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English for Competitive Exams Module 13 – SSC & Bank Exams

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Read the short passage below of English for Competitive Exams Module 13. Pay special attention to the highlighted words and phrases. Then read the discussion below.

English for Competitive Exams Module 13 - PASSAGE

Another hypothesis is known as critical-limit **hypothesis**, and concerned with the tolerance level of taxation, was **enunciated** by the British economist Colin Clark immediately after the World War II. Analysis of the **empirical** data of several western countries for the inter-war period results in the critical-limit hypothesis that when the government sector taxes and other receipts exceeds 25 per cent of aggregate economic activities, inflation necessarily arises, even when the budget is balance. Clark **lays down** that when government tax system extricates increasing proportions of additional income from taxpayers, _____, people become less resistant to inflationary methods of government financing.

DISCUSSION

Hypothesis

- This is a noun, which means ‘a supposition or proposed explanation’.



- The word has been derived from the Greek word 'hupethesis' meaning foundation.
- The word is formed from two words: 'hupo' (under) + 'thesis' (placing).
- The plural form of the word is '**hypotheses**'.
- It does not follow the usual rule of adding 's' at the end of the word to make it plural.

E.g. The detective's initial hypothesis turned out to be true.

Lay down

The meanings of lay down are the following:

1. To give up and surrender
2. To specify
3. To place carefully
4. To store for the future

In which sense has the phrase been used here?

Ans: 2

Solution: Colin Clark specified in detail about his hypothesis. Thus, option 2 is the correct answer.

E.g. The burglar finally laid down his guns in front of the police.

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