



MOCK COMMON LAW ADMISSION TEST 2025-26

MOCK CLAT [NPLC/202506/126]

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Duration of Test: 2 Hours (120 Minutes)

Maximum Marks: 120

1. Detach and keep the carbon-copy OMR response sheet that comes with the question booklet; this is your only answer sheet.
2. If you spot any defect in your question booklet, immediately ask the invigilator for a replacement set along with a fresh OMR sheet—do not reuse the previous OMR.
3. Only one blank OMR sheet will be provided under any circumstance, so treat it carefully and avoid damage.
4. Answer every question; no queries or clarifications about the question paper will be entertained during the exam.
5. Electronic gadgets (phones, smartwatches, etc.) are strictly forbidden inside the examination hall.
6. Any attempt at using unfair means will lead to cancellation of your exam.
7. Impersonation is a serious offense: it results in disqualification and possible legal action.
8. The exam comprises 120 multiple-choice questions for a total of 120 marks; note that 0.25 marks are deducted for each incorrect answer or if more than one option is shaded.
9. Use only a black or blue ballpoint pen to fill in your roll number and other identification details on the OMR sheet.
10. Shade the chosen answer circle completely (with black/blue pen), selecting exactly one option per question—partial or multiple shading invalidates the response.
11. Since responses on the OMR cannot be erased or changed, be sure before you mark any circle.

12. Retain your admit card, duly signed by the invigilator; you will need to present it when required (e.g., at admission).
13. Handle the OMR sheet gently—do not fold it. Ensure both invigilators and you sign in the designated spaces. Also, write the question booklet number and the OMR sheet number as instructed, sign the attendance sheet, and after the exam, return the original OMR page to the invigilator. Only fill in information in the allotted fields—avoid any stray markings.
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SECTION-A: ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Passage 1: A new bride from Rajasthan's Balotra district flying to join her husband in London. A Bikaner businessman going to visit, for the first time in a decade, his family settled abroad. A doctor couple and their three young children, en route from Banswara to a much-dreamed-of new life. A 21-year-old flight attendant who belonged to strife-torn Manipur. A former chief minister on his way to visit his daughter. A medical student, in his hostel, eating lunch. They were among the over 240 lives cruelly cut short when a London-bound Air India flight crashed into a residential area in Ahmedabad on Thursday – a British national of Indian origin is the sole survivor. The video, showing the aircraft crashing into the hostel of BJ Medical College and Civil Hospital and exploding into a fireball, will remain scorched into a nation's memory.

The day after, an impartial inquiry — involving Indian authorities, Boeing and international regulators — must be the priority. Till now, the Boeing 787 Dreamliner, having flown over one billion passengers since its introduction in 2011, was considered to have a respectable safety record, even though technical issues like engine shutdowns, flight control failures, smoke in cabins and hydraulic leaks were flagged repeatedly. Quality control issues in 2019 forced the company to pause delivery of new aircraft between January 2021 and August 2022. A Boeing engineer filed a whistleblower complaint in 2024 with the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), alleging that it took shortcuts in the making of its 777 and 787 Dreamliner jets.

As India mourns, Air India and the Directorate General of Civil Aviation must act with urgency and transparency. Compensation, while necessary, is not a substitute for accountability. The bereaved deserve closure, they must not be left in the dark, as all too often happens in the aftermath of calamities. The disaster should serve as a wake-up call and draw attention to the structural problems that afflict India's aviation sector. There needs to be a rigorous check of the engineering departments of all Indian airlines. With Air India being one of the two dominant players in the market, there is inadequate pressure to continuously elevate standards of safety and upgrade quality. The DGCA lacks the wherewithal to effectively regulate a growing sector — it was only a few years ago that the aviation watchdog was awarded the power to impose fines on airlines. Aviation consultancy firm Capa India has warned that the shortage of pilots is growing more serious. Every effort must be made to uncover the causes, and to address them. That is the only meaningful tribute to those who boarded Air India Flight 171 but did not reach their destination.

[Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/editorials/express-view-after-the-ahmedabad-plane-crash-10065178/>]

1. What is the primary purpose of the passage?
 - A. To lament the human tragedy of the Air India crash and call for generous compensation.
 - B. To highlight pilot shortages in India's aviation sector and propose training initiatives.
 - C. To urge an impartial, transparent investigation into the crash and systemic safety reforms in India's aviation industry.
 - D. To critique Boeing's commercial strategies and recommend that India ban its aircraft.

2. In the line “The DGCA lacks the wherewithal to effectively regulate a growing sector,” the word **wherewithal** most nearly means:
- A. The necessary means or resources to do something.
 - B. The collective approval or consensus of stakeholders.
 - C. A formal ritual or procedure.
 - D. The legal authority granted by statute.
3. Which of the following words is closest in meaning to “**scorched**” as used in the passage (“...will remain scorched into a nation’s memory”)?
- A. Charred
 - B. Soaked
 - C. Frozen
 - D. Enveloped
4. DGCA : regulate :: Capa India : _____
- A. innovate
 - B. advise
 - C. warn
 - D. investigate
5. The author’s attitude toward compensation in the aftermath of the crash is best described as:
- A. Advocacy that compensation alone is sufficient redress for victims.
 - B. Scepticism that compensation can substitute for accountability and systemic reform.
 - C. Indifference to financial relief so long as safety improves.
 - D. Rejection of any compensation until inquiries conclude.
6. Which option best corrects the fragment “A doctor couple and their three young children, en route from Banswara to a much-dreamed-of new life,” into a complete, grammatical sentence?
- A. A doctor couple and their three young children are en route from Banswara to a much-dreamed-of new life.
 - B. A doctor and couple, with their three young children, en route from Banswara to a much-dreamed-of new life.
 - C. A doctor couple and their three young children, who were en route from Banswara to a much-dreamed-of new life.
 - D. A doctor couple and their three young children. They were en route from Banswara to a much-dreamed-of new life.

Passage 2: A reputation for political violence is one reason Northern Ireland has historically attracted fewer immigrants than the rest of the UK. In that context, increasing diversity could be read as a measure of progress; a peace dividend after the Troubles. That isn't how it has felt to families cowering in fear of racist mobs this week. The riots started in Ballymena, ostensibly triggered by the arrest of two boys, reported to be of Romanian origin, accused of sexually assaulting a teenage girl. A community vigil mutated into a racist rampage. Masked thugs targeted the local migrant population. When police came to quell the pogrom, officers were attacked with bricks, fireworks, petrol bombs. There was contagion. Windows were smashed and a fire started at a leisure centre in nearby Larne that had been used as a temporary refuge for those fleeing the Ballymena violence. There were outbreaks of disorder in other towns.

Leaders from across Northern Ireland's political spectrum have condemned the violence. But on the unionist side in particular, there has also been much leavening of opprobrium with reference to "legitimate" underlying grievances. Judiciously expressed, the complaint is that migration has been poorly managed, putting a strain on local services. In its more pungent iteration, it is the insinuation that new arrivals get preferential treatment, especially regarding housing.

Northern Ireland is the least diverse part of the UK. Immigrants make up about 3.4% of the population, compared with 18.3% in England and Wales, and 12.9% in Scotland. But that comparison belies relatively rapid and concentrated demographic change in places such as Ballymena. And while sectarian violence is no longer endemic, the Troubles cast a shadow of intercommunal suspicion that makes it harder for outsiders to integrate. There is also a developed infrastructure of far-right extremism that evolved through close ties to loyalist paramilitaries. Those are distinct Northern Irish inflections on a problem that is far from unique to the region. The escalation from a single spark to a conflagration of violent bigotry is grimly familiar from the rioting that erupted across the UK last summer. Then it was the murder of three young girls in Southport that became the pretext for a malevolent carnival of xenophobic rage. Then, too, it was possible to excavate a kernel of socioeconomic grievance from the ashes.

There are places across the UK where deprivation and social alienation, simmering for years, can be mobilised as racist violence. There is a line between acknowledging the social conditions that make such a danger possible and narrating those conditions in ways that make violence more likely. The boundary is not hard to see, which brings all the more shame on the politicians who routinely cross it.

[\[Source:https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2025/jun/13/the-guardian-view-on-riots-in-northern-ireland-racist-violence-does-not-express-legitimate-grievance\]](https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2025/jun/13/the-guardian-view-on-riots-in-northern-ireland-racist-violence-does-not-express-legitimate-grievance)

7. What is the primary purpose of the passage?
 - A. To celebrate Northern Ireland's growing diversity as evidence of post-Troubles peace.
 - B. To describe a series of violent riots against migrants and call out political complicity in stoking them.
 - C. To analyze the demographic trends in UK immigration and recommend integration policies.
 - D. To compare sectarian distrust in Northern Ireland with economic deprivation elsewhere.

8. In the sentence “But on the unionist side in particular, there has also been much leavening of opprobrium with reference to ‘legitimate’ underlying grievances,” the word leavening most nearly means:
- A. Dilution or weakening by introducing a lighter element.
 - B. Intensification through the addition of harsh criticism.
 - C. Masking or covering over with a superficial layer.
 - D. Transformation into a rigid or hardened state.
9. Which word is closest in meaning to “conflagration” as used in the passage (“...escalation from a single spark to a conflagration of violent bigotry...”)?
- A. Embers
 - B. Wildfire
 - C. Embellishment
 - D. Consecution
10. According to the passage, which of the following correctly lists the immigrant population percentages in Northern Ireland, England & Wales, and Scotland?
- A. 3.4% in Northern Ireland; 18.3% in England & Wales; 12.9% in Scotland
 - B. 3.4% in Northern Ireland; 12.9% in England & Wales; 18.3% in Scotland
 - C. 12.9% in Northern Ireland; 3.4% in England & Wales; 18.3% in Scotland
 - D. 18.3% in Northern Ireland; 12.9% in England & Wales; 3.4% in Scotland
11. The author draws a parallel between the Ballymena riots and the UK-wide disturbances last summer to illustrate that:
- A. socio-economic grievances invariably lead to peaceful protests when managed properly.
 - B. single incidents can rapidly ignite widespread xenophobic violence under similar social conditions.
 - C. political leaders consistently prevent riots by acknowledging community concerns.
 - D. sectarian and racial violence follow entirely different dynamics and cannot be compared.
12. How does the author view politicians who “routinely cross” the line between acknowledging social conditions and narrating them in ways that make violence more likely?
- A. As principled actors responsibly highlighting genuine public grievances.
 - B. As shameless opportunists whose rhetoric stokes violence for political gain.
 - C. As well-intentioned but misguided individuals unaware of the risks of their words.
 - D. As inevitable mediators who must sometimes provoke debate to spur reform.

Passage 3: In the long-running philosophical debate, about free will and determinism, it is often said that we cannot answer the question of whether we have free will unless we first decide what we mean by free will. Something similar is true when it comes to political freedom. So what is freedom? Is it “just another word for nothing left to lose”, as the song goes? Well, political philosophers often distinguish between negative freedom and positive freedom. Negative freedom is freedom from something. Positive freedom is freedom to do something. Sometimes different claims of freedom may conflict: I might feel that my desire to walk downtown without fear is threatened by your wish to carry an assault rifle. The extent and nature of the freedoms we should enjoy will always be very much a matter of debate and in this issue we can’t pretend to do anything more than scratch the surface.

Freedom is always contested. For example, here in Britain laws on demonstrations were drastically tightened by the last government, and now a law passed by Parliament last year to put a legal duty on universities to protect free speech has been binned by the incoming government, without debate and with no coherent justification given. The one constant is that if you want freedoms, you’ll have to demand them and make a lot of fuss – you will rarely be simply given them by those in power, who on the whole would rather have a quiet life. Yet when that right is taken away, it is very frightening and hard to reverse.

It seems appropriate that this issue contains a lot of references to France. Firstly, because the Olympics are taking place in Paris right now. Magnifique! Secondly, it is appropriate because of the central role of freedom in the political imagination of France which, after all, provided the Statue of Liberty as a gift to the American people. Our front cover illustration is based on the famous 1830 painting by Delacroix of ‘Liberty Leading the People’, a symbolic representation of the revolution of that same year. Our artist Steve Lillie has given it his own special twists: perhaps the revolutionaries themselves are being manipulated? It happens. But these ones are trying to cut their strings. You’ll also spot references to that earlier French Revolution, of 1789, and to a dazzling array of French intellectuals alive and dead, including Jean-Paul Sartre, with his existentialist notions of radical freedom. Sartre believed that we are all inescapably free, regardless of politics, and equally unable to escape the burden of responsibility that comes with that freedom.

[Source: https://philosophynow.org/issues/163/The_Politics_of_Freedom]

13. What is the primary purpose of the passage?
 - A. To provide a historical overview of free will debates and their relevance to modern politics.
 - B. To trace the evolution of French revolutionary symbols and their artistic reinterpretations.
 - C. To explore the contested nature of political freedom, contrasting theoretical definitions with real-world power dynamics.
 - D. To argue that universities should enshrine free speech protections in law.

14. In the phrase “we can’t pretend to do anything more than scratch the surface,” the expression **scratch the surface** most nearly means:
 - A. To create a detailed and comprehensive analysis.

- B. To perform a superficial examination that ignores deeper complexities.
- C. To damage the foundational layer of an argument.
- D. To polish or refine an existing idea.

15. Negative freedom : freedom from :: Positive freedom : _____

- A. freedom from external constraints
- B. freedom to pursue one's own goals and capabilities
- C. freedom to enact laws restricting behaviour
- D. freedom from the burden of responsibility

16. Which inference about political change does the author most strongly support?

- A. Governments willingly grant new freedoms without public pressure.
- B. Reversing entrenched restrictions on freedom is often easy once political will changes.
- C. Citizens must actively demand rights because those in power prefer "a quiet life."
- D. Legal duties on universities to protect free speech should never be repealed.

17. In describing Delacroix's painting with "perhaps the revolutionaries themselves are being manipulated? ... But these ones are trying to cut their strings," the author uses which figure of speech?

- A. Metaphor, comparing revolutionaries to puppets controlled by unseen hands.
- B. Hyperbole, exaggerating the extent to which art can influence politics.
- C. Synecdoche, using "strings" to stand for the entire revolutionary movement.
- D. Irony, suggesting that revolutionaries both control and are controlled.

18. How does the author view Jean-Paul Sartre's notion of radical freedom?

- A. As an irrelevant abstraction that overlooks political and social constraints.
- B. As a powerful reminder that freedom carries an inescapable burden of responsibility.
- C. As evidence that existentialism undermines collective demands for legal rights.
- D. As a doctrine best applied only within academic settings, not politics.

Passage 4: My mainstream media job did not always allow me the latitude to report on this aspect of the real India I met behind closed doors and in fancy hotels, and that is finally what set me off on an inquiry into the modern nation state of India. How robust is its democracy? How fair? Have its institutions been maturing over the years? Are the waves of transparency and well-fought elections improving the lot of its poor? Are the cleavages between its institutions deepening, or disappearing? Why do other institutions not challenge the duplicity of the political classes often enough? Is everyone tangled up in a grand conspiracy to subvert the republic?

The narratives of urban India that truly decide the fate of this sovereign, socialistic, secular, democratic republic remain unwritten, unreported. Constitutional lawyers manage and manipulate media coverage and

public perception of almost every issue; bribes and intimidation are what you need to get your way; billion-dollar deals go through only if the right people are paid; political parties collect black money to fund their operations; coverage in the media is available for a fee and paid news is officially a business; civil servants assist the political class to subvert the system; ‘facilitation’ is the most successful business in its booming economy. Everything and everyone (with a few honourable exceptions) is on sale. You only need to find the right intermediary and pay the right bribe. The creaky government machinery moves only when the lubricant bribe is applied.

The cumulative result of this systemic rot is shocking. India’s chaotic cities are choking on pollution. Child malnutrition is one of the highest in the world (over 42 per cent of children under five years are underweight). The country’s youth population, the world’s largest, has very slim access to quality education. Over 60 per cent of its people do not have bathrooms. Over 330 million Indians do not get safe drinking water. Thousands of its ordinary residents are harassed and humiliated daily by oppressive and misogynistic institutions. Violence is today’s reality.

For a vast majority of Indians, their country is not much of a republic and even less of a democracy. How else could a generation of entrepreneurs blatantly abuse power and still thrive? How could so many bury their way into the legislatures and parliaments, only to manipulate public processes for their private gains? How can leaders whose moral politics is inept continue to control the levers of power? How can ‘bench hunting’ be an acknowledged lexicon in the Indian legal fraternity? And paid news such a thriving industry? When politicians, generals and bureaucrats conspired to build an apartment complex in the name of war widows — I’ve been working for over two decades, the list is long.

[Source: Josy Joseph, A Feast of Vultures: The Hidden Business of Democracy in India]

19. What is the primary purpose of the passage?
 - A. To chronicle the author’s personal career frustrations in mainstream media and the resulting investigative journey.
 - B. To expose pervasive systemic corruption in modern India and question the strength of its democratic institutions.
 - C. To celebrate India’s economic boom while acknowledging minor bureaucratic hurdles.
 - D. To compare India’s social challenges with those of other developing nations.

20. In the sentence “My mainstream media job did not always allow me the latitude to report on this aspect of the real India...,” the word **latitude** most nearly means:
 - A. A geographical distance from the equator.
 - B. Scope for freedom of action or choice.
 - C. A precise measurement or exactness in reporting.
 - D. A temperamental tendency toward calmness.

21. Which of the following is the closest antonym of **robust** as used in “How robust is its democracy?”
 - A. Resilient

- B. Vigorous
 - C. Frail
 - D. Sturdy
22. What is the effect of using the passive voice in the clause “Coverage in the media is available for a fee”?
- A. It highlights the individuals who control media narratives by obscuring institutions.
 - B. It intensifies the moral outrage by focusing on the victimization of the public.
 - C. It injects ambiguity about who pays for and who provides the coverage.
 - D. It underscores the impersonal, systemic nature of corruption by removing active agents from focus.
23. Which inference about India’s social conditions does the author support through the statistics on malnutrition, lack of sanitation, and water scarcity?
- A. That India’s youth population is overeducated but unemployable.
 - B. That infrastructural neglect and corruption have tangible, life-threatening effects on ordinary citizens.
 - C. That rapid urbanization has solved most public-health problems in Indian cities.
 - D. That international aid, rather than domestic reform, is the primary solution to India’s challenges.
24. How does the author view India’s standing as a republic and democracy?
- A. As a largely thriving system marred only by minor inefficiencies.
 - B. As fundamentally compromised, with power abused for private gain and democratic norms subverted.
 - C. As an ideal model for other democracies to emulate, despite surface-level corruption.
 - D. As dangerously subverted, demanding vigilant public scrutiny and active reform.

SECTION-B : CURRENT AFFAIRS, INCLUDING GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

Passage 5: The Pahalgam terror strike, on April 22, 2025, perpetrated by Pakistan proxies, and India's retribution through Operation Sindoor, on May 7, 2025, have fundamentally altered the security landscape of the region. While Operation Sindoor represents an undeniable tactical and operational success, its strategic efficacy in diminishing the long-term terrorist threat remains uncertain. At present, the discourses across all the forums in the country, unfortunately centre exclusively on matters of foreign policy and the external application of military force. The aspects concerning internalisation of terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) have often been given a miss, thereby missing the wood for the trees. Here, it is crucial to understand that in the overall context, it has always been about winning Kashmir rather than defeating Pakistan.

It is beyond any doubt that Pakistan bears substantial accountability for the security situation in J&K, since Independence. After exploding in 1989, the security landscape was transformed from predominantly indigenous insurgency to significant participation of foreign terrorists, around the mid-1990s. Notwithstanding the foreign terrorists, a long-term analyses of patterns of terrorism reveal that local dynamics related to identity, marginalisation, repression and political disenfranchisement have played pivotal roles. These factors have given Pakistan the fuel to foment trouble. The interplay between external sponsorship and internal vulnerabilities creates a complex ecosystem of terrorism that defies simplistic military solutions, internally or externally.

<https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/introspecting-counter-terrorism-after-operation-sindoor/article69611262.ece>

25. Which of the following statements best reflects the *symbolic reasoning* behind naming the 2025 Indian retaliatory strike as "Operation Sindoor"?
 - A. The operation was named to commemorate a sacred ritual symbolising marital commitment, honouring the widows affected by the terror attack.
 - B. The operation aimed to project the fiery strength of Indian womanhood and mythological war goddesses, hence the name.
 - C. The operation was named after the colour red to symbolise the blood of the martyrs and terror victims.
 - D. The operation name was chosen based on a tradition of naming military operations after rivers and religious symbols to inspire nationalism.

26. What distinguished Operation Sindoor from earlier Indian military responses such as Operation Bandar and Operation Safed Sagar?
 - A. It was the first time India used naval assets to strike across the Line of Control in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.
 - B. Unlike earlier operations, it was conducted in coalition with international allies and received logistical support from foreign airbases.
 - C. It was executed entirely from Indian territory using precision-guided munitions to avoid escalation, demonstrating India's ability to strike without violating international airspace.

- D. The operation relied exclusively on ground forces without involving the Indian Air Force or advanced weapon systems.
27. Which of the following statements correctly pairs an operation with its objective or context?
- A. Operation Trident – Indian Air Force campaign to reclaim Tololing peak in the Kargil War.
 - B. Operation Riddle – Indian counter-mobilisation during the 1971 Indo-Pak War in Eastern theatre.
 - C. Operation Cactus Lily – Indian Army-Air Force coordinated thrust across the Meghna River to advance toward Dhaka during the 1971 war.
 - D. Operation Ablaze – Naval blockade of Karachi Harbour during the 1965 Indo-Pak War to weaken Pakistan's supply lines.
28. In the context of advanced weapon systems used in counterterror operations, which of the following is most accurately matched with its feature or usage?
- A. HAMMER – A submarine-launched ballistic missile used for long-range strategic strikes in naval warfare.
 - B. Loitering Munition – Aerial weapon system that can remain airborne for extended durations and identify and strike targets in real-time.
 - C. SCALP – A short-range air-dropped bomb used for trench warfare and bunker neutralisation.
 - D. Storm Shadow – Israeli-manufactured short-range tactical rocket with range under 100 km for anti-infantry strikes
29. Which of the following treaties marked the formal conclusion of hostilities after the Indo-Pak conflict that included Operations Riddle and Ablaze?
- A. Simla Agreement (1972)
 - B. Tashkent Agreement (1966)
 - C. Lahore Declaration (1999)
 - D. Delhi Pact (1950)
30. MBDA, the European manufacturer of the SCALP cruise missile, is best described as:
- A. A private Indian-European joint venture focused solely on manufacturing submarine-launched ballistic missiles for NATO.
 - B. A NATO combat alliance headquartered in Brussels that provides logistics for arms transfer to Ukraine.
 - C. A European multinational defence company that develops guided weapon systems, including the SCALP missile, used in various combat scenarios globally.
 - D. A France-based cybersecurity company that supplies encryption systems for defence communications and military espionage tools.

Passage 6: Following more than three years of arduous negotiations, member states of the World Health Organization (WHO) on Tuesday (May 20) adopted a legally binding treaty designed to tackle future pandemics better.

The pandemic treaty, which has been adopted without the United States, is the only the second legally binding accord in the WHO's history, the first being the tobacco control treaty. WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said it was "a victory for public health, science and multilateral action".

[\[https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-global/who-adopt-global-pandemic-treaty-10020127/\]](https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-global/who-adopt-global-pandemic-treaty-10020127/)

31. Under the new WHO Global Pandemic Agreement, what is the obligation of pharmaceutical companies with respect to sharing pandemic-related medical products?
 - A. They must contribute 5% of their production to WHO and sell another 15% at market prices to national governments.
 - B. They are required to fund local healthcare infrastructure in low-income countries in exchange for access to pathogen data.
 - C. They are required to provide 10% of vaccines, diagnostics, and therapeutics free of cost to WHO and another 10% at affordable prices.
 - D. They must disclose proprietary drug formulas to WHO to enable compulsory licensing during pandemics.
32. Which of the following best reflects the function of the newly established Global Supply Chain and Logistics Network (GSCL) under the WHO Pandemic Treaty?
 - A. To create central warehouses in all six WHO regions to stockpile vaccines and medical supplies for emergencies.
 - B. To eliminate logistical barriers and facilitate fair, timely, and safe access to pandemic-related health products during international health emergencies.
 - C. To supply WHO laboratories with real-time virus sequencing data and modelling equipment for predictive outbreak control.
 - D. To fund bilateral agreements between WHO and pharmaceutical companies for faster distribution of medicines during future pandemics.
33. Which of the following is the most accurate comparison between the WHO Pandemic Agreement and the WHO's previous major treaty under Article 19 of its Constitution?
 - A. Unlike the Tobacco Control Convention, the Pandemic Agreement is not legally binding on any WHO member.
 - B. The Pandemic Treaty permits WHO to override national laws during global health emergencies, while the Tobacco Control Convention does not.
 - C. Both treaties are adopted under the same constitutional authority of the WHO, but the Pandemic Treaty is only the second such legal instrument after 2003.
 - D. The Tobacco Control Convention was adopted in 2011 during the SARS crisis, while the Pandemic Agreement emerged after the Zika virus pandemic.

34. How does the WHO Pandemic Agreement balance the global public interest with national sovereignty during international health emergencies?
- A. It limits WHO's authority to issue travel bans or impose vaccination or lockdown mandates, leaving full pandemic response authority with individual governments.
 - B. It authorises WHO to override vaccine patents when public health interests override commercial rights, irrespective of national approval.
 - C. It gives WHO temporary emergency powers under Chapter VII of the UN Charter to deploy international health workers without country approval.
 - D. It allows WHO to coordinate regional pandemic task forces that can unilaterally intervene if a country's response is inadequate or delayed.
35. When did the World Health Organization officially come into existence, and which date is now commemorated as World Health Day every year?
- A. 10 December 1948; International Health Solidarity Day
 - B. 24 October 1945; United Nations Health Day
 - C. 7 April 1948; World Health Day
 - D. 1 January 1946; Global Health Commitment Day
36. Which of the following best describes the WHO's institutional structure and mode of collaboration with its member states?
- A. WHO is a quasi-governmental agency with 120 members, operating primarily through international NGOs in each member country.
 - B. WHO has 194 member states, functions through 150 country offices and six regional offices, and works intergovernmentally, mainly via national health ministries.
 - C. WHO is a non-binding advisory body headquartered in Paris with regional hubs in developing nations and no formal treaty-making powers.
 - D. WHO is a UN-funded humanitarian task force with authority to deploy peacekeepers for health emergencies under WHO Chapter 12.

Passage 7: The Padma awards have frequently generated controversy, especially in recent years. The main criticism has been that they have been given to undeserving persons or that deserving persons are left out. It is not without basis. Political, personal and other considerations have weighed with governments in the selections. No government has been able to resist that temptation. Politics has influenced the choice of persons even in areas like the arts. Politicians have also got unfair and excessive representation in the awards list and have often been conferred the higher categories of the awards. Two eminent artists - percussionist Anindya Chatterjee and musician Sandhya Mukherjee - have rejected this year's awards as they think they should have got them much earlier. No list has been free of criticism in any year, though many of the government's choices have been received well in the past.

It would be difficult to find fault with the selection of many of the people who were awarded this year. Scientists, doctors, social workers, artists, sportspersons and businessmen have found a place in the list, along with some who played key roles in the country's fight against Covid, like vaccine-makers and health administrators.

[\[https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/editorial/padma-awards-a-very-political-turn-1075345.html\]](https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/editorial/padma-awards-a-very-political-turn-1075345.html)

37. How many individuals were conferred with Padma Awards for the year 2025?
 - A. 131
 - B. 139
 - C. 124
 - D. 120

38. Which of the following statements is *not true* about the Padma Awards Committee?
 - A. It is chaired by the President of India and includes former Padma awardees and ministers.
 - B. It includes the Home Secretary and Secretary to the President of India.
 - C. It is appointed annually by the Prime Minister of India.
 - D. It submits its recommendations to the Prime Minister and the President for final approval.

39. When were the Padma Awards first instituted?
 - A. 1950
 - B. 1954
 - C. 1962
 - D. 194

40. What is the correct legal position on the use of Padma Awards as titles?
 - A. They are constitutional titles and can be used as prefixes only.
 - B. They are recognised as State honours and can be suffixed after the recipient's name.
 - C. They are not titles under Article 18(1) and cannot be used as prefixes or suffixes.
 - D. They are international civilian awards and governed by a separate legal framework under Article

41. Which of the following reflects a key eligibility principle for Padma Awards?
 - A. Only citizens of India can receive the award, with foreign recipients needing presidential discretion.
 - B. All individuals are eligible, but the award cannot be given to people involved in political activity.
 - C. All persons, regardless of race, position, occupation, or sex, are eligible for the award.
 - D. The award is restricted to contributions in arts, public affairs, and science & technology only.

42. What significant change has been made to Padma Awards since 2014?
- The maximum number of annual recipients was raised from 100 to 120.
 - The focus has shifted towards recognising “unsung heroes,” rebranding the awards as the “People’s Padma.”
 - A new category below Padma Shri was introduced for grassroots workers.
 - The Padma Vibhushan was declared equivalent to the Bharat Ratna for foreign citizens.

Passage 8: India’s space programme is not just about scientific exploration but also about empowering its citizens and helping its economic and social development, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in a pre-recorded message at the Global Space Exploration Conference 2025 on Wednesday.

The Prime Minister’s video message for the conference, being held in New Delhi from May 7 to 9, came hours after India carried out military strikes at multiple terrorist targets in Pakistan in an early morning raid. The pre-recorded message, addressing the delegates of the conference, obviously did not have any reference to this morning’s actions.

“For India, space is about exploration as well as about empowerment. It empowers governance, enhances livelihoods and inspires generations. From fishermen alerts to (data for) Gatishakti platform, from railway safety to weather forecasting, our satellites look out for the welfare of every Indian,” Modi said.

[\[https://indianexpress.com/article/world/2-dead-500-arrested-france-after-paris-saint-germain-psg-champions-league-win-10042025/\]](https://indianexpress.com/article/world/2-dead-500-arrested-france-after-paris-saint-germain-psg-champions-league-win-10042025/)

43. Which of the following joint missions focuses specifically on observing Earth’s surface changes every 12 days?
- NISAR (NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar)
 - LUPEX (Lunar Polar Exploration)
 - Megha-Tropiques
 - Gaganyaan
44. What was the central theme of the 2025 Global Space Exploration Summit (GLEX)?
- Exploring Mars and Beyond: A New Scientific Frontier
 - Reaching New Worlds: A Space Exploration Renaissance
 - One Earth, One Sky: Global Unity in Space
 - Towards Moon Colonization and Deep Space Mining
45. The LUPEX mission is jointly undertaken by which two countries, and what is its primary goal?
- USA and India; long-term space station construction on Mars
 - France and India; Earth-based weather simulation in lunar orbit
 - Japan and India; assessing water presence in Moon’s polar regions
 - Russia and India; retrieval of lunar rock samples for analysis

46. Which of the following correctly identifies ISRO's commercial and marketing arm?
- NSIL (NewSpace India Limited)
 - Department of Space Services Limited
 - Bharat Aerospace Ventures
 - Antrix Corporation Limited
47. Who was the first Indian citizen to travel to space, and through which mission?
- Kalpana Chawla aboard Columbia STS-107
 - Ritu Karidhal aboard ISRO's Gaganyaan test module
 - Rakesh Sharma aboard Soviet Soyuz T-11
 - Sunita Williams aboard the International Space Station
48. Which international organization is the co-organiser of GLEX and includes agencies like ESA, Roscosmos, and astronauts such as Rakesh Sharma?
- United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNCOPUOS)
 - International Space Commerce Association (ISCA)
 - International Astronautical Federation (IAF)
 - World Space Council (WSC)

Passage 9: Inequality reduced India's Human Development Index (HDI) score by a staggering 30.7 per cent, one of the highest losses in Asia, according to the 2025 Human Development Report released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on May 6, 2025.

Despite this, India continued to make steady progress, climbing from rank 133 in 2022 to 130 in 2023 out of 193 countries. The country's HDI value rose from 0.676 to 0.685, bringing it closer to the high human development threshold of 0.700.

However, the report warned that inequality, particularly in income and gender, continued to hold back India's human development potential. Female labour force participation and political representation remained low, although a recent constitutional amendment reserving one-third of legislative seats for women was seen as a promising shift.

[\[https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/editorials/lesson-from-cannes-roll-up-the-red-carpet-10025060/\]](https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/editorials/lesson-from-cannes-roll-up-the-red-carpet-10025060/)

49. What is the title of the 2025 Human Development Report?
- "A Matter of Choice: People and Possibilities in the Age of AI"
 - "New Horizons: Redefining Equity in the AI Era"
 - "The Human Dividend: AI, Development and Dignity"
 - "Inequality and Innovation: Challenges in the 21st Century"

50. Which of the following countries was ranked *last* in the 2025 HDR?
- A. Yemen
 - B. Somalia
 - C. Sudan
 - D. South Sudan
51. What was the Human Development Index (HDI) value of Iceland, the top-ranked country in the HDR 2025?
- A. 0.962
 - B. 0.975
 - C. 0.972
 - D. 0.967
52. In which year was the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) established?
- A. 1955
 - B. 1965
 - C. 1971
 - D. 1948

SECTION - C: LEGAL REASONING

Passage 10: In tort law, the principle of *volenti non fit injuria* operates as a complete defence available to a defendant who is sued for causing harm. The Latin maxim translates to “to a willing person, no injury is done,” and reflects the core idea that no legal wrong has been committed when a person voluntarily consents to a known risk. The law presumes that individuals who knowingly and freely accept the possibility of harm cannot subsequently claim damages arising from that harm.

For a defendant to successfully rely on *volenti non fit injuria*, two essential conditions must be fulfilled: (1) the plaintiff must have actual knowledge of the nature and extent of the risk, and (2) the plaintiff must have voluntarily consented to undertake the risk. Both elements are cumulative, meaning the absence of even one negates the applicability of the defence.

The requirement of knowledge implies that the plaintiff must be aware of both the kind of risk and the magnitude of harm likely to arise. General awareness of danger is insufficient - what is necessary is that the plaintiff comprehended the specific risk involved in the activity. Courts generally presume that a person who merely finds themselves in a dangerous situation, without being informed or aware of the exact risk, cannot be said to have consented to it.

The second requirement is that of free consent. Consent must not be obtained through coercion, misrepresentation, fraud, mistake, or undue influence. It must stem from the plaintiff's own free will. In situations where the consent is vitiated - such as when a person is misled about the nature of the risk - the defence is not available. Furthermore, in cases involving minors or persons of unsound mind, consent may be deemed invalid, as the law presumes they lack the requisite capacity to understand the risk. In such cases, the consent of a legally authorised guardian or representative may be considered.

Importantly, the defence of *volenti non fit injuria* is not limited to express consent. It can also arise through implied conduct – for example, when a person voluntarily participates in a sport known to involve physical risks, or rides in a vehicle after being warned of a defect.

However, the courts are cautious in applying this defence, especially where the plaintiff had no real choice but to accept the risk. Mere knowledge without an option to avoid the harm does not amount to voluntary consent.

[Edited from <http://student.manupatra.com/Academic/Abk/Law-of-Torts/Chapter5.html>]

53. A professional racing driver agrees to test-drive a prototype car on a closed circuit after signing a helmet waiver. During briefing, the manufacturer's engineer mentions in passing that braking performance may be unpredictable at high speeds but downplays the significance. The driver, aware of possible unpredictability, nonetheless proceeds because sponsorship obligations demand test completion. At high speed, brakes fail and the car crashes, injuring the driver. The driver sues

the manufacturer. Under *volenti non fit injuria*, is the defence likely to succeed?

- A. Yes, because P had actual knowledge of the specific risk from cable corrosion and voluntarily consented despite dependency on the tour for transport.
- B. No, because P lacked genuine consent, having no real alternative means of returning to the lodge, vitiating voluntariness.
- C. No, because a standard waiver cannot exclude liability when the defendant admits equipment defect and delays maintenance.
- D. Yes, because implied consent arises when one accepts known risks in adventure activities, regardless of any lack of alternatives

54. A local gym organises a “high-intensity obstacle course” for members, prominently advertising risks of falls and sprains. A minor, aged 16, enrolls after parental consent via a general membership form but without a specific guardian-signed risk acknowledgement. During the course, the minor suffers severe injury due to a hidden structural defect unknown to both gym and participant. The minor sues for negligence. Does *volenti non fit injuria* apply?

- A. Yes, because the minor and parent were informed generally of risks, constituting implied consent to usual hazards of the activity.
- B. No, because structural defect was hidden and thus knowledge element of *volenti* fails.
- C. Yes, because parental consent to gym membership covers all associated risks, including obstacle courses.
- D. No, because minors lack capacity to consent to specific risks without explicit, guardian-signed acknowledgement, so defence fails.

55. An experienced construction worker volunteers to work on scaffolding after being verbally assured by the contractor that safety harnesses meet latest standards, despite seeing worn-out equipment. Later, the worker learns that harnesses were refurbished substandardly but still accepts deployment because refusal might jeopardise future employment. Worker falls and sues for negligence. Under *volenti non fit injuria*, can the defence succeed?

- A. Yes, because experienced worker had implicit awareness of scaffold risk and implicitly consented by continuing work.
- B. No, because misrepresentation about harness standards vitiated free consent despite worker’s awareness of worn equipment.
- C. No, because economic pressure to accept work undermines voluntariness, nullifying defence.
- D. Yes, because implied consent arises when a worker continues work knowing general dangers of construction activities.

56. During a mountaineering expedition, a participant P is informed of avalanche risk in a specific valley. The expedition leader emphasises that alternative routes exist but warns they require additional days. P chooses the riskier valley route to meet sponsorship schedule. En route, an avalanche occurs, injuring P. P sues the expedition organiser. Is *volenti non fit injuria* defence available?

- A. Yes, because P had actual knowledge of avalanche risk and freely chose the riskier route for scheduling reasons.
- B. No, because expedition organiser should have disallowed selection of high-risk route given foreseeable harm.
- C. No, because sponsorship pressure negates genuine free consent despite alternatives.
- D. Yes, because implied consent applies when a participant knowingly selects a known risk in adventure contexts.

57. According to the passage on *volenti non fit injuria*, which statement most accurately reflects the cumulative nature of its conditions?

- A. The defence applies if the plaintiff had either knowledge of risk or voluntary consent, as long as one condition is clearly satisfied.
- B. The defence applies where implied consent is demonstrated, regardless of whether the plaintiff comprehended the magnitude of the risk.
- C. The defence is inapplicable if the plaintiff lacked real choice, but only if knowledge was absent, not affecting free consent requirement.
- D. The defence requires both actual knowledge of the specific risk and genuine voluntary consent; absence of either defeats the defence.

Passage 11: Trespass to land is a tort that involves unlawful interference with another person's possession of land. The interference must be direct and physical, involving a tangible object or presence. Crucially, trespass is actionable *per se*, meaning that the claimant is not required to prove actual damage to the property in order to seek legal remedy. The mere act of interference, without lawful justification, is sufficient to give rise to a cause of action.

Trespass can occur in several ways. Firstly, it includes unauthorised entry onto another's land. Secondly, if a person remains on land after their permission has expired or been revoked, it amounts to trespass. Thirdly, performing an act that physically interferes with another's land - such as throwing stones or allowing animals to stray - is also considered trespass. However, if there is no interference with possession, no trespass has occurred.

Importantly, intent, force, or damage are not required to establish this tort. Even accidental or mistaken entry may constitute trespass unless it falls within a recognized exception. Where the interference is indirect or consequential, the act does not qualify as trespass but may instead constitute nuisance. For instance, allowing smoke, fumes, or waste to spread onto a neighbour's land would be treated as nuisance, not trespass. Planting a tree on someone else's land is trespass, but if roots or branches from a tree planted on one's own land spread onto a neighbour's property, it is treated as nuisance.

A person may also commit trespass by exceeding the scope of permission. For example, if someone is invited to enter a drawing-room but enters a bedroom without consent, it amounts to trespass. However, if

boundaries between permitted and non-permitted areas are ambiguous, mere unintentional crossing may not be considered trespass.

There are exceptions. In *Madhav Vithal Kudwa v. Madhavdas Vallabhdas*, the court held that a tenant in a multi-storey building had the implied right to park in the compound without explicit permission from the landlord, provided it did not inconvenience others.

Thus, trespass occurs through unjustified physical interference with possession, while indirect intrusions are generally governed by the law of nuisance.

[Edited from

<https://blog.ipleaders.in/trespass-to-land/#:~:text=If%20the%20interference%20is%20not,the%20wrong%20of%20a%20nuisance.>]

59. A software maintenance team is granted access to the office premises daily between 9 AM and 5 PM. One evening at 6 PM, after the formal permission period, an employee from that team remains on the premises troubleshooting a critical server fault, unaware that building security revoked entry rights at 5 PM. The employee moves cables across office corridors and uses company equipment. The owner discovers and sues for trespass. Under the principles of trespass to land, is the employee liable?

- A. Yes, because remaining after permission expired, performing acts physically interfering with premises possession amounts to trespass per se.
- B. No, because troubleshooting critical server fault constitutes an implied necessity exception that overrides expired access permission without inconvenience.
- C. No, because accidental retention on premises without intent or damage cannot constitute trespass under the need for intent or damage.
- D. Yes, because use of equipment and moving cables after hours constitutes indirect interference, treated as nuisance rather than trespass.

60. A homeowner invites a surveyor to inspect only the ground-floor rooms of a bungalow. The surveyor, believing the same access applies, inadvertently enters the locked first-floor terrace through an unlocked door left by a guest, takes measurements, and leaves without realizing overstepping. The homeowner sues for trespass. Which outcome aligns with the passage?

- A. Surveyor liable because any entry beyond invited area constitutes trespass regardless of ambiguity in boundaries.
- B. No trespass because ambiguous boundary of unlocked door and absence of intention or knowledge mean unintentional crossing may not attract liability.
- C. Surveyor liable because taking measurements constitutes physical interference with possession even if entry was accidental.
- D. No trespass because implied permission to inspect the entire property arises from initial ground-floor invitation unless explicit restriction is given.

61. A livestock owner's cow escapes onto neighbour's field through a broken fence, eats crops, and is rounded up by neighbour, who drives it back across the fence and keeps it overnight awaiting compensation talks. The neighbour then shifts the animal back onto the livestock owner's land. The livestock owner sues the neighbour for trespass when the cow was on neighbour's land and when the neighbour kept it overnight. How should courts view this under trespass principles?
- A. Neighbour liable for trespass during crop-eating because allowing animals to stray onto land is trespass, but keeping the animal overnight is a remedial act, not separate trespass.
 - B. No trespass during crop-eating because broken fence created implied permission to enter; keeping overnight is trespass since detention exceeds necessity.
 - C. Neighbour liable for both presence on field and detention overnight because any unauthorised presence and continued possession constitute direct trespass per se.
 - D. No liability because animal intrusion is indirect interference and must be treated under nuisance principles, not trespass.
62. A factory emits fine dust that settles on adjacent property, causing discoloration of outdoor furniture. Additionally, the factory stores heavy machinery on the owner's land for loading but occasionally parks machinery wheels partly on neighbour's driveway while loading. The neighbour sues for trespass regarding machinery wheels and for nuisance regarding dust. How do the principles apply?
- A. Trespass for dust intrusion because direct physical interference; nuisance for machinery parked partly on driveway because intermittent and indirect effect.
 - B. No trespass for dust since indirect interference qualifies only as nuisance; trespass for machinery wheels because direct physical intrusion onto neighbour's land without permission.
 - C. No remedy for dust because slight discoloration is de minimis; no trespass for machinery since incidental parking within ambiguous boundary cannot be actionable.
 - D. Trespass for dust because actionable per se without proving damage; no trespass for machinery wheels since parking constitutes implied licence under usage norms.
63. A tenant has permission to use the entire garden of a rented house but not the garage. One day, the tenant parks a guest's car in the garage without landlord's consent. Landlord sues for trespass. How does the passage guide the outcome?
- A. Tenant liable for trespass by exceeding the scope of permission, because garage access was not included in the tenancy rights.
 - B. No trespass because tenant's overall permission to the property implies access to ancillary spaces like garage unless expressly excluded.
 - C. No trespass because parking in garage is indirect interference and should be treated as nuisance, not trespass.
 - D. Tenant liable only if parking inconvenienced others; if no one was inconvenienced, implied right may cover incidental use.

64. According to the passage, which statement best captures the difference between trespass and nuisance?
- A. Trespass requires proof of actual damage to the property, whereas nuisance is actionable per se without showing damage or interference.
 - B. Trespass involves indirect or consequential interferences like smoke or roots, while nuisance covers direct physical presence issues.
 - C. Trespass is direct physical interference with possession actionable per se without proof of damage, whereas nuisance addresses indirect or consequential interferences.
 - D. Trespass and nuisance overlap entirely when interference is physical, so distinction is only procedural, not substantive.
65. Which principle follows from the *Madhav Vithal Kudwa v. Madhavdas Vallabhdas* exception described?
- A. Implied permission may arise for beneficial or non-inconvenient uses within a tenancy, preventing trespass claims for certain expected activities.
 - B. Any use of common areas by tenants always requires explicit landlord permission, irrespective of inconvenience to others.
 - C. Tenant parking cannot amount to trespass because animals or objects within compound do not interfere physically with land possession.
 - D. Tenant's implied rights are limited to residential activities; parking vehicles always falls outside implied permission and is trespassable.

Passage 12: Section 482 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (CrPC), empowers the High Courts in India to exercise their inherent jurisdiction to prevent the abuse of the process of law and to ensure that justice is not subverted by procedural misuse. One of the key applications of this inherent power is the quashing of a First Information Report (FIR) or criminal proceedings that are frivolous, malicious, or legally untenable.

The power to quash an FIR under Section 482 CrPC is discretionary and is to be exercised sparingly, cautiously, and in exceptional circumstances. The guiding principle is whether allowing the proceedings to continue would amount to a miscarriage of justice. High Courts are not expected to conduct a detailed inquiry or trial at this stage but must examine whether, even if the allegations in the FIR are taken at face value, they disclose the commission of a cognizable offence. If not, or if the allegations appear absurd, improbable, or clearly mala fide, the Court may quash the FIR.

A person accused in an FIR may file a petition before the High Court under Section 482, requesting quashing. In such proceedings, both the State and the complainant are typically made respondents. The High Court then assesses the petition in light of all material facts - such as the FIR, statements made to the police, and other supporting documents - to determine whether continuation of proceedings would serve the interests of justice.

Importantly, the Supreme Court has clarified that the High Court's power under this section must not be used to short-circuit legitimate investigations. Courts should not examine the truth or falsity of allegations in-depth, nor should they engage in evaluating the sufficiency of evidence. These are matters for trial. However, courts can quash proceedings in cases where a statutory bar exists to criminal prosecution, where the dispute is purely civil in nature, or where the criminal law is being misused to settle personal scores.

Nevertheless, the power to quash an FIR is an exceptional remedy, not the general rule. The objective is to ensure that innocent persons are not subjected to the rigours of criminal trial without just cause, while still preserving the prosecutorial rights of victims and the investigative prerogatives of law enforcement agencies.

[Edited from <https://www.indialawoffices.com/legal-articles/quashing-of-fir-requirements-and-procedure>]

66. A corporate executive faces an FIR alleging criminal breach of trust based on a failed commercial transaction, whereas the underlying dispute concerns unpaid dues under a civil contract. The accused files a Section 482 petition seeking quashing. The local police have not yet completed investigation, but the contract dispute is pending in civil court. Should the High Court quash the FIR under Section 482?
- A. Yes, because the allegations arise purely from a civil contractual dispute without any cognizable criminal offence disclosed, fitting the misuse-of-criminal-law exception.
 - B. No, because until investigation concludes, the High Court must not quash an FIR even if the underlying dispute appears civil in nature, as inquiry is incomplete.
 - C. No, because the possibility that evidence may reveal criminal elements requires preserving the FIR for full investigation before any quashing consideration.
 - D. Yes, because discretion under Section 482 allows quashing whenever the accused prefers civil adjudication, even if cognizable offence may exist.
67. A professional football coach is accused via FIR of sexual harassment by a former trainee. The FIR contains detailed allegations describing incidents. The accused moves to quash under Section 482, arguing the allegations are too general, lacking specifics, and the complaint is motivated by personal animus. The police have begun a preliminary inquiry but have not filed a charge sheet. How should the High Court proceed?
- A. Grant quashing because the coach has shown malice and the allegations are general, so continuing proceedings would be misuse of criminal law.
 - B. Dismiss petition because absence of charge sheet means no full investigation, so quashing at this stage would short-circuit legitimate inquiry.
 - C. Dismiss petition because, taken at face value, the allegations disclose a cognizable offence of sexual harassment warranting investigation, and detailed inquiry on merits is for trial stage.
 - D. Grant quashing because preliminary inquiry shows insufficient evidence, and High Court may intervene to prevent harassment of accused.

68. A retired judge faces an FIR for alleged defamation lodged by a public figure after critical remarks made in a published article. The statute under which defamation is alleged is non-cognizable unless complaint is made by the aggrieved person in writing. The complainant filed private complaint without statutory compliance. The accused files a petition to quash under Section 482 before any investigation begins. Should the High Court quash the FIR?
- A. No, because defamation allegations require deeper examination of truth and public interest, which cannot be resolved at this stage.
 - B. Yes, because statutory bar exists on criminal prosecution without mandatory compliance, making the FIR legally untenable and fit for quashing.
 - C. No, because even if procedural defect exists, the Court should allow investigation to consider possible cognizable elements before quashing.
 - D. Yes, because the High Court may quash frivolous FIR for defamation when the complaint fails to meet statutory prerequisites, preventing abuse of process.
69. An entrepreneur is charged via FIR with criminal conspiracy and cheating based on novel financial scheme allegations. The allegations appear far-fetched, relying solely on speculative future gains without concrete transactions. The accused petitions to quash under Section 482 before any evidence collection. Should the High Court quash the FIR?
- A. No, because speculative nature does not automatically render allegations non-cognizable; trial will determine veracity.
 - B. No, because High Court must not quash where prima facie cognizable offence may exist, even if allegations seem improbable.
 - C. Yes, because improbable and absurd allegations alone justify quashing to prevent miscarriage of justice without trial.
 - D. Yes, because if allegations appear absurd or improbable at face value, the Court may quash FIR to avert abuse of process.
70. A nonprofit organization leader is booked under an FIR for misappropriation of funds after a whistleblower complaint. The police investigation has found prima facie evidence of diversion of funds but is ongoing. The leader files a Section 482 petition claiming the investigation is tainted by political vendetta. Should the High Court quash the FIR at this stage?
- A. No, because there is prima facie evidence disclosing a cognizable offence and an ongoing legitimate investigation, so quashing would short-circuit proper inquiry.
 - B. Yes, because mere prima facie evidence in a politicized context compels quashing to prevent harassment of innocents.
 - C. No, because allegations of political vendetta require trial-level scrutiny, not quashing at preliminary stage.
 - D. Yes, because exceptional remedy under Section 482 should be used when investigation appears politically motivated, regardless of prima facie evidence.

71. According to the passage, which statement best reflects the High Court's approach under Section 482 when faced with an FIR?
- A. The High Court may quash any FIR at the accused's request if continuing the case may inconvenience the accused, even if allegations disclose a cognizable offence.
 - B. The High Court must always await completion of police investigation and charge sheet before considering any quashing petition, regardless of apparent defects.
 - C. The High Court examines whether allegations, taken at face value, disclose a cognizable offence; if not, or if absurd/mala fide, it may quash without detailed inquiry.
 - D. The High Court can engage in evaluating evidence sufficiency at the quashing stage to determine whether conviction is unlikely, and quash if success seems remote.
72. Which principle from the passage governs the exercise of quashing power under Section 482 CrPC?
- A. Quashing power should be used liberally to protect accused from drawn-out investigations, even in borderline cases.
 - B. Quashing power is discretionary and must be exercised sparingly, cautiously, and only in exceptional circumstances to prevent miscarriage of justice.
 - C. High Courts should substitute their own view of evidence at quashing stage to ensure only strong cases proceed to trial.
 - D. Quashing is routine whenever the complainant appears vexatious, without regard to whether allegations may disclose a cognizable offence.

Passage 13: Under the Indian Contract Act, 1872, fraud and misrepresentation are two forms of defective consent that can affect the validity of a contract. Both allow the aggrieved party to void the contract, but they differ significantly in terms of intent, knowledge, and legal consequences.

Fraud, defined under Section 17 of the Act, refers to intentional deception by one party in order to secure an unfair contractual advantage. It includes knowingly making false statements, concealing material facts, or making promises without the intention to perform them, all with the aim of misleading the other party. The essence of fraud is the presence of dishonest intent. For example, if a seller falsely claims to have the authority to sell property, knowing that they do not, it constitutes fraud. When fraud is proven, the aggrieved party can rescind the contract and is also entitled to claim damages for any loss suffered. The burden is on the claimant to show that the false representation was made knowingly, without belief in its truth, or recklessly, and that it induced them to enter the contract.

In contrast, misrepresentation, governed by Section 18, involves false statements made without intent to deceive. These typically arise from honest mistakes, negligence, or misunderstandings. Misrepresentation occurs when a party conveys inaccurate information while genuinely believing it to be true. For instance, if a party, based on outdated records, assures another that land is unencumbered, but in reality, it is mortgaged, this would be misrepresentation - not fraud. Like in fraud, the contract is voidable at the option of the misled

party, but the remedies differ. Since there is no fraudulent intent, the party responsible for misrepresentation may not always be liable for damages, especially if they acted in good faith.

The central difference lies in intention and knowledge. Fraud involves deliberate falsehood, whereas misrepresentation stems from inadvertent error. Both vitiate consent and make the contract voidable, but fraud carries greater legal consequences. Misrepresentation, although it leads to incorrect consent, is treated with more leniency due to the absence of mala fide intention.

[Edited from <https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/difference-between-fraud-and-misrepresentation/>]

73. A machinery seller, S, knowingly conceals a lien on equipment and falsely represents that the machinery is unencumbered, inducing buyer B to enter a sale contract. After discovering the lien, B seeks to rescind and claim damages. Which statement correctly classifies S's conduct?
- A. This is misrepresentation because B could have independently checked records, so S's false claim arises from negligence rather than deliberate intent.
 - B. This is neither fraud nor misrepresentation because concealment of lien is a collateral issue not affecting the main contract on machinery performance.
 - C. This is fraud, as S intentionally concealed a material fact to mislead B and secure unfair advantage, satisfying dishonest intent under Section 17.
 - D. This is only negligent misrepresentation, since the lien might not have materially affected machinery's performance, and B's loss is speculative.
74. A financial advisor, believing in good faith but based on outdated market reports, advises client C that a particular stock is unencumbered by regulatory restrictions. Relying on this, C invests and incurs loss when restrictions emerge. How should C's remedy be characterized?
- A. C's remedy is rescission plus damages for fraud because the advisor should verify all facts before advising, so failure amounts to deliberate recklessness.
 - B. C's remedy is rescission for misrepresentation without entitlement to heavy damages, since the advisor genuinely believed the statement true but was mistaken.
 - C. C cannot void the contract because investment advice is only opinion, not a statement of fact under Sections 17–18.
 - D. C's remedy includes punitive damages because negligent advice that causes loss always qualifies as fraud under Section 17.
75. A vendor promises performance of complex software integration within three weeks, despite knowing that internal resource constraints make this impossible, intending to induce the buyer to contract immediately. Later, vendor fails to deliver. What is the correct classification of vendor's conduct?
- A. This is only misrepresentation, since time estimates are not material facts under the Indian Contract Act and cannot amount to fraud.
 - B. This is neither fraud nor misrepresentation because performance timelines are subjective projections, not factual assurances.

- C. This is misrepresentation because the vendor believed it might manage resources despite constraints, so intent to mislead is absent.
- D. This is fraud because vendor made a promise without intention to perform, concealing inability to deliver within three weeks to secure the contract.
76. A property owner, believing in good faith based on an old survey, assures prospective lessee that land has clear title, unaware of a recent encumbrance. Upon discovering the encumbrance, the lessee seeks to void the lease but not claim damages beyond costs. What best describes this scenario?
- A. This is misrepresentation, since owner genuinely believed land unencumbered (no intent to deceive), so contract is voidable but damages limited.
- B. This is fraud, because the owner should have checked updated records before giving assurance, implying reckless disregard for truth.
- C. This is neither fraud nor misrepresentation because the assurance relates to past status and the encumbrance does not affect current use, so no defective consent arises.
- D. This is fraud because failure to verify critical title information constitutes concealment of material fact, indicating dishonest intent.
77. A purchaser enters a contract to buy vintage art based on seller's assurance, relying on catalogue stating the piece is original. Later, it emerges that the catalogue was compiled from outdated inventory listings and the art is a replica. Seller believed catalogue accurate at the time. What is the correct legal characterization?
- A. This is misrepresentation, as the seller gave false statement believing it true, arising from honest mistake under Section 18.
- B. This is fraud, because the seller should have verified authenticity personally before listing, so their failure is dishonest concealment.
- C. This falls outside both fraud and misrepresentation because art authenticity disputes are inherent risk in art transactions.
- D. This is misrepresentation but allows damages as well, since reliance on catalogue incurs liability regardless of seller's belief.
78. According to the passage, which statement best captures the distinction between fraud and misrepresentation under the Indian Contract Act?
- A. Fraud and misrepresentation both require dishonest intent, but misrepresentation carries lesser damages because losses are typically smaller.
- B. Fraud involves deliberate or reckless falsehood to induce contract, whereas misrepresentation arises from honest error without intent to deceive.
- C. Misrepresentation always allows both rescission and damages, while fraud only permits rescission to prevent abuse of contract law.
- D. Fraud and misrepresentation differ only in terminology, as both vitiate consent and carry identical legal consequences under Sections 17 and 18.

Passage 14: Under criminal law, an unlawful assembly is defined as a gathering of five or more persons who share a common objective that falls within certain prohibited categories. An assembly becomes unlawful when the group's purpose includes the use or threat of criminal force against the government, legislature, or a public servant in the discharge of lawful duty. It is also unlawful if the object is to resist the execution of a law, commit mischief, criminal trespass, or any offence, to deprive a person of their legal rights, or to compel someone to act against the law or prevent them from exercising legal rights.

Significantly, a gathering that begins as lawful may later become unlawful if its common object changes to one that falls within these prohibited purposes. Anyone who hires, engages, promotes, or encourages others to join an unlawful assembly is punishable as though they were a member, even if they are not physically present.

If an offence is committed by any member of an unlawful assembly in furtherance of the group's common object, every person who was a member of the assembly at that time is held equally guilty of that offence, regardless of whether they personally took part in the criminal act. This is known as the principle of constructive liability.

Furthermore, if any member of an unlawful assembly uses force or violence to pursue the group's unlawful objective, all members are guilty of rioting, a specific offence under criminal law. The offence of rioting emphasizes the collective nature of violence and imposes group accountability for actions that disturb public peace. The principle of collective criminality acts as a deterrent against unlawful group behaviour and promotes the maintenance of law and public order.

[Edited from the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/250883_english_01042024.pdf)]

79. A group of six citizens lawfully assembles outside a government office to petition for improved public services. Midway, the group's objective shifts as the leader urges resorting to threats of property damage against officials to force compliance. Despite peaceful start, P participates in the new plan. Later, one member vandalizes office windows. P did not physically partake in vandalism but supported threats earlier. Is P liable under principles of unlawful assembly?
 - A. No, because P did not personally commit vandalism or use force, so cannot be held as member under constructive liability.
 - B. Yes, because the assembly's object changed to threaten property damage, making it unlawful, and P supported the new plan, incurring liability as a member.
 - C. No, because initial lawful gathering cannot attract liability for later actions if P only joined early peaceful part and left before violence.
 - D. Yes, but only for incitement if P was physically absent during vandalism, not as full member of unlawful assembly.

80. X hires Y, Z, and three others to join a demonstration against a public servant's policy, intending to resist the execution of that policy. X remains at home and communicates via messages encouraging participation. During the assembly, a member throws stones at the public servant's

residence. X never attends but his messages spurred others. Is X liable as a member of unlawful assembly?

- A. No, because liability as member requires physical presence at the assembly location; remote encouragement is insufficient.
- B. No, because only those physically present share constructive liability; instigators unconnected physically are not treated as members under the framework.
- C. Yes, because anyone who hires or encourages others to join an unlawful assembly is punishable as if they were a member, even if not physically present.
- D. Yes, but only for abetting the offence, not under unlawful assembly provisions.

81. Five individuals assemble to protest lawfully. On noticing police arrival, they decide to commit criminal trespass into a restricted area to obstruct law enforcement. During trespass, one member assaults an officer. Some members did not anticipate assault but joined trespass. Are those who did not assault liable for the officer's injury?

- A. No, because only those who physically assaulted the officer bear liability for that offence, as others lacked intent for violence.
- B. No, because initial objective was lawful protest; liability should not extend to unintended consequences under group context.
- C. Yes, but only for trespass, not for assault, since assault was not part of common object when trespass began.
- D. Yes, because once the assembly became unlawful with common object to trespass, any offence committed in furtherance implicates all members under constructive liability

82. Seven protestors gather to resist execution of a law peacefully. The rest did not physically join violence but remained part of assembly. Which statement is correct regarding rioting liability?

- A. Only active participants in violence are guilty of rioting, since collective liability requires physical act.
- B. No one is guilty of rioting because initial assembly was peaceful; violence was spontaneous and not part of original object.
- C. All members are guilty of rioting because if any member uses force to pursue the unlawful objective, all members are guilty of rioting.
- D. Only those who knew in advance that violence would occur are guilty of rioting; others are exempt.

83. A small group of four convenes to deprive a neighbor of legal rights by minor obstruction of access; they block entrance temporarily. Does this constitute unlawful assembly under the given framework?

- A. No, because unlawful assembly requires gathering of five or more persons, so liability under assembly provisions does not apply.
- B. Yes, because collective intent to deprive legal rights suffices regardless of number, attracting unlawful assembly liability.

C. Yes, because blocking access is criminal trespass and any group committing trespass qualifies as unlawful assembly.

D. No, because absence of force or threat excludes unlawful assembly, even if four persons attempt to deprive rights.

84. According to the passage, which statement best captures the principle of constructive liability in unlawful assembly?

A. Only those who physically commit the offence are liable; constructive liability applies solely when members voluntarily admit participation after the fact.

B. Liability for offences committed by assembly members applies only if each member directly intended that specific offence at the outset.

C. Constructive liability holds all members equally guilty of any offence if committed in furtherance of the common unlawful object, regardless of personal participation.

D. Members are liable for group offences only when they actively assist during the offence, not merely by sharing the object of assembly.

SECTION - D: LOGICAL REASONING

Passage 15: In the wake of the brutal terrorist attack on Pahalgam, the government has done the right thing by heightening security across the country. It has intensified operations against terrorists and given greater urgency to increasing surveillance along the borders. Last month, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs issued an order asking states and Union Territories to detect and deport foreigners, especially people from Bangladesh and Myanmar, living illicitly in the country. The Centre's instructions have prompted several states to intensify their ongoing operations against suspected illegal immigrants. From the West Bengal government's allegation, earlier this year, of BSF's laxity against Bangladeshi "infiltrators" to Delhi's erstwhile AAP government's drive against "illegal Bangladeshi" students to Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma's frequent diatribes against immigrants from India's eastern neighbour, the issue of illegal immigration has raised its head time and again in the heat and dust of Indian politics. The Centre and state governments must understand that the current moment has a far more compelling imperative than polarising politics — the two should be kept scrupulously apart. However, reports in this newspaper shine a light on the disquieting tendency among authorities to ignore court proceedings — and take the short cut bypassing due process. Among the people caught in the no man's land between India and Bangladesh is an Assam school teacher whose citizenship case is being heard by the Supreme Court. And, days ago, a 50-year-old woman was pushed into Bangladesh and then brought back after her lawyer flagged that she was legally in the clear.

In Assam and several other regions of the Northeast, the movement of people across the mostly porous border across Bangladesh is an immensely sensitive and fraught issue. On the one hand, the movement of people across regions has a long history that predates Partition. On the other hand, the anti-outsider sentiment was the major trigger for the Assam agitation and has often led to violence in the state. In recent years, the state's BJP government has stoked anxieties around identity and demography by framing the narrative in communal terms. The state government's aggressive use of the Foreigner's Tribunal — it sets March 25, 1971, as the cut-off date for citizenship in Assam — has left thousands with an uncertain future. The onus is almost always on the accused to prove their citizenship. Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma has cited a Supreme Court directive of February in support of the latest anti-immigration drive. However, Sarma's past pronouncements — especially his use of dog whistles, "land jihad" and "flood jihad," to refer to the migrant problem — do not inspire confidence

[\[https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/editorials/crackdown-against-illegal-immigrants-has-to-follow-due-process-10042651/\]](https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/editorials/crackdown-against-illegal-immigrants-has-to-follow-due-process-10042651/)

85. Which of the following statements from the passage serves as a factual premise for the author's claim that some authorities are bypassing due process in their anti-immigration operations?
- A. "Among the people caught in the no man's land between India and Bangladesh is an Assam school teacher whose citizenship case is being heard by the Supreme Court."
 - B. "In Assam and several other regions of the Northeast, the movement of people across the mostly porous border across Bangladesh is an immensely sensitive and fraught issue."
 - C. "The state government's aggressive use of the Foreigner's Tribunal — it sets March 25, 1971, as the cut-off date for citizenship in Assam — has left thousands with an uncertain future."

D. “Himanta Biswa Sarma’s past pronouncements — especially his use of dog whistles, ‘land jihad’ and ‘flood jihad,’ to refer to the migrant problem — do not inspire confidence.”

86. Based on the passage, which of the following can be logically inferred about the author’s view concerning the relationship between national security measures and political polarization?
- A. The author believes that greater surveillance along the borders inherently undermines democratic values.
 - B. The author implies that security operations and anti-immigrant drives are always motivated solely by genuine national security concerns.
 - C. The author suggests that political actors may exploit heightened security imperatives to further communal agendas.
 - D. The author contends that any reference to illegal immigration by state governments is inherently an act of communal bigotry.
87. Which of the following best states a conclusion that follows from the author’s overall argument in the passage?
- A. The March 25, 1971 cut-off date for Assam citizenship was arbitrarily chosen with no legal basis.
 - B. All foreign nationals from Bangladesh and Myanmar living in India should be immediately deported.
 - C. The Assam government’s use of the Foreigner’s Tribunal necessarily guarantees fair treatment for all migrants.
 - D. The urgency of counter-terrorism measures should not override citizens’ legal rights or due process.
88. The author asserts that “the Centre and state governments must understand that the current moment has a far more compelling imperative than polarising politics — the two should be kept scrupulously apart.” Which of the following is a hidden assumption underlying this statement?
- A. High-profile terrorist attacks only occur when political polarization is high.
 - B. Political polarization and due process can conflict with one another, so avoiding polarization helps protect legal rights.
 - C. The Home Ministry’s orders to deport foreigners are inherently unconstitutional.
 - D. Surveillance along the borders will automatically resolve all security threats.
89. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the author’s argument that anti-immigrant operations risk bypassing legal procedures?
- A. Several detainees were discovered to have valid citizenship documents, but were still held by local authorities for weeks without formal charges.
 - B. The Supreme Court recently upheld all Foreigner’s Tribunal orders without reviewing documentary evidence.
 - C. Border states have unanimously demanded that the Centre stop enforcing deportation orders

citing humanitarian concerns.

D. State governments receive additional federal funding for each deportation or detention of suspected illegal immigrants.

90. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author's assertion that the Assam government "stoked anxieties around identity and demography by framing the narrative in communal terms"?
- A. The Assam government passed legislation requiring every immigrant claimant to register with local administrative offices, irrespective of religion or ethnicity.
 - B. Independent observers found that most public statements by state officials referenced economic concerns rather than communal or religious factors.
 - C. A high court ruling explicitly noted that none of the official directives mentioned religion, while reiterating historical migration data.
 - D. Opposition parties in Assam criticized the government for being too lenient on illegal immigration and demanded stricter action.

Passage 16: So much has changed since Bridget Jones's Diary came out. It was a thought universally acknowledged that a career woman in her 30s would be in dire need of a husband and a baby, in that specific order. At least, that was the premise of Bridget Jones's Diary, about a hapless and adorably plump heroine whose misadventures with bad boyfriends, hangovers and failed diets elicited many a laugh. The 2001 romantic comedy based on Helen Fielding's eponymous 1998 book was an instant hit because who doesn't identify with a gloriously messy bungler whose repeated attempts to fix things end up making situations infinitely worse? Bridget Jones's Diary was a movie of its time. It came about after the thriving rom-com era of *When Harry Met Sally* (1989) and *Sleepless in Seattle* (1993), feel-good cinema that willfully ignored brutal realities and kept its gaze firmly narrow, on escapist happily-ever-afters. Those of us young and hopeful then, suffused with rose-tinted dreams, were just discovering that the course of true love doesn't run smooth. The sequels, though not as good as the first, mirrored the shifting cultural context and the changing dynamics between men and women.

In the second Bridget Jones movie, *The Edge of Reason* (2004), the ditsy (and still chubby) character had moved on from reluctant singleton to making the not-so-startling discovery that nabbing Mr Right isn't all it's cracked up to be. Fast forward 20 years later, the final installment, *Mad About The Boy* is all set for a February release. Judging by the trailer, our heroine is middle-aged and a widow, a mother to two young children, still looking for love, and whew, still just about winging it. We tend to think that nothing ever changes but one only needs to rewatch a late '90s hit to see how different the world actually is. Rapacious and vacant social media feeds didn't exist when the first Bridget Jones premiered. The relentless sickness of comparison hadn't taken over, so, that's one big plus for the early 2000s.

Most of the other changes time has wrought, however, are overwhelmingly positive; the way single women were socially positioned, as "tragic barren spinsters" at the ripe old age of 35, has, thank goodness,

diminished. Till then, the air of desperation that clung to Miss Havisham seemed to envelope 30-something women but as all the various Jones films over the years have shown, when women have their own apartments, cars and friends, they don't have to also have a permanent man to enjoy life. Dating apps have been enormously liberating. The old-fashioned point of view is that the surfeit of choices available suits men more than women — true only because men tend to be less picky — but that presumes that all women are seeking long-term relationships in the first place. The ticking biological clock is no longer the issue it was. The option of freezing eggs, using sperm donors, and the acceptance of single parenthood means women no longer need to settle.

[\[https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/what-an-older-bridget-jones-in-mad-about-the-boy-can-teach-us-about-love-and-imperfection-9696171/\]](https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/what-an-older-bridget-jones-in-mad-about-the-boy-can-teach-us-about-love-and-imperfection-9696171/)

91. Which of the following statements from the passage serves as a factual premise for the author's claim that single women today no longer need to settle because "the ticking biological clock is no longer the issue it was"?
 - A. "The option of freezing eggs, using sperm donors, and the acceptance of single parenthood means women no longer need to settle."
 - B. "Most of the other changes time has wrought, however, are overwhelmingly positive; the way single women were socially positioned, as 'tragic barren spinsters' at the ripe old age of 35, has, thank goodness, diminished."
 - C. "Rapacious and vacant social media feeds didn't exist when the first Bridget Jones premiered. The relentless sickness of comparison hadn't taken over, so, that's one big plus for the early 2000s."
 - D. "In the second Bridget Jones movie, The Edge of Reason, the ditsy (and still chubby) character had moved on from reluctant singleton to making the not-so-startling discovery that nabbing Mr Right isn't all it's cracked up to be."

92. Based on the passage, which of the following can be logically inferred about the author's attitude toward dating apps?
 - A. They are inherently problematic because they flood users with superficial choices and exacerbate loneliness.
 - B. They have made no significant difference in relationship dynamics since traditional match-making methods still predominate.
 - C. The author believes dating apps pose a new form of moral hazard, encouraging reckless romantic behavior without consequences.
 - D. The author views dating apps as a liberating force for women, enabling them to pursue relationships on their own terms rather than feeling compelled to settle.

93. Which of the following best captures a conclusion that follows from the author's discussion of how Bridget Jones's portrayal of a single woman in her 30s would differ today?
 - A. Bridget Jones's Diary would be a commercial failure if released in today's cultural climate because no one would relate to a single woman's romantic misadventures.

- B. The narrative of a hapless career woman desperately seeking a husband would feel anachronistic today, since contemporary single women have greater autonomy and options.
- C. Women in their 30s face more societal pressure today than they did in 2001, given the saturation of romanticized relationships on social media.
- D. The central comedic premise of Bridget Jones would remain unchanged, as women's romantic anxieties have not evolved over time.

94. The author claims that “the old-fashioned point of view is that the surfeit of choices available suits men more than women — true only because men tend to be less picky — but that presumes that all women are seeking long-term relationships in the first place.” Which of the following is an assumption underlying this claim?
- A. Men generally have more disposable time to scroll through profiles and meet potential partners than women do.
 - B. Long-term relationships require a higher level of commitment that women are inherently less capable of than men.
 - C. The stereotype that women must prioritize marriage over personal goals rests on the belief that women's primary aim is to find a spouse rather than pursue independent aspirations.
 - D. All dating platforms are inherently gender-biased in their algorithms, offering men a greater numerical advantage over women.
95. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the author's argument that “dating apps have been enormously liberating” for women?
- A. A recent study shows that 70% of dating-app users still report feeling pressure to settle down quickly due to fear of dwindling options.
 - B. Surveys indicate that a significant proportion of single women now use apps to secure casual companionship or networking without any expectation of marriage, a departure from earlier norms.
 - C. Data reveals that men on dating apps are three times more likely to ghost their matches, leading to increased mistrust among female users.
 - D. Interviews with relationship counsellors show that the quality of connections made on dating apps has not significantly improved women's emotional well-being compared to traditional meeting methods.
96. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author's assertion that “the surfeit of choices available suits men more than women — true only because men tend to be less picky — but that presumes that all women are seeking long-term relationships in the first place”?
- A. Market research reveals that a growing segment of women actively use dating apps to form non-monogamous or short-term arrangements, indicating that not all women seek long-term relationships.
 - B. A demographic report finds that men's average age of first marriage has increased significantly, suggesting men now face greater pressure to commit than women do.

- C. Social commentary argues that dating apps have reduced men's pickiness because they now face more rejection, forcing them to broaden their criteria.
- D. A survey indicates that 80% of single women consider marriage a fundamental life goal, aligning their priorities with traditional long-term relationship norms.

Passage 17: The data on India's economic performance in 2024-25, released on Friday, have something for everybody. Those with an optimistic outlook can rejoice at the seemingly robust growth in the fourth quarter. Pessimists can despair over the four-year low annual growth figure. The realist's assessment, however, is that there is cause for some restrained celebration, and more than a healthy dose of disappointment.

The Q4 growth of 7.4% was considerably higher than what was expected for the quarter, and the fastest seen in an otherwise dismal financial year. The main drivers were the construction sector returning to double-digit growth, and the agriculture sector posting a strong showing. These are also two major employment drivers. Services, too, continued their steady and strong growth. The manufacturing sector, on the other hand, grew at just 4.8%, down from 11.3% in Q4 of the previous year. There is a reality check hiding in the aggregate numbers, as well. The GDP growth rate of 7.4% was achieved in large part due to a 12.7% growth in net taxes. This bump in tax collections provided a statistical boost without which growth in actual economic activity would have come in at around 6.8%. The much-hyped 'Maha Kumbh effect' on consumption expenditure also does not seem to have materialized. Growth in Private Final Consumption Expenditure in Q4 — the Kumbh quarter — came in at 6%, the slowest in five quarters. Capital formation, however, grew a robust 9.4% as the government finally sped up its sluggish capital investments.

Government officials and Union Ministers have expressed their satisfaction at the 6.5% growth in 2024-25, the slowest since the pandemic, saying it is still the fastest among major economies, and not bad in the context of a "growth-scarce" global environment. All of this is true. Yet, 'not bad' is not nearly good enough for India. The race is not with the rest of the world, but is an effort to keep pace with the country's growing requirements. The Modi government, with its sights set on a 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047, must be held to a higher standard in line with its aspirations. If, as the Economic Survey points out, Viksit Bharat by 2047 requires "sustained economic growth of close to 8% every year for at least a decade", then India is decidedly moving very slowly, even if in the right direction. In his press conference, Chief Economic Adviser V. Anantha Nageswaran said India was entering a phase of low inflation and stable growth. Stability can be good, since it implies lower chances of growth slowing. Yet, it also implies growth is unlikely to accelerate significantly either. The government needs to consider whether this is truly a satisfactory situation for a transitioning economy.

<https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/growing-pains-economic-performance-viksit-bharat/article69645342.ece>

97. Which of the following statements from the passage serves as a factual premise for the author's claim that actual economic activity growth, excluding the boost from tax collections, would have been significantly lower than the reported 7.4%?

- A. "Services, too, continued their steady and strong growth."
- B. "The GDP growth rate of 7.4% was achieved in large part due to a 12.7% growth in net taxes. This bump in tax collections provided a statistical boost without which growth in actual economic activity would have come in at around 6.8%."
- C. "The much-hyped 'Maha Kumbh effect' on consumption expenditure also does not seem to have materialised. Growth in Private Final Consumption Expenditure in Q4 — the Kumbh quarter — came in at 6%, the slowest in five quarters."
- D. "If, as the Economic Survey points out, Viksit Bharat by 2047 requires 'sustained economic growth of close to 8% every year for at least a decade', then India is decidedly moving very slowly, even if in the right direction."

98. Based on the passage, which of the following can be logically inferred about the author's view of the government officials' pride over 6.5% annual growth as "the fastest among major economies"?
- A. The author believes that the manufacturing sector's slowdown alone poses an existential threat to India's growth trajectory.
 - B. The author implies that the 'Maha Kumbh effect' on consumption will soon reverse, rendering any short-term gains moot.
 - C. The author suggests that construction and agriculture, despite recent strength, cannot be relied upon as primary drivers of sustained GDP growth.
 - D. The author infers that emphasizing India's relative ranking among major economies overlooks the more important goal of meeting the country's unique domestic requirements.
99. Which of the following best captures a conclusion that follows from the author's overall argument regarding India's 6.5% growth in 2024-25?
- A. Because India's growth is still the fastest among major economies, there is no urgent need for policy recalibration.
 - B. Since services and agriculture performed well, the government can afford to deprioritise manufacturing in its next budget.
 - C. India must aim for at least 8% annual growth for a sustained period to meet the aspirational targets of Viksit Bharat by 2047.
 - D. The 12.7% bump in net taxes demonstrates that macroeconomic stability is more important than actual productive activity.
100. The author contends that "'not bad' is not nearly good enough for India," because the country is racing to meet its own requirements rather than those of other nations. Which of the following is an assumption underlying this contention?
- A. Maintaining a higher growth rate than neighboring countries will automatically translate into improved living standards for all Indians.
 - B. India's domestic needs—such as job creation, infrastructure, and poverty reduction—demand economic growth significantly above the current 6.5% level.

- C. A 6.5% growth rate is unsustainable given global volatility, so a higher target is moot.
- D. The government's aspirational rhetoric (for a Viksit Bharat by 2047) is more symbolic than grounded in realistic planning.

101. The following two observations from the passage appear to be in tension:
- (i) "The Q4 growth of 7.4% was considerably higher than what was expected for the quarter, and the fastest seen in an otherwise dismal financial year."
 - (ii) "The government officials and Union Ministers have expressed their satisfaction at the 6.5% growth in 2024-25, the slowest since the pandemic..."
- Which of the following best identifies the apparent paradox?
- A. If Q4 alone grew at 7.4%, how could the full year still register only 6.5% growth, implying other quarters must have been much weaker.
 - B. The celebration of 6.5% growth is inconsistent with the claim that capital formation has finally picked up steam.
 - C. A "disastrous financial year" should preclude any quarter from achieving high growth, so Q4's robust performance is inexplicable.
 - D. Government satisfaction at 6.5% contradicts the statement that services, agriculture, and construction are strong—those sectors alone should have produced more than 6.5%.
102. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the author's argument that India needs to exceed 6.5% growth and aim for close to 8% annually to achieve the "Viksit Bharat by 2047" target?
- A. International comparisons show that no country has ever raised its per capita income to the level in India's Economic Survey projections without sustaining at least 7.5% growth for a decade.
 - B. A survey of economists suggests that any growth rate above 7% would necessarily trigger inflationary pressures too severe for the Indian economy to handle.
 - C. Independent analyses indicate that if India persists at a 6.5% growth rate, per capita GDP in 2047 will be 20% below the level required for the government's stated development goals.
 - D. Reports from rating agencies show that India's creditworthiness improves only when growth exceeds 8%, whereas 6.5% growth leads to downgrades within three years.

Passage 18: When the government's 10-year health plan is published in July, prevention is expected to get a promotion. This won't be the first time that ministers will have stressed the importance of healthy lifestyles. But nine months after Wes Streeting announced that a shift from treatment to prevention would be one of the principles governing Labour's stewardship of the NHS, we are just a few weeks away from knowing how the idea will be put into practice, and turned into a narrative for voters.

In recent years, obesity has dominated discussions of the rising burden of chronic illness. But alcohol, too, is expected to feature in sections of the plan dealing with public health. Alcohol-related deaths in the UK

reached a record high of 10,473 in 2023, with men more than twice as likely to die as women, and over-55s drinking far more than younger adults. The highest death rates are in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

In his review of the crisis facing the NHS, Lord Darzi highlighted that the rise in deaths in England coincided with alcohol's increasing affordability. By contrast, in Scotland, research suggests – though it does not definitively prove – that the introduction of minimum unit pricing has led to fewer deaths and hospitalisations.

Pressure for a tougher approach from policymakers to alcohol is also growing internationally. Two years ago the World Health Organization (WHO) made a public statement that there is no safe amount of alcohol. Last month, in Amsterdam, a new European Health Alliance on Alcohol was launched. It plans to campaign for the reduction of alcohol-related injuries and illnesses. Later this year, a UN general assembly meeting on non-communicable diseases is expected to include discussion of alcohol-related illness.

If governments decide to act in response to such pressure, the options open to them include minimum pricing, taxes, advertising restrictions and stricter guidelines (in the UK, adults are recommended not to exceed 14 units a week, while pregnant women are advised not to drink at all). Other public health interventions include specialist clinics and other local services for those who are already addicted or ill.

Before last year's election, Labour ruled out minimum unit pricing in England, although this was introduced by a Labour administration in Wales. If this decision has not already been reviewed in connection with the 10-year health plan, then it should be.

But lobbyists will ensure that this and other challenges to the industry won't be easy. Last month, the Guardian reported on how new restrictions on ultra-processed foods were watered down under pressure from the Food and Drink Federation. While the guidance to retailers was softened under the last government, these changes have not been reversed by Labour. Unsurprisingly, a government that has staked its reputation on economic growth is a good listener to businesses.

[\[https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2025/jun/01/the-guardian-view-on-alcohol-and-public-health-the-drinks-industry-must-not-control-the-narrative\]](https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2025/jun/01/the-guardian-view-on-alcohol-and-public-health-the-drinks-industry-must-not-control-the-narrative)

103. Which of the following statements from the passage serves as a factual basis for the author's assertion that minimum unit pricing in Scotland has had a positive impact on alcohol-related harms?
- A. "Alcohol-related deaths in the UK reached a record high of 10,473 in 2023, with men more than twice as likely to die as women, and over-55s drinking far more than younger adults."
 - B. "Lord Darzi highlighted that the rise in deaths in England coincided with alcohol's increasing affordability."
 - C. "By contrast, in Scotland, research suggests – though it does not definitively prove – that the introduction of minimum unit pricing has led to fewer deaths and hospitalisations."

- D. "Last month, in Amsterdam, a new European Health Alliance on Alcohol was launched. It plans to campaign for the reduction of alcohol-related injuries and illnesses."
104. Based on the passage, which of the following can be logically inferred about why Labour's decision to rule out minimum unit pricing in England "should be" reviewed for the 10-year health plan?
- A. The Labour government believes that raising retail prices of alcohol conflicts with its broader economic growth agenda.
 - B. The author implies that, given mounting evidence of minimum pricing's effectiveness and international pressure, England's decision is inconsistent with a genuine prevention-focused strategy.
 - C. Labour quantitatively calculated that minimum unit pricing would reduce alcohol-related revenue without significantly affecting public health.
 - D. The author suggests that any policy introduced in Wales should automatically be adopted in England for consistency.
105. Which of the following best captures the conclusion that follows from the author's overall argument regarding the coming 10-year health plan and alcohol policy?
- A. Because the WHO and European Health Alliance are campaigning internationally, England must mirror all European alcohol policies immediately.
 - B. Labelling obesity as the dominant public health challenge implies that alcohol should be deprioritised in the plan.
 - C. The government's economic-growth priorities justify maintaining the status quo on alcohol regulation despite health concerns.
 - D. If Labour truly intends to shift from treatment to prevention, it must reconsider its stance on minimum unit pricing and other evidence-backed interventions.
106. The author contends that "a government that has staked its reputation on economic growth is a good listener to businesses." Which of the following is an assumption underlying this contention?
- A. The government is unwilling to jeopardise economic growth by enacting regulations that businesses strongly oppose.
 - B. Public health measures always have no measurable impact on businesses' bottom lines.
 - C. Only governments prioritising economic growth can effectively balance health and industry interests.
 - D. Stating a commitment to economic growth necessarily implies hostility toward any public health interventions.
107. The following two observations appear to create a tension:
- (i) "Labour ruled out minimum unit pricing in England, although this was introduced by a Labour administration in Wales."

(ii) “These changes [restrictions on ultra-processed foods] have not been reversed by Labour.”

Which of the following best identifies the apparent paradox?

- A. If Labour values public health enough to introduce minimum unit pricing in Wales, why does it refuse to reverse food-industry concessions elsewhere?
- B. The launch of the European Health Alliance on Alcohol makes it strange that Labour has not reversed any of the previous government’s public health compromises.
- C. Labour’s introduction of minimum pricing in one region but not addressing ultra-processed foods policies elsewhere suggests an inconsistent approach to prevention.
- D. The fact that the WHO says there is no safe amount of alcohol contradicts Labour’s refusal to adopt minimum unit pricing in England.

108. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the author’s argument that Labour needs to reconsider its refusal to adopt minimum unit pricing in England?
- A. A recent peer-reviewed study found that, after minimum unit pricing was introduced in Wales, overall alcohol sales fell by 15% with no observed decline in local pub revenues.
 - B. An industry-funded report claimed that minimum unit pricing in Scotland had no statistically significant effect on hospital admissions.
 - C. Polling data indicate that 72% of the English public supports minimum unit pricing if it will reduce the NHS burden, even if prices rise moderately.
 - D. A comparative analysis showed that England’s per-capita alcohol consumption remained static while Scotland’s fell after pricing reform.

SECTION - E: QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

Passage 19: CityRide operates a fleet of 120 vehicles across three distinct classes—Economy, Sedan, and SUV—to serve the high-volume metropolitan market. Last month, the company logged a total of 1,200 car-rental days, allocated by class as follows: Economy cars (40 vehicles) accounted for 50% of all rentals, Sedans (50 vehicles) for 30%, and SUVs (30 vehicles) for the remaining 20%.

Standard daily rates are set at ₹1,200 for Economy, ₹1,800 for Sedan, and ₹3,000 for SUV. To boost weekend usage, the “Weekend Special” applies every Friday through Sunday: Economy rentals receive a flat ₹100 discount per day; Sedan drivers enjoy a 10% reduction off the daily rate; and SUV customers benefit from a “rent two days, get the third day free” offer. Corporate accounts—comprising 20% of renters—earn an additional 5% rebate on their monthly invoice total, calculated after all other discounts. Every rental incurs a fuel surcharge of ₹150 per day, irrespective of vehicle class, and customers may opt for an in-car GPS unit at ₹200 per rental day. Maintenance schedules ensure 48-hour service cycles, but downtime is factored into overall fleet availability. At month’s end, management reviews revenue by class, net of weekend promotions, surcharges, and corporate rebates, then computes each car’s effective per-day earning.

109. How many rental-days last month were recorded for SUV class vehicles?
 - A. 180 days
 - B. 240 days
 - C. 300 days
 - D. 360 days

110. 110.What was the total base-rate revenue (before any discounts, surcharges, or add-ons) earned from all Sedan rentals last month?
 - A. ₹648,000
 - B. ₹720,000
 - C. ₹540,000
 - D. ₹432,000

111. 111.Under the “rent two days, get the third day free” offer for SUVs, what is the effective daily rate (excluding fuel surcharge and GPS add-on)?
 - A. ₹2,000
 - B. ₹1,500
 - C. ₹2,500
 - D. ₹3,000

112. 112.A non-corporate customer rents an Economy car for a three-day weekend (Friday–Sunday) and adds GPS for each day. What is the total charge for those three days (including fuel surcharge but **excluding** any corporate rebate)?
 - A. ₹4,350

- B. ₹4,650
- C. ₹4,050
- D. ₹3,900

113. A corporate client's invoice totals ₹50,000 **after** all class-based discounts, surcharges, and GPS charges but **before** the corporate rebate. What final amount must they pay?
- A. ₹47,500
 - B. ₹48,500
 - C. ₹45,000
 - D. ₹46,000
114. What is the ratio of total base-rate revenue (ignoring discounts, surcharges, GPS) from Economy rentals to that from SUV rentals last month?
- A. 1 : 2
 - B. 1 : 1
 - C. 2 : 3
 - D. 3 : 5

Passage 20: GreenLeaf occupies a 200 m by 150 m rectangular lot on the edge of town, divided into four equal quadrants of 100 m by 75 m for specialized horticultural projects. Quadrant A is dedicated to a vegetable patch comprising 12 raised beds, each measuring 8 m by 5 m; these beds are replenished monthly with fertilizer at ₹15 per square meter. Quadrant B is seeded as a perennial flower meadow, covering three-quarters of its 7,500 m² area, mowed bi-monthly at ₹2 per square meter per visit. Quadrant C features a triangular herb garden whose base spans the full 100 m width of the quadrant and whose height runs 60 m inward; intercropped herbs in this triangle are harvested quarterly. Quadrant D houses a rectangular reflecting pond measuring 30 m by 20 m, surrounded by a 2 m-wide paved maintenance path; pond upkeep—including algae treatment and path cleaning—costs ₹50 per linear meter of shoreline each month. The entire 200 m by 150 m perimeter is enclosed by a 2 m-high wooden fence, which is painted annually at ₹25 per square meter of surface area (both faces).

115. What is the total monthly fertilizer cost for all the raised beds in Quadrant A?
- A. ₹6,000
 - B. ₹7,200
 - C. ₹8,400
 - D. ₹9,600
116. What is the total cost per month to mow the flower meadow in Quadrant B?
- A. ₹18,750
 - B. ₹22,500
 - C. ₹15,000

- D. ₹30,000
117. What is the area of the triangular herb garden in Quadrant C?
- 2,500 m²
 - 3,000 m²
 - 3,750 m²
 - 4,000 m²
118. 118. What is the monthly maintenance cost for the pond shoreline in Quadrant D?
- ₹2,500
 - ₹5,000
 - ₹7,500
 - ₹10,000
119. What is the total annual cost to repaint the fence enclosing the entire plot (both faces)?
- ₹70,000
 - ₹100,000
 - ₹52,500
 - ₹87,500
120. What is the ratio of the area of the paved path around the pond (Quadrant D) to the total vegetable-bed area (Quadrant A)?
- 9 : 20
 - 1 : 2
 - 3 : 7
 - 2 : 5



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INSTRUCTIONS: -

1. Use **Blue/Black ball point pen** only.
2. **Fill the entries** in OMR sheet (Reg. No., Mobile Number, Question Booklet Series, etc.) and **darken** the appropriate circles.
3. Please darken the circles **complete and proper**.
4. Once marked, no change in the OMR Sheet is allowed. **More than one responses** are not permitted.
5. Please **do not** fold / damage / tear / wrinkle / staple / make any stray mark on the OMR sheet.

Name of Course :

Name of Class :

Exam Date :

Signature of Candidate

Signature of Invigilator

GENDER

MALE

FEMALE

WRONG METHODS

CORRECT METHOD

STUDENT NAME (Please note that only one letter to be filled in each column)

[illegible][illegible]

Q.No.	Answer				
1	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)
2	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)
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80	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)

Q.No.	Answer				
81	A	B	C	D	E
82	A	B	C	D	E
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84	A	B	C	D	E
85	A	B	C	D	E
86	A	B	C	D	E
87	A	B	C	D	E
88	A	B	C	D	E
89	A	B	C	D	E
90	A	B	C	D	E
91	A	B	C	D	E
92	A	B	C	D	E
93	A	B	C	D	E
94	A	B	C	D	E
95	A	B	C	D	E
96	A	B	C	D	E
97	A	B	C	D	E
98	A	B	C	D	E
99	A	B	C	D	E
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101	A	B	C	D	E
102	A	B	C	D	E
103	A	B	C	D	E
104	A	B	C	D	E
105	A	B	C	D	E
106	A	B	C	D	E
107	A	B	C	D	E
108	A	B	C	D	E
109	A	B	C	D	E
110	A	B	C	D	E
111	A	B	C	D	E
112	A	B	C	D	E
113	A	B	C	D	E
114	A	B	C	D	E
115	A	B	C	D	E
116	A	B	C	D	E
117	A	B	C	D	E
118	A	B	C	D	E
119	A	B	C	D	E
120	A	B	C	D	E

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