the plain word (fold ignored).

(B) Unsafe in week 4 — assumes week 4 is 5 (possible taken as certain).

(D) Week-4 grade 3 — assumes the pump came back down (possible taken as certain, other branch).

Topic / sub-skill: Synthesis — Coding Decoding (partial label) + Conclusions (must be true)

Difficulty: Hard — the smudged letter must be handled by a constraint, not guessed.

21. Answer: (A) Only I follows

Explanation: Week 2 → week 3: Alur 3 → 2, Bodhan 4 → 3, Chandur 2 → 1 and Dharur 4 → 3 improve; Elkurthi 2 → 4 and Farooqnagar 3 → 4 get worse. Exactly four improve, so I follows. Pumps graded 2 in week 1 are Bodhan and Farooqnagar. Bodhan goes 3 → 5 (worse), but Farooqnagar goes 4 → 3 or 4 → 5, so it may have improved. II does not follow.

Why the other options are wrong:

(B) Only II — decodes Dharur as a label (3 → 4, worse), getting three improvers, and assumes Farooqnagar's week 4 is 5 (two errors).

(C) Both — assumes Farooqnagar's week-4 grade is 5 (possible taken as certain).

(D) Neither — decodes Dharur's message as a label (5, 3, 4, 1), so only three pumps improve (unfolded message not corrected).

Topic / sub-skill: Synthesis — Coding Decoding + Conclusions (follows / does not follow)

Difficulty: Very Hard — I depends on correcting Dharur; II depends on the unresolved Farooqnagar branch.

22. Answer: (B) CI

Explanation: Alur's grades this month are 4, 3, 2, 1, so next month they are 1, 2, 3, 4. The plain word is (1, 2)(3, 4) = B N. The label takes weeks 1 and 3 for the first letter and weeks 2 and 4 for the second: (1, 3)(2, 4) = C I. The label is CI.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) KQ — reverses this month's label QK, assuming that reversing the grades reverses the label (code assumed to respect reversal).

(C) BN — sends the plain word without folding it (fold step omitted).

(D) IC — puts weeks 2 and 4 in the first letter and weeks 1 and 3 in the second (letters of the label swapped).

Topic / sub-skill: Synthesis — Conclusions (sequence reversal) + Coding Decoding (encoding a two-letter fold)

Difficulty: Hard — the reversed grades must be re-encoded, not the label reversed.

23. Answer: (A) Its week-2 and week-3 grades were equal.

Explanation: Suppose the two letters received are (a, b) and (c, d). Read as a label they give grades a, c, b, d; read as a plain word they give a, b, c, d. These agree exactly when b = c, that is when the second grade equals the third in either reading. So week 2 and week 3 must be equal; nothing else is required.

Why the other options are wrong:

(B) Weeks 1 and 4 equal — looks for a symmetry between the outer weeks; in fact weeks 1 and 4 come from the same digits in both readings, so they never cause a difference (wrong positions compared).

(C) Two letters the same — confuses 'the reading does not matter' with 'the message repeats a letter'; BH, for instance, gives 1, 2, 2, 3 in both readings with two different letters (sufficient condition taken as necessary).

(D) All four equal — sufficient but not necessary: grades 1, 2, 2, 3 (message BH) also read the same both ways (sufficient condition taken as necessary).

Topic / sub-skill: Synthesis — Coding Decoding (structure of the fold) + Conclusions (necessary condition)

Difficulty: Very Hard — an algebraic comparison of the two readings is needed.

24. Answer: (C) (i) and (ii) only

Explanation: (i) Week-3 grades: Alur 2, Bodhan 3, Chandur 1, Dharur 3, Elkurthi 4, Farooqnagar 4 — exactly two unsafe. True. (ii) Week-4 grades: 1 + 5 + 2 + 1 + 5 = 14, plus Farooqnagar's 3 or 5, giving 17 or 19 — odd either way. True. (iii) Farooqnagar's week 4 may

be 3. Not certain. (iv) Elkurthi's grades 1, 2, 4, 5 have week 2 ≠ week 3, so the two readings differ (DJ read plainly gives 1, 4, 2, 5). False.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) (ii) only — decodes Dharur as a label (week 3 = 4), giving three unsafe pumps in week 3 (unfolded message not corrected).

(B) (i), (ii) and (iii) — assumes Farooqnagar's week-4 grade is 5 (possible taken as certain).

(D) (ii) and (iii) only — combines both errors: Dharur uncorrected and Farooqnagar's week 4 assumed to be 5.

Topic / sub-skill: Synthesis — capstone (Coding Decoding + Conclusions)

Difficulty: Very Hard — each statement re-uses a different decoded or derived fact.



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