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daily QT

SECTIONAL TEST

98

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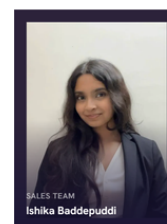
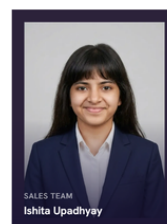
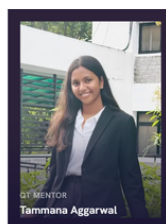
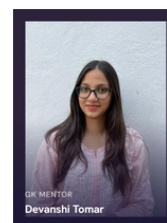
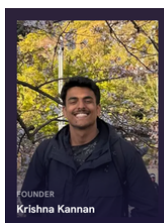
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MENTORS' NOTE

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.

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DAILY QT

Passage 1 (Questions 1–6)

Anantpur Handloom Weavers' Cooperative buys raw cotton yarn in bulk, dyes and weaves it into cloth, and sells through a retail counter, a wholesale arm, and a small export desk. Procurement costs shift through the season — mid-year raw-material price revisions are common — and the cooperative runs periodic promotional schemes, including bulk “buy-and-get-free” offers, to move stock across its channels. Occasionally a consignment is damaged in transit between the weaving unit and a channel warehouse; the cooperative carries a standing transit-insurance policy that reimburses a fixed proportion of the cost of any such damaged stock. Cloth also sometimes moves through a resale chain before reaching a customer — the cooperative sells to an intermediate distributor, who folds in handling costs and adds a margin before a retailer applies a further margin of its own. Throughout this passage, profit and loss percentages are always calculated on cost price, and every discount is always calculated on the marked price, unless a question states otherwise.

Q1. The cooperative buys a particular cotton-silk blend at a cost price of ₹200 per metre and marks it up by 50% to fix its listed retail price. During a festive week, the retail counter runs a “buy 4 metres, get 1 metre free” scheme at this listed price. A customer buys under this scheme. What is the cooperative's actual profit percentage on this transaction, once the cost of the free metre is properly accounted for?

- (A) 50%
- (B) $16\frac{2}{3}\%$
- (C) 30%
- (D) 20%

Q2. The cooperative needs a bulk supply of a particular grey base-cloth and is comparing two suppliers. Supplier Priya Textiles sells the cloth in standard bolts of 20 metres for a flat ₹2,500 per bolt, with free doorstep delivery. Supplier Quality Fabrics sells the same cloth in larger bolts of 50 metres for ₹8,000 per bolt, but charges a flat ₹1,000 delivery fee per bolt on

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top. By what percentage does Quality Fabrics' effective per-metre rate exceed Priya Textiles' per-metre rate?

- (A) 28%
- (B) 44%
- (C) $30\frac{5}{9}\%$
- (D) 260%

Q3. A separate trading arm of the cooperative buys raw (un-dyed) yarn at a true cost price of ₹100 per kilogram and marks it up by 60% to fix a listed price per “kilogram” sold. During a clearance sale, this listed price is discounted successively by 10% and then a further 5%. It later comes to light that the weighing balance used at this trading arm has been tampered with: every unit sold as “1 kilogram” is actually only 800 grams of yarn. Accounting for both the successive discounts and the short weight, find the trading arm's overall gain percentage on the true cost of the yarn actually dispensed.

- (A) 36.8%
- (B) 9.44%
- (C) 71%
- (D) 70%

Q4. Another product line has a raw-material cost of ₹800 per unit and a fixed packaging cost of ₹40 per unit that does not vary with raw-material prices. The cooperative always offers a standing 25% discount off its marked price on this line, and always targets a 20% profit on total cost price (raw material plus packaging). Partway through the season, the raw-material cost alone rises by 10%; the packaging cost stays unchanged. What must the new marked price be, to continue meeting the same 20%-on-cost profit target after the standing 25% discount?

- (A) ₹1,472

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- (B) ₹1,344
- (C) ₹1,478.40
- (D) ₹1,350.40

Q5. A consignment of finished cloth with a total cost price of ₹50,000 is dispatched to the export desk. In transit, 30% of the consignment (by cost) is damaged beyond sale. The cooperative's standing transit-insurance policy reimburses 60% of the cost of any damaged stock. The remaining, undamaged 70% of the consignment is sold at a profit of 20% on its own cost price. Taking both the insurance reimbursement and the sale of the undamaged stock into account, find the cooperative's overall profit or loss percentage on the total original cost price of the consignment.

- (A) Loss of 16%
- (B) 44% profit
- (C) 1.96% profit
- (D) 2% profit

Q6. A length of cloth passes through a three-stage resale chain. The cooperative sells it to a distributor at a profit of 25% on the cooperative's own cost price. The distributor incurs a further flat handling cost of ₹50 on the piece, and marks up the resulting total (purchase price plus handling cost) by 20% to fix a marked price. The distributor then sells to a retailer at a 10% discount off this marked price. The retailer, in turn, adds a margin of 25% on what it paid the distributor to arrive at the final price charged to the end customer, which comes to ₹1,755. What was the cooperative's own original cost price for this piece of cloth?

- (A) ₹1,040
- (B) ₹1,000
- (C) ₹990
- (D) ₹1,260

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Passage 2 (Questions 7–12)

Meherbaan Pharmacy Chain runs three branches — M, H and B — that share bulk medicine stock, jointly fund central purchases of common drugs, and periodically welcome new branches into the network as the chain expands. Stock arrives from the central warehouse in standard cartons whose size (units per carton) differs from branch to branch, since each branch stocks a different pack format suited to its own footprint. Branches also run their own retail promotions, including bulk “buy-and-get-free” schemes on fast-moving items, and each branch periodically earns a share of a chain-wide performance bonus pool, ordinarily split by each branch's own sales revenue. Occasionally a consignment bought jointly by the three branches in agreed proportions is affected by transit damage at one branch's own end; the chain's transit-insurance policy reimburses a fixed proportion of that branch's own cost in such cases. Unless a question states otherwise, profit and loss percentages below are calculated on cost price, and each branch's figures are independent of the other branches' inventories.

Q7. Branches M, H and B currently hold a common fast-moving medicine in the ratio 5 : 3 : 2, together totalling 2,000 units. A fourth branch, D, is now added to the network and is to be allotted 20% of the total 2,000 units from the existing stock — without any fresh stock being ordered. The stock given up by M, H and B is taken from each of them in a way that preserves their original 5 : 3 : 2 ratio among themselves on the remaining 1,600 units. How many units does Branch M give up to Branch D?

- (A) 400 units
- (B) $133\frac{1}{3}$ units
- (C) 200 units
- (D) $166\frac{2}{3}$ units

Q8. In a given quarter, Branch M sells 600 units of a product at ₹250 each, Branch H sells 500 units at ₹200 each, and Branch B sells 800 units at ₹250 each. A quarterly bonus pool of

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₹90,000 is ordinarily split among the three branches in the ratio of their sales revenue for the quarter. However, the branch with the single highest revenue this quarter is additionally awarded a bonus top-up equal to 10% of its own (ordinary) share, and this top-up is funded by proportionately reducing the ordinary shares of the other two branches, in the ratio of their own ordinary shares. What is Branch H's final bonus for the quarter?

- (A) ₹18,400
- (B) ₹20,000
- (C) ₹18,000
- (D) ₹16,400

Q9. Medicine stock arrives at the three branches in standard cartons whose sizes differ: Branch M's carton holds 15 units, Branch H's holds 10 units, and Branch B's holds 25 units. In a particular month, the branches receive cartons in the ratio 6 : 5 : 4 (M : H : B), and the total number of units received across all three branches that month is 2,400. Considering the actual number of UNITS (not cartons) each branch received, find the number of CARTONS received by the branch with the second-highest unit count that month.

- (A) 50 cartons
- (B) 900 cartons
- (C) 90 cartons
- (D) 60 cartons

Q10. The chain's central warehouse holds 3,000 units of a fast-moving over-the-counter medicine, split among branches X, Y and Z in the ratio 7 : 5 : 3. Branch X, which receives the largest share, sells its entire allotment through a “buy 6, get 1 free” promotional scheme. The medicine has a cost price of ₹40 per unit, and Branch X's listed selling price (at which the “buy 6” units are actually billed) is fixed at a 75% markup over cost price. Branch X's full allotment divides exactly into complete “buy 6, get 1 free” sets, with none left over. Find

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Branch X's actual profit percentage on this promotional sale, taking into account the cost of every unit dispensed, including the free ones.

- (A) 75%
- (B) 50%
- (C) $33\frac{1}{3}\%$
- (D) Loss of 75%

Q11. The three branches jointly fund central bulk purchases of a common medicine, sharing the total cost in the fixed funding ratio 4 : 3 : 5 (M : H : B) regardless of how much stock each branch later draws. In the first half of the year, 2,000 units are bought at a cost price of ₹60 per unit. Midway through the year, the supplier raises the cost price by 15%, and a further 1,500 units are bought in the second half of the year at this new, higher price. Based on the branches' fixed funding ratio applied to the FULL year's total outlay, what is Branch H's liability for the year?

- (A) ₹52,500
- (B) ₹60,375
- (C) ₹55,875
- (D) ₹93,125

Q12. A consignment of a specialised medicine, with a total cost price of ₹1,00,000, is funded jointly by branches M, H and B under the following conditions: Branch H's share of the cost price is ₹10,000 more than Branch B's share, and Branch M's share is exactly three times Branch B's share. In transit, Branch M's entire share of the consignment is damaged beyond sale; the chain's insurance policy reimburses 70% of Branch M's own cost. Branch H sells its share at a profit of 25% on its own cost price, and Branch B sells its share at a profit of 20% on its own cost price. Taking the insurance reimbursement and both branches' sales into account, find the overall profit or loss percentage on the total ₹1,00,000 original cost price of the consignment.

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- (A) Loss of 5.6%
- (B) Loss of 43.4%
- (C) Profit of 8.7%
- (D) Loss of 5.93%



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ANSWER KEY

Question 1

Correct answer: (D) 20%

Under “buy 4, get 1 free”, a customer receives 5 metres of cloth but pays the listed price for only 4. Listed price = $CP \times 1.5 = ₹200 \times 1.5 = ₹300$ per metre. Revenue collected = $4 \times ₹300 = ₹1,200$. The cooperative's TRUE cost, however, is for all 5 metres actually handed over (the free metre is not free to the cooperative) = $5 \times ₹200 = ₹1,000$. Profit = $₹1,200 - ₹1,000 = ₹200$. Profit % on cost price = $200/1,000 \times 100 = 20\%$.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) 50% — Ignored the free unit's added cost, mistaking markup% for profit%. This treats the transaction as if only 4 metres were ever given out, so profit% collapses to the markup% (50%) with no freebie penalty at all.

(B) $16\frac{2}{3}\%$ — Computed profit% on selling price instead of cost price. $200/1,200 \times 100 = 16\frac{2}{3}\%$. Profit percentage in this chapter is always taken on cost price, never on the realised revenue.

(C) 30% — Treated the freebie fraction as a flat subtraction from the markup%. $50\% - (1/5 \times 100\%) = 30\%$ is not a valid operation — the free unit's cost must be rebuilt into the total cost base and re-divided, not subtracted from the markup rate.

Topic / sub-skill: Profit, Loss and Discount — bulk “buy-n-get-k-free” promotional scheme converted into a true cost-and-revenue recalculation (fresh sub-skill for this cohort)

Difficulty: Hard — one clean implicit step (recognising the free unit still costs the seller) with a classic SP-vs-CP base trap layered on top.

Question 2

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Correct answer: (B) 44%

Priya Textiles: ₹2,500 ÷ 20 m = ₹125/m (free delivery, no adjustment needed). Quality

Fabrics: total cost per bolt = ₹8,000 + ₹1,000 delivery = ₹9,000; per-metre rate = ₹9,000 ÷ 50 = ₹180/m. “By what % does Quality Fabrics exceed Priya Textiles” — the base for a “more than” comparison is always the quantity being compared AGAINST, i.e. Priya's rate (₹125).
% more = $(180 - 125)/125 \times 100 = 55/125 \times 100 = 44\%$.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) 28% — Forgot to add the delivery charge to Quality Fabrics' cost. Using only ₹8,000 ÷ 50 = ₹160/m gives $(160 - 125)/125 = 28\%$, silently dropping the stated ₹1,000 delivery fee.

(C) 30 5/9 % — Used the wrong (larger) quantity as the base. $(180 - 125)/180 \times 100 = 30\ 5/9\%$ divides by Quality Fabrics' own rate instead of Priya's — the classic “more than” base-shift error.

(D) 260% — Compared total bolt prices directly, ignoring the different bolt sizes. $(9,000 - 2,500)/2,500 \times 100 = 260\%$ treats two differently-sized bundles as directly comparable — a rate comparison always needs a common (per-metre) unit first.

Topic / sub-skill: Profit, Loss and Discount / unit-cost economics — common-quantity (CP-per-unit) scaling trick with a flat charge that must be apportioned before comparison (fresh sub-skill)

Difficulty: Hard — the flat delivery fee must be correctly apportioned per metre before any comparison is valid, and the base-shift trap sits directly on top of that.

Question 3

Correct answer: (C) 71%

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Marked price = $CP \times 1.6 = ₹100 \times 1.6 = ₹160/\text{kg}$ (claimed). After two successive discounts:
 $SP = 160 \times 0.90 \times 0.95 = ₹136.80$ per “kilogram” billed. But the balance is short: every “1 kg” billed is actually only 800 g. The TRUE cost of what is actually dispensed per billed unit = $₹100 \times 0.8 = ₹80$ (not ₹100, since only 800 g of the ₹100/kg yarn is handed over). Gain = $136.80 - 80 = ₹56.80$. Gain % on true cost = $56.80/80 \times 100 = 71\%$.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) 36.8% — Ignored the false weight entirely. $(136.80 - 100)/100 \times 100 = 36.8\%$ — this is the gain if the balance were honest and a full true kilogram were actually handed over each time.

(B) 9.44% — Applied the short-weight adjustment to the selling price instead of the cost price. Scaling SP down by 0.8 instead of scaling the cost base down gives $(136.80 \times 0.8 - 100)/100 = 9.44\%$ — the short weight benefits the seller by REDUCING true cost, not by reducing revenue.

(D) 70% — Combined the two successive discounts additively instead of multiplicatively. Taking a flat 15% off ($160 \times 0.85 = 136$) instead of compounding 10% then 5% ($160 \times 0.9 \times 0.95 = 136.80$) gives $(136 - 80)/80 = 70\%$ — very close to the correct 71%, and a dangerous near-miss for anyone who has not fully internalised that successive discounts multiply.

Topic / sub-skill: Profit, Loss and Discount — dishonest-dealer false weight fused with a markup-and-TWO-successive-discounts chain (four-layer extension of the textbook's single-discount false-weight case)

Difficulty: Elite — four combined operations (markup, two compounding discounts, and a weighing-instrument short-weight) must all be sequenced correctly, with a genuinely tempting near-miss distractor.

Question 4

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Correct answer: (A) ₹1,472

Original cost price = raw material + packaging = ₹800 + ₹40 = ₹840 (packaging does not change with the hike). After the hike, raw material = ₹800 × 1.10 = ₹880; new total cost price = ₹880 + ₹40 = ₹920 (packaging stays at ₹40 — it is fixed, not proportional). Required SP for a 20% profit on this new cost = ₹920 × 1.20 = ₹1,104. Since this SP must itself be 75% of the new marked price (a standing 25% discount off MP), $MP \times 0.75 = 1,104$, so $MP = 1,104 \div 0.75 = ₹1,472$.

Why the other options are wrong:

(B) ₹1,344 — Forgot to apply the raw-material hike at all. Rebuilding MP from the OLD cost price ($₹840 \times 1.2 \div 0.75 = ₹1,344$) ignores the stated 10% rise entirely.

(C) ₹1,478.40 — Wrongly scaled the ENTIRE old marked price by the hike percentage. $₹1,344 \times 1.10 = ₹1,478.40$ assumes the whole cost base (including the FIXED packaging cost) scales with the hike — but packaging is explicitly stated not to change, so this shortcut is invalid. It is deliberately close to the correct ₹1,472.

(D) ₹1,350.40 — Applied the 10% hike to the packaging cost instead of the raw-material cost. Swapping which cost component absorbs the hike (raw material stays ₹800, packaging becomes ₹44) gives a new cost of ₹844, and $MP = 844 \times 1.2 \div 0.75 = ₹1,350.40$ — the wrong component was escalated.

Topic / sub-skill: Profit, Loss and Discount — CP-changes-then-fresh-target-margin chaining, with a fixed (non-scaling) cost component that breaks the naive “just scale everything by the hike%” shortcut

Difficulty: Elite — deliberately engineered so that a purely proportional shortcut (which would work if ALL costs scaled with the hike) produces a very close but wrong answer; only correctly isolating the fixed packaging cost survives.

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Question 5

Correct answer: (D) 2% profit

Damaged cost = $30\% \times ₹50,000 = ₹15,000$. Insurance reimburses 60% of THIS damaged cost = ₹9,000 (not 60% of the whole consignment). Undamaged cost = $₹50,000 - ₹15,000 = ₹35,000$, sold at 20% profit $\rightarrow$ revenue = $₹35,000 \times 1.20 = ₹42,000$. Total money recovered = insurance + sale revenue = $₹9,000 + ₹42,000 = ₹51,000$. Profit = $₹51,000 - ₹50,000$ (the ORIGINAL total outlay) = ₹1,000. Profit % on original cost = $1,000/50,000 \times 100 = 2\%$.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) Loss of 16% — Ignored the insurance recovery entirely. Counting only the ₹42,000 sale revenue against the full ₹50,000 outlay gives a loss of ₹8,000, i.e. 16% — treating the damaged stock as a total, unrecovered write-off.

(B) 44% profit — Applied the 60% insurance rate to the FULL original cost price instead of only the damaged portion. $60\% \times 50,000 = ₹30,000$ (instead of the correct ₹9,000) inflates the insurance recovery hugely, since the policy only covers the damaged 30% of the consignment, not the whole thing.

(C) 1.96% profit — Computed profit % on the total realised amount instead of on the original cost price. $1,000/51,000 \times 100 = 1.96\%$ — profit % must always be taken on cost price (₹50,000), not on whatever was eventually recovered (₹51,000). A dangerously close near-miss to the correct 2%.

Topic / sub-skill: Profit, Loss and Discount — partial-write-off-with-partial-insurance-recovery (fresh sub-skill: distinct from a total, zero-revenue write-off)

Difficulty: Elite — thin genuine margin (2%) surrounded by a very close, conceptually-tempting near-miss (1.96%) that tests the CP-vs-realised-total base rule precisely.

Question 6

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Correct answer: (B) ₹1,000

Work backward from the final price, undoing each stage in reverse order. Retailer's own margin (25% on what it paid the distributor): $₹1,755 \div 1.25 = ₹1,404$ — this is what the retailer paid the distributor (i.e. the distributor's post-discount price). Reverse the distributor's 10% discount off its marked price: $₹1,404 \div 0.90 = ₹1,560$ — this is the distributor's marked price. Reverse the distributor's 20% markup on (purchase price + handling): $₹1,560 \div 1.20 = ₹1,300$ — this is the distributor's purchase price PLUS its ₹50 handling cost. Subtract the flat ₹50 handling cost: $₹1,300 - ₹50 = ₹1,250$ — this is what the distributor paid the cooperative. Finally, reverse the cooperative's own 25% profit margin: $₹1,250 \div 1.25 = ₹1,000$ — the cooperative's original cost price.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) ₹1,040 — Forgot to net out the distributor's folded-in handling cost before reversing the manufacturer's margin. Skipping the “– ₹50” step and dividing ₹1,300 directly by 1.25 gives ₹1,040 — the handling cost never gets removed from the chain.

(C) ₹990 — Subtracted the handling cost at the wrong point in the reverse chain. Dividing by 1.25 first ($₹1,300 \div 1.25 = ₹1,040$) and THEN subtracting ₹50 gives ₹990 — the handling cost must be removed BEFORE reversing the cooperative's margin, since it was added before the distributor's own markup, not after.

(D) ₹1,260 — Forgot to reverse the retailer's own margin, treating the stated final price as the distributor's ex-warehouse price directly. Starting the reverse chain at $₹1,755 \div 0.90$ (skipping the $\div 1.25$ retailer-margin step) misidentifies which party's price the ₹1,755 actually represents.

Topic / sub-skill: Profit, Loss and Discount — three-stage resale chain (manufacturer margin → folded flat handling cost → markup → discount → a THIRD party's own margin) reverse-solved for the original cost price

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Difficulty: Elite — five correctly-ordered reverse operations, with a genuine trap on exactly where in the sequence the flat (non-percentage) handling cost must be removed.

Question 7

Correct answer: (C) 200 units

Original stock: $M : H : B = 5 : 3 : 2$ on a total of 2,000, so $M = 1,000$, $H = 600$, $B = 400$.

Branch D is allotted 20% of 2,000 = 400 units. The remaining 1,600 units are re-split among M, H and B preserving their ORIGINAL 5 : 3 : 2 ratio: M's new share = $1,600 \times \frac{5}{10} = 800$.
M's reduction = original 1,000 – new 800 = 200 units.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) 400 units — Reported Branch D's total gain as if it were Branch M's individual loss. D's allotment (400 units) is the SUM of what all three branches give up, not what M alone gives up.

(B) $133\frac{1}{3}$ units — Split the 400-unit reduction equally among the three branches. $400 \div 3 = 133\frac{1}{3}$ ignores that the reduction must be proportional to each branch's ORIGINAL 5:3:2 share, not an equal three-way split.

(D) $166\frac{2}{3}$ units — Assumed a wrong four-part ratio (5 : 3 : 2 : 2) instead of correctly reserving D's share off the top first. Treating D as simply a fourth ratio term equal to B's part ($2000 \times \frac{5}{12} = 833\frac{1}{3}$, reduction = $166\frac{2}{3}$) misreads the problem — D's share is fixed at exactly 20% of the total, not a new ratio term.

Topic / sub-skill: Ratio and Proportion — proportional dilution of an existing multi-way ratio when a new party joins, preserving relative shares among the original parties (fresh sub-skill)

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Difficulty: Hard — requires recognising that only the REMAINING 1,600 units re-split in the original ratio, and correctly isolating one branch's own reduction rather than the new branch's total gain.

Question 8

Correct answer: (A) ₹18,400

Revenue: M = $600 \times 250 = ₹1,50,000$; H = $500 \times 200 = ₹1,00,000$; B = $800 \times 250 = ₹2,00,000$.

Ratio 1,50,000 : 1,00,000 : 2,00,000 = 3 : 2 : 4 (dividing by 50,000), sum of parts = 9.

Ordinary shares of ₹90,000: M = 30,000; H = 20,000; B = 40,000. Branch B has the highest revenue, so B gets a top-up of 10% of its own ordinary share = ₹4,000, funded by M and H in the ratio of THEIR OWN ordinary shares (30,000 : 20,000 = 3 : 2). H's reduction = $4,000 \times \frac{2}{5} = ₹1,600$. H's final bonus = $20,000 - 1,600 = ₹18,400$.

Why the other options are wrong:

(B) ₹20,000 — Reported H's ordinary (pre-adjustment) share, forgetting the funding deduction. ₹20,000 is correct only before the top-up funding is deducted from H's share.

(C) ₹18,000 — Split the ₹4,000 funding requirement equally between M and H instead of proportionally. $4,000 \div 2 = 2,000$ deducted from H ($20,000 - 2,000 = 18,000$) ignores that the funding must follow M and H's OWN ordinary-share ratio (3:2), not an equal split.

(D) ₹16,400 — Applied the 10% top-up to the ENTIRE bonus pool instead of only to B's own share. 10% of ₹90,000 = ₹9,000 (instead of the correct ₹4,000, which is 10% of B's own ₹40,000 share) inflates the funding requirement, deducting $9,000 \times \frac{2}{5} = 3,600$ from H instead of 1,600.

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Topic / sub-skill: Ratio and Proportion — a ratio implicitly derived from raw sales data (price $\times$ quantity), followed by an asymmetric top-performer adjustment funded proportionally by the remaining parties (fresh sub-skill: the base ratio is never stated directly)

Difficulty: Elite — the governing ratio must first be built from raw revenue figures (an implicit step), and the funding adjustment must correctly use the SAME derived ratio a second time, on a different base.

Question 9

Correct answer: (D) 60 cartons

Let the common carton-ratio multiplier be k , so cartons are $M = 6k$, $H = 5k$, $B = 4k$. Units received: $M = 6k \times 15 = 90k$; $H = 5k \times 10 = 50k$; $B = 4k \times 25 = 100k$. Total units = $90k + 50k + 100k = 240k = 2,400$, so $k = 10$. Units: $M = 900$, $H = 500$, $B = 1,000$. Ranking by UNITS: B (1,000) is highest, M (900) is second-highest, H (500) is lowest. (Note this order differs from the carton-count order, where $M > H > B$.) The question asks for the number of CARTONS at the branch with the second-highest UNIT count, i.e. Branch M : cartons = $6k = 60$.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) 50 cartons — Assumed the second-highest branch by CARTON count is also second-highest by units. By raw carton count, the order is $M (6k) > H (5k) > B (4k)$, so a student who never converts to units and just picks the “second” branch reports H 's carton count ($5k=50$) — but the actual UNIT ranking is different.

(B) 900 cartons — Correctly identified Branch M as second-highest by units, but reported its UNIT count instead of its carton count. 900 is M 's unit total, not the number of cartons — the question specifically asks for cartons.

(C) 90 cartons — Divided Branch M 's units by the wrong branch's carton size. $900 \div 10$ (Branch H 's carton size, not M 's own 15) = 90 wrongly mixes carton sizes across branches.

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Topic / sub-skill: Ratio and Proportion — count-ratio to unit-ratio conversion via differing per-branch unit sizes, with a re-ranking trap (the carton-count order and the unit-count order are deliberately different)

Difficulty: Elite — the ranking by cartons and the ranking by units genuinely diverge, so the question cannot be answered by identifying “the second branch” from the given ratio alone; the full unit conversion must be done first.

Question 10

Correct answer: (B) 50%

Branch X's share = $3,000 \times 7/15 = 1,400$ units. Under “buy 6, get 1 free”, each complete set dispenses 7 units for the price of 6; $1,400 \div 7 = 200$ complete sets exactly. Paid units = $200 \times 6 = 1,200$; free units = $200 \times 1 = 200$ (total 1,400, matching the full allotment). Listed price = $CP \times 1.75 = ₹40 \times 1.75 = ₹70/\text{unit}$. Revenue = $1,200 \times ₹70 = ₹84,000$. TRUE total cost of everything dispensed (paid + free) = $1,400 \times ₹40 = ₹56,000$. Profit = $84,000 - 56,000 = ₹28,000$. Profit % on true cost = $28,000/56,000 \times 100 = 50\%$.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) 75% — Ignored the cost of the free units, using cost price for only the paid units. $(84,000 - 1,200 \times 40)/(1,200 \times 40) = 36,000/48,000 \times 100 = 75\%$, which collapses to exactly the markup percentage — the same error as ignoring a freebie's real cost.

(C) 33⅓% — Computed profit % on revenue (selling price) instead of on true cost price. $28,000/84,000 \times 100 = 33⅓\%$ uses the wrong base — profit % is always on cost, not on what was actually billed.

(D) Loss of 75% — Swapped which quantity is paid-for and which is free. Treating 200 units as paid (revenue = $200 \times 70 = 14,000$) against the full 1,400-unit cost of ₹56,000 gives a large apparent loss of 75%, reversing the scheme's actual structure.

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Topic / sub-skill: Ratio and Proportion (total-plus-ratio split) → Profit, Loss and Discount (bulk promotional-scheme profit%). Synthesis.

Difficulty: Elite synthesis — the ratio-derived quantity (1,400) must divide EXACTLY into complete promotional sets before the profit calculation is even valid, adding a built-in consistency check.

Synthesis: Ratio and Proportion + Profit, Loss and Discount. The Ratio-chapter total-plus-ratio split (7:5:3 of 3,000) fixes EXACTLY how many units Branch X is working with (1,400) before the PLD-chapter bonus-scheme profit calculation can even be set up — neither technique alone determines the answer.

Question 11

Correct answer: (C) ₹55,875

First-half outlay = 2,000 units × ₹60 = ₹1,20,000. Hiked cost price = ₹60 × 1.15 = ₹69/unit.
Second-half outlay = 1,500 units × ₹69 = ₹1,03,500. Full year's total outlay = 1,20,000 + 1,03,500 = ₹2,23,500. Funding ratio M : H : B = 4 : 3 : 5, sum of parts = 12. Branch H's liability = 2,23,500 × 3/12 = ₹55,875.

Why the other options are wrong:

(A) ₹52,500 — Forgot the mid-year price hike entirely. Using ₹60/unit for BOTH halves gives a total outlay of ₹2,10,000, and H's share = 2,10,000 × 3/12 = ₹52,500 — the stated 15% hike is dropped completely.

(B) ₹60,375 — Applied the hiked price to the FIRST half's purchase as well as the second. Treating the entire year's 3,500 units as bought at ₹69/unit gives a total outlay of ₹2,41,500, and H's share = 2,41,500 × 3/12 = ₹60,375 — the hike is wrongly back-applied to units bought BEFORE it took effect.

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(D) ₹93,125 — Used the wrong ratio part for Branch H. $2,23,500 \times 5/12 = ₹93,125$ applies Branch B's ratio part (5) to Branch H by mistake.

Topic / sub-skill: Profit, Loss and Discount (two-period cost hike, total outlay) → Ratio and Proportion (fixed capital-ratio liability split). Synthesis.

Difficulty: Elite synthesis — two genuinely different per-unit costs across two different purchase quantities must be correctly combined into one total before the ratio split is even meaningful.

Synthesis: Profit, Loss and Discount + Ratio and Proportion. The PLD-chapter mid-year cost hike fixes the full year's TOTAL outlay (two different per-unit costs across two purchase batches) before the Ratio-chapter fixed CAPITAL-ratio split can be applied to that combined figure — a straightforward capital-ratio split (no time-weighting), deliberately different from every prior capital/time fusion this cohort has seen.

Question 12

Correct answer: (A) Loss of 5.6%

Let Branch B's share = b . Then $H = b + 10,000$, and $M = 3b$. Total: $3b + (b+10,000) + b = 5b + 10,000 = 1,00,000$, so $b = ₹18,000$. Hence $B = ₹18,000$, $H = ₹28,000$, $M = ₹54,000$. Branch M's entire ₹54,000 is damaged; insurance reimburses 70% of it = ₹37,800. Branch H sells at 25% profit: revenue = $28,000 \times 1.25 = ₹35,000$. Branch B sells at 20% profit: revenue = $18,000 \times 1.20 = ₹21,600$. Total realised = $37,800 + 35,000 + 21,600 = ₹94,400$. Loss = $1,00,000 - 94,400 = ₹5,600$. Loss % on the original total cost price = $5,600 / 1,00,000 \times 100 = 5.6\%$.

Why the other options are wrong:

(B) Loss of 43.4% — Ignored the insurance recovery entirely, treating Branch M's share as a total, unrecovered write-off. Total realised = $0 + 35,000 + 21,600 = ₹56,600$;

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loss = 43,400, i.e. 43.4% — the stated 70% insurance reimbursement is dropped completely.

(C) Profit of 8.7% — Swapped which relational condition applies to which branch. Assigning $M = B + 10,000$ and $H = 3B$ instead ($M=28,000$, $H=54,000$) flips which branch's larger share gets the insurance-cushioned write-off instead of the higher profit rate, turning the correct net loss into an apparent 8.7% profit.

(D) Loss of 5.93% — Computed the loss % on the total realised amount instead of on the original total cost price. $5,600/94,400 \times 100 = 5.93\%$ uses the wrong base — profit/loss % must always be taken on the original cost price (₹1,00,000), not on whatever was eventually recovered. A close, dangerous near-miss.

Topic / sub-skill: Ratio and Proportion (x-method three-way CP split from relational, non-total conditions) → Profit, Loss and Discount (partial insurance recovery + two independent profit percentages, CP-weighted). Synthesis.

Difficulty: Elite synthesis — five chained inferences (solve the algebra → identify the damaged share → apply insurance correctly → compute two independent profit legs → weight everything back against the ORIGINAL total, not the realised total) with a genuine sign-flip distractor.

Synthesis: Ratio and Proportion + Profit, Loss and Discount. The three branches' individual cost-price shares do not exist until the stated relational (x-method) conditions — a flat difference for H and a multiple for M, both against B — are solved; only then can PLD's insurance-recovery-on-damaged-stock mechanic (for M) and ordinary profit percentages (for H and B) be combined into one overall %.

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