

COMMON LAW ADMISSION TEST

CLAT MOCK-142 [NPLC/2025/26]

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 invigilator 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: The Donald Trump administration's escalating conflict with American universities has entered a new and troubling phase. This week, the US State Department instructed embassies to pause new student visa interviews as it mulls expanding social media surveillance of applicants – a move widely interpreted as political retribution cloaked in security rhetoric. This follows a series of actions that have targeted both foreign students and elite academic institutions. In April, the administration abruptly revoked hundreds of student visas in response to pro-Palestine protests on campuses. Federal funding to Harvard University is also reportedly under threat amid intensifying political tensions between the White House and campuses.

For Indian students – the largest group of international students in the US – these developments signal a deepening crisis. And editorials in prominent dailies have not only flagged the immediate fallout but also pointed to the broader, systemic damage being inflicted on American academia and global democratic norms. "This may not necessarily be restricted to students' perceptions of Israel and its military action in Gaza, but also extend to their views regarding civic rights, sexuality, even world history. The administration's stance against a storied institution such as Harvard University indicates that it will go to any extent to enforce its writ on academia."

"American universities, which are heavily reliant on foreign students to raise funds, would find themselves crippled when it comes to raising money...an additional criterion — that of the scrutiny of social media profiles — raises ethical questions as well as the fear of curbs on free speech." It must be asked whether Mr Trump's real motive to wage this battle, as is the wont of authoritarian leaders, is to demolish the university as a citadel of free thought and fearless opinion. Indian students constitute a high percentage of applicants to American universities. The Indian government must take up the issue with its US counterpart to alleviate the plight of Indian students keen on an American education."

"Across the world, the authoritarian's playbook for pluralistic societies is to identify an enemy against whom a campaign is unleashed based on real and imagined grievances. The campaign keeps the "enemy" in a state of disarray, even turmoil, with long-term damage and a chilling effect. Though sullied by unsavoury links, from the Salem witch trials to Enron, Harvard attracts some of the brightest talent from across the world and trains them for leadership roles in their chosen fields. It represents liberalism and knowledge creation that advances globalisation. Mr. Trump's working- and middle-class support base looks at Harvard as one among elitist vehicles of globalisation that have excluded them while promoting affirmative action for minorities, especially African-Americans. While lineage and family background of prospective students are a factor for Harvard, an extensive scholarship programme seeks to balance that."

[Source: <https://www.newslandry.com/2025/05/29/real-motive-to-demolish-free-thought-editorials-on-trumps-witchhunt-against-global-students>]

Q1. Which of the following best captures the primary purpose of the passage and the author's overall intention?

- A. To chronicle a timeline of recent visa-related actions taken by the US State Department and outline procedural changes to student-visa interviews.
- B. To highlight how the Trump administration's measures against American universities and foreign students—especially Indian students—reflect a broader assault on academic freedom, detailing immediate repercussions and suggesting that political motives are cloaked in security rationale.
- C. To compare Indian-student enrollment statistics in US universities with political tensions back home, arguing that decreased applications result from negative perceptions of US policy.
- D. To describe Harvard University's scholarship programmes in depth, emphasizing its role in balancing lineage and background with affirmative action for minorities.

Q2. The word "writ" as used in the passage most nearly means:

- A. A legal document issued by a court that commands or prohibits some action, implying the administration seeks to exert judicial-like authority over universities.
- B. A formal declaration or public statement, suggesting the administration intends to publish proclamations controlling academic speech.
- C. A written tradition or codified set of guidelines, indicating the administration wants to impose an official academic doctrine.
- D. An executive order used by the president to bypass Congress, meaning the administration will directly legislate on university governance.

Q3. Which of the following words is the closest synonym of "sullied" as used in the passage?

- A. Blemished B. Laudable C. Fortified D. Exalted

Q4. "Mr. Trump's working- and middle-class support base looks at Harvard as one among elitist vehicles of globalisation..." What is the primary grammatical function of the hyphen in "working- and middle-class"?

- A. To indicate an interruption in the sentence where a parenthetical comment should appear, emphasizing the two classes as afterthoughts.

- B. To separate two entirely independent classes—"working" and "middle"—without implying they both modify "class," which is a stylistic flourish.
- C. To join the compound "working-class" and "middle-class" by sharing the word "class," indicating that both categories share the same modifier "class."
- D. To replace a comma in a conventional list ("working, and middle, class"), ensuring parallel structure among the three separate descriptors.

Q5. Which of the following statements would the author most likely agree with?

- A. The Trump administration's actions against universities are purely logistical measures aimed at streamlining visa issuance, with no larger implications.
- B. By targeting Harvard and foreign student visas, the administration is undermining universities as crucibles of independent thought, signaling an authoritarian impulse masked by national security rhetoric.
- C. Indian students should reduce their enrollment in US universities to protest the administration's policies, as that is the only effective course of action.
- D. Harvard's role in globalization is overrated, and its critics—especially the working class—rightly resent affirmative-action policies.

Q6. The author writes, "Across the world, the authoritarian's playbook for pluralistic societies is to identify an enemy against whom a campaign is unleashed based on real and imagined grievances. The campaign keeps the 'enemy' in a state of disarray, even turmoil, with long-term damage and a chilling effect." Which of the following scenarios is most analogous to the logic described by the author?

- A. A city mayor launches a public health initiative to curb smoking by targeting only high-risk areas, using both factual data on lung disease and anecdotal evidence to persuade residents.
- B. A professor assigns increasingly difficult problem sets to students, ostensibly to challenge them academically, while secretly hoping some will drop out and reduce class size.
- C. A technology firm innovates a new social media platform to enhance free speech, ensuring robust dialogue by promoting verified news sources.
- D. A parent, noticing disagreements among their children, intentionally magnifies minor squabbles—both real and fabricated—to keep them divided so they cannot form a united front against parental rules.

Passage 2: From paying for school and taking exams to finding internships, college students can face overwhelming pressure and demands. Societal, environmental, financial and relational factors are also leading to particularly high levels of stress and mental health concerns, experts say. Most students are also navigating an unfamiliar environment, living independently for the first time and facing new responsibilities. It can mean overload for some.

"In college, you have to be managing your time between multiple courses and commitments," says Leslie Rith-Najarian, a licensed psychologist and psychology lecturer at the University of California—Los Angeles. "Those supervisors or instructors aren't coordinating with each other, so it requires a lot of time management at a time when many (students) are learning how to manage their schedules on their own for the first time."

While some stress can be healthy and even motivating, research shows high stress levels are affecting some students' decisions about pursuing a degree. In a Gallup poll that surveyed 6,000 college students enrolled in October 2024, about one-third said they considered dropping out during that fall semester, citing emotional stress and mental health struggles as the main reasons. Cost of attendance and feeling like they didn't belong were the two next most common reasons, according to findings in the State of Higher Education 2025 report, based on the study conducted by Gallup and the Lumina Foundation. The feeling of not belonging is particularly concerning for this age group, says Vaile Wright, senior director of health care innovation at the American Psychological Association. "We know that social connection is a huge buffer to stress, and if everyone is sort of feeling like they can't use that coping skill, it just lends itself to more loneliness and more isolation," she says. "That's a troubling trigger or precursor for more significant depression, including suicidal ideation."

Stress often manifests as physical symptoms like muscle tension, teeth grinding, headaches, stomach aches or trouble sleeping, Wright says. Changes in diet and sleep are also telling, says Jessica Gomez, a clinical psychologist and executive director of Momentous Institute, a research-based organization that provides mental health services and educational programming to children and families. She warns students to watch for signs of irritability, a classic indicator of increased stress that can compound issues, especially in interpersonal relationships.

"I think we're more connected, and yet we're more isolated than ever," she says. "It feels counterintuitive. How can you be more connected to your network and campus than ever, yet feel this lonely? Just because they have a device to connect with each other in a transactional way doesn't mean it's a meaningful relationship. I think that's what we're missing on a lot of college campuses, is students creating meaningful connections about a shared experience."

[Source: <https://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/articles/stress-in-college-students-what-to-know>]

Q7. Which of the following best captures the primary purpose of the passage and the author's overall intention?

- A. To offer a step-by-step guide on how college students should manage time and responsibilities when supervisors or instructors do not coordinate schedules.
- B. To highlight multifaceted factors—financial, social, environmental, relational—that escalate stress among college students, examine research findings on dropout considerations, describe physical and emotional manifestations of stress, and ultimately argue that superficial connectivity exacerbates loneliness by preventing meaningful relationships.
- C. To present a comparative analysis of various psychological organizations' recommendations for treating depression and suicidal ideation among college students, including both clinical and non-clinical interventions for mental health.
- D. To chronicle Jessica Gomez's contributions to Momentous Institute's programming, focusing on diet and sleep changes as the primary indicators of stress among children and families.

Q8. In the sentence "That's a troubling trigger or precursor for more significant depression, including suicidal ideation," the word "precursor" most nearly means:

- A. A reliable predictor or warning sign that something more severe may follow, indicating that loneliness can foreshadow serious mental health issues.
- B. A formal appointment with a mental health professional prior to official diagnosis, suggesting that the phrase refers to a scheduled meeting before depression is confirmed.
- C. A remedial program aimed at preventing depression, implying that it is an intervention designed to block suicidal thoughts before they develop.
- D. A legislative mandate requiring universities to introduce mandatory mental health screenings, indicating that the phrase refers to a policy precursor rather than an individual condition.

Q9. The passage describes how "it just lends itself to more loneliness and more isolation." Which of the following options is the closest synonym for the phrase "lends itself to" in this context?

- A. Contributes to or facilitates B. Resists or hinders C. Obscures or conceals D. Neutralizes or mitigates

Q10. "I think we're more connected, and yet we're more isolated than ever. It feels counterintuitive. How can you be more connected to your network and campus than ever, yet feel this lonely?" What does this rhetorical question most imply about modern college students' social experiences?

- A. That students prioritize face-to-face interactions over any digital communication, because devices inherently prevent genuine friendships.
- B. That the sheer quantity of digital connections or online networking does not guarantee genuine emotional support, leading to a paradoxical increase in loneliness despite high connectivity.
- C. That technological devices are to be blamed entirely for rising levels of depression, and all students should abandon social media to solve mental health issues.
- D. That students should increase transactional connections—such as project collaborations—and reduce personal relationships to alleviate feelings of loneliness.

Q11. The author argues that "Just because they have a device to connect with each other in a transactional way doesn't mean it's a meaningful relationship." Which of the following situations is most analogous to this logic?

- A. A company distributes smartphones to all employees so they can message one another instantly, assuming that instant group chats automatically build trust and camaraderie among team members.
- B. A team of scientists relies on data sharing via cloud servers rather than meeting in person to discuss research findings, believing that digital file exchange is sufficient for collaboration, but discovers that miscommunications and isolation hamper creativity.
- C. A parent assigns chores to siblings in a household, thinking that having them complete tasks together will foster sibling bonding, but they end up arguing over whose turn it is to wash dishes.
- D. A bookstore offers coupons to customers for every purchase, expecting that discounted transactions alone will create a loyal community of book lovers, but finds that readers still feel disconnected from each other despite frequent sales.

Q12. Which of the following lists correctly orders the top three reasons college students considered dropping out in fall 2024, from most cited to least cited?

- A. Feeling like they didn't belong; emotional stress and mental health struggles; cost of attendance
- B. Emotional stress and mental health struggles; cost of attendance; feeling like they didn't belong
- C. Cost of attendance; feeling like they didn't belong; emotional stress and mental health struggles
- D. Emotional stress and mental health struggles; feeling like they didn't belong; cost of attendance

Passage 3: The relationship between art and psychology has long been a subject of investigation, standing at the crossroads of creative expression and scientific exploration of the human mind. This connection not only has historical roots but continues to evolve through modern disciplines such as neuroaesthetics and art therapy, which provide tools to understand and address the complexities of the human condition. Freud himself acknowledged the potential of art to externalize the

unconscious, foreshadowing the central role of artistic expression in emotional regulation and internal dialogue. Today, the intersection between art and psychology transcends historical narratives to encompass a neuroscientific investigation of the brain's responses to art and its therapeutic implications.

Neuroaesthetics explores the neural mechanisms underlying artistic perception and creation. Recent studies demonstrate that the aesthetic experience engages a wide range of cognitive and emotional processes, activating specific brain regions such as the superior temporal sulcus and the posterior cingulate cortex, which are respectively responsible for perceptual analysis and emotional reflection. In parallel, art therapy leverages creative processes to stimulate neuroplasticity, promoting structural and functional changes in the brain that enhance emotional wellbeing and cognitive resilience. Together, these disciplines underscore the dual significance of art as both a subjective experience and a scientifically grounded therapeutic tool.

One of the most compelling aspects of this intersection is how art bridges the conscious and unconscious realms of the mind. Creative engagement has been shown to increase synaptic density and activate neural circuits associated with emotional processing, thereby fostering emotional resilience. At the same time, neuroaesthetic research elucidates how the brain processes artistic stimuli by integrating perceptual, cognitive, and emotional networks. This integration not only enhances our understanding of the individual's aesthetic experience but also highlights art's profound psychological impact.

These findings transcend theoretical interest, offering tangible applications in therapeutic practices and environmental design. By incorporating aesthetic principles into psychological interventions, practitioners can create tools and spaces that promote both emotional health and cognitive functionality. Understanding the neural underpinnings of artistic experiences is essential for advancing evidence-based approaches that harness the therapeutic and transformative power of art.

[Source: <https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/psychology/articles/10.3389/fpsyg.2025.1542235/full>]

Q13. Which of the following best captures the primary purpose of the passage and the author's overall intention?

- A. To compare Freud's early theories of the unconscious with modern neuroaesthetic findings, arguing that Freud's insights are outdated and should be replaced by neuroscientific explanations of art perception.
- B. To chronicle the historical development of art therapy from its psychoanalytic origins to contemporary clinical applications, focusing primarily on case studies that illustrate art's clinical efficacy.
- C. To demonstrate how art and psychology intersect across history—from Freud's conception of art as an externalized unconscious to modern neuroaesthetics and art therapy—emphasizing both the neuroscientific mechanisms of aesthetic experiences and their practical therapeutic applications.
- D. To critique neuroaesthetics as an overly reductionist discipline that ignores the subjective nuances of artistic creation, advocating instead for a purely phenomenological approach to art psychology.

Q14. "In parallel, art therapy leverages creative processes to stimulate neuroplasticity," "leverages" most nearly means:

- A. To destabilize or undermine; implying that art therapy subverts traditional psychological methods.
- B. To provide a metaphorical "lever" or physical support for artistic tools, suggesting art therapy uses physical art instruments to prop open neural pathways.
- C. To superficially imitate or mimic; indicating that art therapy only pretends to engage creative processes without real neurological effect.
- D. To utilize or employ effectively; meaning that art therapy makes strategic use of creative activities to induce beneficial changes in the brain.

Q15. In the phrase "...highlights art's profound psychological impact," the word "profound" is best understood as the opposite (antonym) of which of the following?

- A. Superficial
- B. Complex
- C. Intricate
- D. Subtle

Q16. Consider the clause: "...which provide tools to understand and address the complexities of the human condition." What is the primary grammatical function of the infinitive phrase "to understand and address" in this context?

- A. It acts as an adverb modifying the noun "tools," indicating the tools' physical appearance.
- B. It serves as an adjective modifying "human condition" by specifying which conditions are under discussion.
- C. It functions as a noun, serving as the subject of the larger sentence and indicating what is being provided.
- D. It functions as an adverbial purpose clause explaining why the tools exist—namely, in order to understand and address those complexities.

Q17. The author asserts that "neuroaesthetic research elucidates how the brain processes artistic stimuli by integrating perceptual, cognitive, and emotional networks." Which of the following scenarios is most analogous to this idea?

- A. A chef combines ingredients purely for flavor, ignoring how texture and aroma interact, yet still expects diners to experience a holistic taste sensation.
- B. A musical composer writes a symphony by coordinating melody (perceptual), harmony (cognitive), and dynamics (emotional) so that listeners undergo a unified auditory and emotional experience.

- C. An architect designs a building based only on structural safety, without considering how users will feel when they occupy the space, arguing that aesthetics are irrelevant.
- D. A teacher separates reading, writing, and arithmetic lessons into different schedules, believing that integrating these subjects would confuse students rather than enhance overall learning.

Q18. Which two specific brain regions are mentioned as being activated during the aesthetic experience?

- A. Superior temporal sulcus and posterior cingulate cortex
- B. Amygdala and dorsolateral prefrontal cortex
- C. Hippocampus and ventral tegmental area
- D. Insula and anterior cingulate cortex

Passage 4: One cannot get through a foreign policy debate these days without someone proposing the rule of law as a solution to the world's troubles. How can U.S. policy on China cut through the conundrum of balancing human rights against economic interests? Promoting the rule of law, some observers argue, advances both principles and profits. What will it take for Russia to move beyond Wild West capitalism to more orderly market economics? Developing the rule of law, many insist, is the key. How can Mexico negotiate its treacherous economic, political, and social transitions? Inside and outside Mexico, many answer: establish once and for all the rule of law. Indeed, whether it's Bosnia, Rwanda, Haiti, or elsewhere, the cure is the rule of law, of course. The concept is suddenly everywhere?

A venerable part of Western political philosophy enjoying a new run as a rising imperative of the era of globalization. Unquestionably, it is important to life in peaceful, free, and prosperous societies. Yet its sudden elevation as a panacea for the ills of countries in transition from dictatorships or statist economies should make both patients and prescribers wary. The rule of law promises to move countries past the first, relatively easy phase of political and economic liberalization to a deeper level of reform. But that promise is proving difficult to fulfill. A multitude of countries in Asia, the former Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, Latin America, sub-Saharan Africa, and the Middle East are engaged in a wide range of rule-of-law reform initiatives. Rewriting constitutions, laws, and regulations is the easy part. Far-reaching institutional reform, also necessary, is arduous and slow. Judges, lawyers, and bureaucrats must be retrained, and fixtures like court systems, police forces, and prisons must be restructured. Citizens must be brought into the process if conceptions of law and justice are to be truly transformed. The primary obstacles to such reform are not technical or financial, but political and human.

Rule-of-law reform will succeed only if it gets at the fundamental problem of leaders who refuse to be ruled by the law. Respect for the law will not easily take root in systems rife with corruption and cynicism, since entrenched elites cede their traditional impunity and vested interests only under great pressure. Even the new generation of politicians arising out of the political transitions of recent years are reluctant to support reforms that create competing centers of authority beyond their control. Western nations and private donors have poured hundreds of millions of dollars into rule-of-law reform, but outside aid is no substitute for the will to reform, which must come from within. Countries in transition to democracy must first want to reform, and must then be thorough and patient in their legal makeovers. Meanwhile, donors must learn to spend their reform dollars where they will do the most good and expect few miracles and little leverage in return.

[Source: Thomas Carothers, 'The Rule of Law Revival']

Q19. Which of the following best captures the primary purpose of the passage and the author's overall intention?

- A. To caution against viewing the rule of law as an all-purpose cure for political and economic ills in transitioning countries, by showing that rewriting laws is easy while deep institutional and cultural change—driven by internal will—is difficult and slow.
- B. To argue that rewriting constitutions and laws is a waste of time unless dictatorships are immediately dismantled, since political obstacles are insurmountable without revolution.
- C. To prove that Western nations and private donors should withdraw all funding from rule-of-law programs because financial aid inevitably undermines local sovereignty and democracy.
- D. To demonstrate that entrenched elites can be swiftly replaced if external donors apply sufficient leverage, thus allowing rule-of-law reforms to succeed rapidly.

Q20. In the sentence "Yet its sudden elevation as a panacea for the ills of countries in transition from dictatorships or statist economies should make both patients and prescribers wary," the word "panacea" most nearly means:

- A. A narrowly tailored policy that works only for a specific country, suggesting caution because rule-of-law reform is not universally applicable.
- B. A clandestine strategy designed to pacify troubled citizens, implying that rule-of-law rhetoric is used secretly by elites to mask real objectives.
- C. A subtle incremental change that gradually improves conditions, indicating that rule-of-law reform should be introduced gradually rather than wholesale.
- D. A supposed cure-all remedy that is claimed to solve every problem, warning that one should be skeptical of expecting rule of law alone to fix deeply rooted political and social maladies.

Q21. In the phrase “...since entrenched elites cede their traditional impunity and vested interests only under great pressure,” which of the following words is the closest antonym of “impunity” as used here?

- A. Forgiveness B. Indulgence C. Accountability D. Inaction

Q22. What does the phrase “entrenched elites cede their traditional impunity and vested interests only under great pressure” most directly imply about the challenges of rule-of-law reform?

- A. That powerful groups with longstanding privileges will relinquish their power reluctantly and only when compelled by significant force or incentives.
B. That elites willingly surrender impunity once they see clear examples from other countries, indicating that external models are sufficient to induce reform.
C. That entrenched elites have no vested interests at all, which makes the reform process easier if outsiders identify the correct loopholes.
D. That only financial incentives can persuade entrenched elites to allow rule-of-law reforms, since ideological arguments have no effect.

Q23. The author claims that “Rewriting constitutions, laws, and regulations is the easy part. Far-reaching institutional reform, also necessary, is arduous and slow.” Which of the following scenarios exhibits a similar logical structure?

- A. A restaurant redesigns its menu to include healthier dishes in a week, but retraining chefs in new cooking techniques and sourcing fresh ingredients for every meal takes months of meticulous work.
B. An Olympic athlete changes her uniform colors in one afternoon, yet strengthening her muscles and building endurance to win a medal requires years of consistent training.
C. A software company updates its user interface overnight, but building the backend architecture to support millions of users while ensuring security and scalability demands extensive development cycles.
D. All of the above.

Q24. Based on the passage, which of the following statements would the author most likely agree with?

- A. Countries in transition should prioritize technical drafting of laws over any consideration of stakeholder buy-in, because written rules are all that matter.
B. Entrenched elites can be completely sidelined if Western donors provide higher sums of money and stricter conditionalities.
C. Political will from within is irrelevant if international institutions monitor every step, since external oversight can replace indigenous commitment.
D. Lasting rule-of-law reform depends primarily on internal political will and citizen engagement, as external funding alone is insufficient to overcome corruption and vested interests.

SECTION - B : CURRENT AFFAIRS (INCLUDING GENERAL KNOWLEDGE)

Passage 1: Four days after N Biren Singh resigned as Chief Minister, the Centre Thursday announced that President’s rule had been imposed in Manipur and the state assembly placed under suspended animation. This closes a chapter and opens another in the state roiled by ethnic violence since May 2023. President Droupadi Murmu’s decision, announced hours after the two Houses of Parliament adjourned to meet again on March 10 for the remainder of the Budget session, followed a report from Manipur Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla.

Before President’s rule was imposed, a security plan was prepared and the state police and intelligence agencies were monitoring movements of certain individuals to prevent any untoward incident. The BJP-led government in the state collapsed on February 9 when Chief Minister Biren Singh resigned, shortly after returning to Imphal from New Delhi where he held talks with Union Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP president J P Nadda.

[<https://indianexpress.com/article/india/manipur-president-rule-imposed-9830795/>]

Q25. Which of the following statements correctly explains the constitutional provisions related to the imposition of President’s Rule in a state?

- A. Article 355 allows the President to impose President’s Rule directly in case of internal disturbance.
B. Article 356 allows the President to assume the functions of a state government if the state is unable to function in accordance with the Constitution.
C. Article 360 empowers the President to dissolve a State Assembly on grounds of national security.
D. Article 365 allows the Supreme Court to recommend President’s Rule if Centre-State relations break down.

Q26. Under what conditions can President’s Rule be extended beyond one year, as per the 44th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1978?

- A. A referendum is conducted in the affected state and approved by a two-thirds majority.
- B. A National Emergency must be in force in the entire country or the concerned state, and the Election Commission must certify that elections cannot be held.
- C. Parliament must pass a resolution under Article 368 and receive the assent of at least half the states.
- D. A two-thirds majority of Parliament and a report from the Governor must approve the extension.

Q27. Which of the following is *not* a constitutionally valid ground for imposing President's Rule under Article 356, as interpreted by the Supreme Court in landmark cases?

- A. The state government fails to comply with Centre's lawful directions under Article 365.
- B. The Governor reports breakdown of constitutional machinery in the state.
- C. Social evils like defection or caste-based violence without breakdown of legislative majority.
- D. A state refuses to implement a central scheme, resulting in governance failure.

Q28. What immediate administrative changes occur in a state under President's Rule?

- A. The President assumes executive functions through the Governor, the legislature is suspended or dissolved, and Parliament or a delegated body assumes legislative authority.
- B. The Prime Minister directly administers the state with support from the Home Ministry.
- C. The Election Commission takes over state administration and begins electoral roll correction.
- D. All state bureaucrats are placed under the supervision of the Supreme Court to ensure neutrality.

Q29. Which constitutional provision guarantees a committee in the Manipur Assembly exclusively composed of members elected from the hill areas?

- A. Article 371A B. Article 371C C. Article 368 D. Article 342A

Q30. Which of the following was *not* a factor contributing to the recent ethnic unrest in Manipur leading to the imposition of President's Rule?

- A. Eviction of illegal Kuki villages in protected forest zones leading to violent protests
- B. Discontent over delimitation based on allegedly inaccurate census data and tribal underrepresentation
- C. Intervention of the Election Commission in annulling tribal votes from bordering districts
- D. Breakdown of ceasefire agreements with Kuki insurgent groups and accusations of their role in drug trade

Passage 2: The Summit of BRICS emerging economies, which ended on Monday (July 7, 2025) came at a time when the organisation was in the global spotlight. It also followed the U.S.-Israel attacks on Iran's nuclear programme, and the escalation in Israel's bombardment of Gaza. This was the first summit since the four-day India-Pakistan conflict in May, and also after the G-7 summit in Canada. The BRICS grouping, seen as the next challenger to the global financial order, is in U.S. President Donald Trump's cross-hairs, as he sees it mounting an alternative to the dollar in international trade. In addition, the group has several internal rivalries that have brought its sustainability into question. In April, the BRICS Foreign Ministers' meeting ended without a joint statement, as the African members held up the wording on the expansion of the UN Security Council. Meanwhile, despite India's clarification in March that it is not considering de-dollarisation of trade in any form, and that there is no "unified BRICS position" on the issue, Brazil's President Lula da Silva doubled down on rhetoric against the U.S., saying that BRICS proves the world "doesn't need an emperor". Mr. Trump has since repeated threats that BRICS countries would face an extra 10% tariffs due to the grouping's "anti-American stance" — an awkward moment for New Delhi as it attempts to conclude a trade agreement with Washington.

In the joint statement, there was strong language against the attacks on Gaza and condemnation of the strikes on Iran, given the risks to nuclear safety. India was able to ensure a paragraph with tough language condemning the Pahalgam terror attack and references to terror financing and "cross-border movement of terrorists". India and Brazil won endorsements of the whole grouping on playing a larger role at the UN, "including the Security Council". The absence of the Chinese and Russian Presidents allowed more space for the non-P5 countries to promote a common vision for the Global South, adding several important resolutions on energy security, climate change and re-ordering the WTO. The Rio declaration also took a stern view of the U.S.'s moves on tariffs. As India prepares for its leadership of the BRICS grouping next year, that now represents about half the global population, around 40% of the global GDP and a quarter of global trade, it can move forward with this consensus, fulfilling the vision for the grouping's acronym that Mr. Modi recast as "Building Resilience and Innovation for Cooperation and Sustainability".

[<https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/building-resilience-on-the-17th-summit-of-brics-emerging-economies/article69792690.ece>]

Q31. On the BRICS position concerning border carbon taxes, which statement is most accurate?

- A. BRICS jointly condemned and rejected the EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism and similar measures, arguing that such unilateral carbon tariffs undermine a fair green transition and erode the competitiveness of exports like steel and

cement from developing economies.

B. BRICS broadly endorsed CBAM as a necessary tool against carbon leakage, committing to align their trade policies with EU carbon-pricing rules to ensure parity across carbon-intensive sectors by 2030.

C. BRICS announced an internal CBAM within the bloc, pledging to impose border charges on intra-BRICS trade to harmonise emissions intensity and fund low-carbon technology deployment across member states.

D. BRICS clarified that CBAM is merely a voluntary emissions-reporting template with no tariff-like effects, urging companies to participate on a best-efforts basis without fear of trade consequences.

Q32. Which development best captures the membership and outreach outcomes announced?

A. Saudi Arabia and Argentina formally entered as full members, while Indonesia and Vietnam were offered observer status pending domestic ratifications within the bloc's treaty framework.

B. Indonesia's application was deferred; instead, Malaysia and Nigeria acceded as full members, and a generic "Global South Partnership" was floated without listing specific partner countries.

C. Indonesia officially joined as a member; Belarus, Bolivia, Kazakhstan, Cuba, Nigeria, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, Uganda, and Uzbekistan were welcomed as partner countries to deepen cooperation without immediate full membership.

D. No membership changes occurred; outreach was limited to re-affirming ties with existing dialogue partners and pausing all expansion talk until a new admissions charter is drafted.

Q33. With reference to the evolution of BRICS as a grouping, which statement is most accurate?

A. The acronym was coined in 2006 at the St. Petersburg summit; BRIC's inaugural summit occurred in 2010, and South Africa joined in 2011 after a formal WTO waiver.

B. "BRIC" originated in an IMF working paper in 1999; the first leaders' summit was in Brasília in 2008, and the group became BRICS in 2012 with Nigeria's entry.

C. The term was created by a UNCTAD taskforce in 2003; the first summit was in New Delhi in 2007; South Africa joined in 2009 following a SADC endorsement.

D. The term "BRIC" was coined by economist Jim O'Neill in 2001; BRIC began coordinated engagement in 2006 and held its first summit in 2009 in Russia; South Africa's entry in 2010 expanded the acronym to BRICS.

Q34. Which initiative most directly seeks to reduce reliance on the US dollar in settlements among participating economies?

A. The New Development Bank's thematic green bond window, aimed at mobilising private capital for sustainable infrastructure through labelled issuances in international financial centres.

B. The proposed Cross-Border Payments Initiative, intended to enhance interoperability of payment systems and promote local-currency settlements to lower FX costs and dollar-denominated exposure in trade and finance.

C. The Contingent Reserve Arrangement, designed as a precautionary liquidity backstop that offers short-term balance-of-payments support tied to IMF-linked conditionality thresholds.

D. The BRICS Grain Exchange, envisaged as a platform to improve agricultural trade transparency and price discovery rather than to re-denominate cross-border financial settlements.

Q35. Which of the following about the New Development Bank (NDB) is most accurate?

A. Headquartered in Shanghai and established in 2014 by the then BRICS members with equal voting power among founding shareholders, the NDB finances infrastructure and sustainable development and is open to membership beyond the original five.

B. Based in Johannesburg since inception and majority-owned by China with veto rights, the NDB lends primarily to private equity funds and restricts membership strictly to BRICS states.

C. Registered in Abu Dhabi as a special purpose vehicle in 2016, the NDB's charter confines lending to renewable energy grants and prohibits sovereign loans to middle-income countries.

D. Headquartered in Moscow with rotating veto shares, the NDB serves as a lender of last resort like the IMF and conditions assistance on macroeconomic stabilisation programmes.

Passage 3: The European Union's (EU) aggressive environmental regulations, particularly the carbon tax, deforestation rules, and supply chain due diligence laws are one of the biggest hurdles in the negotiations for a proposed trade pact with India, economic think tank GTRI said on Sunday. It said that these regulations could impose additional costs on Indian exports. Under the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), Indian exports of steel, aluminum, and cement to the EU could face tariffs of 20-35 per cent, even if an FTA is signed, the Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) said in its report. This raise concerns that while EU goods would enter India duty-free, Indian exports would still face these indirect barriers in Europe, it added.

India and the 27-nation European Union (EU) bloc will start the tenth round of negotiations for a proposed free trade agreement from Monday in Brussels. GTRI Founder Ajay Srivastava said that India is pressing for clear exemptions or compensatory measures within the FTA to neutralize the impact of CBAM and related environmental rules.

[<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/indias-eu-trade-deal-faces-a-costly-hurdle-due-to-strict-laws/articleshow/118817708.cms?from=mdr>]

Q36. Which of the following statements correctly describes the first Free Trade Agreement (FTA) signed by India and its year of implementation?

- A. The India-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement, implemented in 2000, marked the beginning of India's FTA journey
- B. The India-Singapore CECA signed in 2003 was the first trade agreement covering services and goods
- C. The South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) was India's first regional trade agreement, implemented in 1995
- D. The India-ASEAN FTA was the first agreement to include investment and IP as key components, implemented in 2004

Q37. What is the role of the European Commission in the functioning of the European Union?

- A. It is the executive arm responsible for proposing laws, monitoring compliance, and managing the EU budget
- B. It serves as the highest judicial body of the EU, interpreting European treaties and enforcing member compliance
- C. It acts as the legislature and directly represents EU citizens in policy formation
- D. It manages monetary policy, exchange rates, and regulates the Euro through interest rate controls

Q38. Which of the following FTAs or economic agreements involving India was signed with a non-European country in Africa?

- A. India-South Korea CEPA
- B. India-EFTA TEPA
- C. India-Mauritius CECPA
- D. India-UK FTA

Q39. What has been one of the most contentious demands made by the European Union during the India-EU FTA negotiations?

- A. A significant reduction in import duties on wines and spirits, currently high in India
- B. Complete elimination of export subsidies on India's agricultural goods to the EU
- C. Restrictions on pharmaceutical exports from India to align with EU production standards
- D. India's accession to the EU's data protection and cybersecurity framework as a prerequisite

Q40. How is the India-EU Free Trade Agreement expected to benefit the Indian economy most significantly?

- A. Through enhanced market access, foreign direct investment, and job creation in sectors like textiles, IT, and pharmaceuticals
- B. By reducing India's dependency on the US dollar and directly linking trade settlements with the Euro
- C. By integrating India into the Schengen visa network to allow seamless mobility for Indian professionals
- D. Through India's membership in the EU Single Market, allowing customs-free movement of Indian goods

Q41. What broader strategic goals does the India-EU FTA serve in light of global economic and geopolitical developments?

- A. It promotes EU-led digital infrastructure expansion in South Asia to counter China's Digital Silk Road
- B. It boosts India's ability to seek WTO exceptions for export controls in strategic sectors
- C. It helps both India and the EU diversify supply chains, enhance strategic autonomy, and respond to higher tariffs from third countries like the US
- D. It enables a common India-EU military logistics protocol to jointly operate in Indo-Pacific maritime zones

Passage 4: India's batting superstar Virat Kohli on March 10, 2025 said the lessons learned from tough defeats in past ICC knock-out games have paved the way for India's second major title in less than 12 months. India won the T20 World Cup in June last year and on Sunday (March 9, 2025), they also lifted the Champions Trophy. It was a total team effort from Rohit Sharma's men over the course of their campaign in the UAE.

"It's been a long time since we've had a Champions Trophy, and the format is really good. This was our aim. After a tough tour of Australia, we came here and won a big tournament, which has once again boosted our confidence as a team," Kohli told the host broadcaster. "Throughout the tournament, different players stepped up in different matches. There were moments in past tournaments where we weren't able to finish games or capitalise on crucial situations. But this time, we learned from those experiences." The experience of Rohit and K L Rahul towards the end got India over the line in the final against New Zealand. "That's why you back experienced players - they have faced these moments before, and when you apply those learnings and work hard, you get a chance to turn things around," Kohli said.

[<https://www.thehindu.com/sport/cricket/champions-trophy-win-kohli-says-lessons-learnt-from-past-defeats/article69312276.ece>]

Q42. In which year was the ICC Champions Trophy originally introduced?

- A. 2000
- B. 1999
- C. 2001
- D. 1998

Q43. Which of the following correctly reflects the format change introduced for team qualification in the 2025 ICC Champions Trophy?

- A. Qualification was based on the top 10 ODI rankings as of January 2025, with two wildcard entries
- B. Qualification was determined using the top-eight finishers from the points table of the 2023 ICC Men's Cricket World Cup
- C. Only full ICC member nations were allowed to participate, based on performance in bilateral ODI series from 2023 to 2025
- D. A preliminary round robin was held among all ICC member nations to select the top eight

Q44. Which of the following statements regarding the structure of the ICC Champions Trophy tournament is correct?

- A. All 12 ICC full-member nations participate by default in every edition
- B. The eight lowest-ranked teams from the World Cup play in a pre-tournament playoff
- C. The competition involves two groups of four teams each, followed by semi-finals and a final
- D. Each team plays twice against the other teams in their group before advancing to the knockout stage

Q45. Where was the ICC Champions Trophy 2025 final played, and what unusual hosting arrangement was in place for India's matches?

- A. The final was held in Colombo, with India playing all matches in South Africa due to scheduling conflicts with Pakistan
- B. The final was in Karachi, but India's matches were moved to London due to monsoon season
- C. The final was held in Dubai, with India's matches played at a neutral venue outside Pakistan for security reasons
- D. The final was hosted in Lahore, with India playing only the semi-final and final due to diplomatic tension

Q46. How many times has India won the ICC Champions Trophy?

- A. 3
- B. 4
- C. 2
- D. None of the above

Passage 5: Every aspect of life is impacted by health, from longevity to happiness. Being aware about best practices for good health has seen growing significance in the current period, particularly in the wake of the pandemic, as various aspects of human well-being have taken center stage. Health has become a major priority worldwide as a result of growing awareness of various diseases, mental health issues, and the need for preventive care. An attempt to add to the same is made every year on April 7th to observe World Health Day. The day also marks the establishment of the World Health Organization, a specialized UN organization devoted to global public health.

[https://www.business-standard.com/lifestyle/world-health-day-2025-theme-significance-history-messages-and-more-nc-125040300416_1.html]

Q47. When was the World Health Organization formally established and where is its current headquarters located?

- A. 1950; Geneva, Switzerland
- B. 1948; Geneva, Switzerland
- C. 1945; New York, United States
- D. 1949; Paris, France

Q48. What led to the change in the date of World Health Day from July 22 to April 7?

- A. To align it with the fiscal year of the United Nations for funding purposes
- B. To coincide with the summer solstice in the northern hemisphere for broader international participation
- C. To ensure better coordination with International Day of Health and Fitness
- D. To encourage greater student engagement by linking it to the founding anniversary of WHO

Q49. Which of the following best reflects the founding context and early history of WHO as an international organization?

- A. It was created by the Red Cross and the UN Security Council in response to the 1918 Spanish flu
- B. It was first proposed in 1945 by representatives of Brazil and China, and came into existence in 1948 after 61 countries signed its constitution
- C. It was initiated by the World Bank and International Monetary Fund to manage health risks in low-income nations
- D. It began as an internal branch of the League of Nations and evolved into a standalone agency post World War II

Q50. What is the core theme of World Health Day 2025?

- A. Healthy Beginnings, Hopeful Futures
- B. Rebuilding Health Systems
- C. Mental Wellness for All
- D. Climate and Health

Q51. Which of the following strategies is *not* part of WHO's 2025 global campaign under the World Health Day theme?

- A. Integrating artificial intelligence into prenatal diagnostics across member states
- B. Providing skilled assistance during childbirth to reduce maternal mortality
- C. Offering education on nutrition and mental health care during and after pregnancy
- D. Ensuring access to early postnatal care and vaccination for newborns

Q52. Why is improving maternal and newborn health emphasized as a socioeconomic necessity in World Health Day 2025 campaigns?

- A. It increases dependence on national health subsidies and slows down population growth
- B. It reduces mortality rates, enables long-term community development, and boosts women's participation in economic life
- C. It helps meet United Nations disarmament goals by reallocating military budgets to health
- D. It ensures that global pharmaceutical companies benefit from expanded drug markets

SECTION - C : LEGAL REASONING

Passage 1: A witness is a person who has personally seen an event, such as a crime or an accident. Sections 118 - 134 of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, discuss who can testify as a witness, how one can testify, what statements are considered testimony, and more. A witness must understand the questions posed to them and answer rationally to testify in court. Any person who has witnessed an event is competent to testify unless the court considers them unable to understand the questions or give rational answers, as prescribed in Section 118. Rational answers should not be expected from those of tender age, extreme old age, or with a mental disability. Generally, a lunatic does not have the capacity to testify unless their lunacy does not prevent them from understanding the question and giving a rational answer.

A small child, even as young as 6 or 7 years, can testify if the court is satisfied they can give a rational testimony. The Supreme Court has held that the testimony of a child cannot be discarded as untrue if the child has no reason to falsely implicate the accused. Therefore, a child can testify provided they are not a toddler. Section 119 of the Act states that a person unable to communicate verbally can testify through writing or signs. This includes those who have taken a vow of silence.

A judge or magistrate is not compelled to answer questions about their conduct in court or anything that came to their knowledge in court, except when asked via a special order by a Superior Court, as stated in Section 121. However, they may be examined regarding other matters that happened in their presence while acting as a judge or magistrate. A judge before whom a case is being tried must conceal any fact he knows about the case unless he is the sole judge and cannot depose as a witness. Such a judge cannot be impartial in deciding the admissibility of his own testimony.

Section 133 of the Act states that an accomplice to a crime is competent to be a witness against the accused. The conviction based on such testimony is not illegal. An accomplice is a person who has helped the accused commit a crime. However, if a person is forced to break the law against their will, they may not be regarded as an accomplice.

The testimony of one credible witness can outweigh that given by other questionable witnesses. A witness is considered credible if he stands by his statements, and these can be proved later on. Witnesses may also need to identify the accused person, and there is no minimum number of witnesses required for this identification.

[<https://blog.ipleaders.in/witness-under-the-evidence-act-1872/>]

Q53. A hit-and-run accident occurred outside Maple Street School at 4 PM. Eight-year-old Aarav witnessed the entire incident and was brought to the police station the next day. He described the sequence of events but became confused when asked to specify the colour of the fleeing car, offering contradictory answers and repeatedly asking the officer to repeat the question. The magistrate observed that Aarav often giggled and wandered off-topic during questioning. Under Section 118 of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, is Aarav competent to testify as a witness about the accident?

- A. Yes, because any person who has seen the event is a competent witness regardless of age or ability to focus on specific questions.
- B. Yes, as long as the child demonstrates some recollection of the event, even if answers are erratic under cross-examination.
- C. No, because the court must reject testimony from a person who cannot understand questions or give rational answers, regardless of having witnessed the event.
- D. No, since children below ten years are universally deemed incapable of giving coherent testimony under the Act.

Q54. While serving as an additional sessions judge, Justice Mehta presided over a civil suit involving alleged trespass on government land. Later, a small claims tribunal summoned Justice Mehta to testify about the conduct of the surveyor who prepared the site map during those proceedings. Justice Mehta refused, citing his judicial role. The tribunal issued a writing order compelling his testimony. Under Sections 118 and 121 of the Act, is Justice Mehta competent to testify regarding the surveyor's conduct in the earlier trial?

- A. Yes, because any fact observed by a judge in court is admissible if relevant to subsequent litigation.
- B. Yes, since Superior Courts can summon judges to testify about any matters they witnessed while in judicial office.
- C. No, because a judge is not compelled to answer questions about conduct or knowledge gained in court except by special order from a Superior Court.
- D. No, as judges have absolute immunity from testifying about any facts they observed while on the bench.

Q55. Factual Matrix: During investigation of a bank robbery, police arrested Vinod, who admitted facilitating getaway transport but claimed he acted under duress from the main perpetrators who threatened his family. Vinod now offers to testify against the accused robbers in exchange for leniency. The prosecution plans to rely heavily on his admission and

proposed testimony. Under Section 133 of the Act, is Vinod competent to testify as an accomplice, and is reliance on his testimony lawful?

- A. No, because anyone who has broken the law in any manner is automatically incompetent to testify.
- B. No, since those forced against their will cannot be considered accomplices and thus cannot testify for the prosecution.
- C. Yes, an accomplice is competent to testify and conviction based on such testimony is not illegal, provided his testimony is credible.
- D. Yes, but only if Vinod's testimony is corroborated by two independent eyewitnesses due to the inherent unreliability of accomplice evidence.

Q56. Ms. Kapoor, a long-time spiritual practitioner, took a public vow of silence and communicates only through written notes or sign language. Having witnessed her neighbour's burglary, she approached the police and provided a detailed written statement describing the intruder's appearance and actions. The police seek to admit her testimony at trial but hesitate because she cannot speak. Under Section 119 of the Act, can Ms. Kapoor's written testimony be admitted in court as competent evidence?

- A. Yes, because a person unable to communicate verbally may testify through writing or signs, including those under vow of silence.
- B. Yes, but only if a certified sign-language interpreter verifies the accuracy of her written or signed statements.
- C. No, since competence requires oral testimony in open court, and writing is insufficient to establish witness credibility.
- D. No, because vows of silence preclude any form of admissible testimony under the Evidence Act.

Q57. Factual Matrix: In a hit-and-run case, Mr. Patel alone identified the accused from a police line-up and testified consistently at every stage, supported by his smartphone video. Four other bystanders gave conflicting descriptions and admitted they only glanced briefly as the car sped past. The defence argues that multiple contradictory witnesses outweigh Mr. Patel's solitary testimony. Under the Act's credibility principles, whose testimony should the court prefer?

- A. Reject Mr. Patel's single account in favour of the majority view from conflicting witnesses.
- B. Prefer Mr. Patel's credible, consistent identification over the contradictory statements of several less reliable witnesses.
- C. Disregard all testimony due to absence of unanimous witness consensus on the accused's identity.
- D. Require expert forensic evidence before relying on any eyewitness testimony, regardless of consistency.

Q58. Which statement best reflects the Evidence Act's treatment of persons unable to communicate verbally?

- A. They are competent to testify by writing or signs, including those under vow of silence, per Section 119.
- B. They must always provide testimony through an advocate or next-friend rather than directly in court.
- C. They are wholly disqualified from giving any form of testimony, as verbal communication is mandatory.
- D. They can testify only if the court issues a special commission allowing non-verbal evidence.

Passage 2: Vicarious liability refers to a situation where one person is held liable for an act or omission of another person. Winfield explains the doctrine of vicarious liability thus: Vicarious liability refers to a situation where A may be held responsible to C for harm caused by the negligence or wrongdoing of B. A need not have directly participated in the wrongdoing, nor is it required that A had a legal duty to C. Instead, A must have a specific relationship with B, and B's actions must be related to that relationship.

This concept is often seen in the context of an employer being held liable for the actions of an employee. Vicarious liability is based on two maxims: "Respondeat superior" (let the principal be liable) and "Qui facit per alium facit per se" (he who acts through another acts himself). It is a form of strict, secondary liability that arises from the common law doctrine of agency, where a superior is responsible for the acts of their subordinate. This liability is placed on the person or entity that has the right, ability, or duty to control the actions of the wrongdoer. One common example of vicarious liability is the relationship between a master (employer) and servant (employee), where the master is held responsible for the servant's torts committed in the course of employment.

This means that the liability for the harm caused is shifted to the person or entity that benefited from the relationship and created the opportunity for the wrongdoing. This is sometimes referred to as the doctrine of "Respondeat Superior" (In which the Master - The Archaic Term for an Employer - must respond for the Torts of its Servants - the archaic term for employees). The principle says that a master is jointly and severely liable for any tort committed by his servant while acting in the course of his employment. As Lord Brougham said: "The reason that I am liable is this; that by employing him I set a whole thing in motion; and what he does being done for my benefit and under my direction. I am responsible for the consequences of doing it. This implies that the liability for the injured party's loss is properly shifted to the person or entity whose enterprise was benefited by the relationship and created the occasion for the wrongdoers act or omission." When a servant commits a tort in the course of his employment. the master is very often guilty of what German lawyers call "Culpa in eligendo" or "Culpa in inspiciendo." In order that the doctrine of vicarious liability may apply. the conditions that need to be fulfilled are that. Firstly: the relationship of master and servant must exist between the defendant and the person

committing the wrong complained of. Secondly, the servant must in committing the wrong have been acting in the course of his employment.

[<https://legalserviceindia.com/legal/article-20694-vicarious-liability.html>]

Q59. Factual Matrix: Mr. Kapoor owns a courier company and employs Ms. Sharma as a delivery driver. While en route to deliver a package within her assigned route, Ms. Sharma, distracted by a personal call, ran a red light and struck a pedestrian. Mr. Kapoor had issued strict driving guidelines and conducted vehicle safety training, but did not supervise individual trips. The pedestrian suffered serious leg fractures and medical bills of ₹2 lakhs. The victim sues Mr. Kapoor for compensation under vicarious liability principles. Under the doctrine of respondeat superior, who bears liability for the pedestrian's injuries?

- A. Only Ms. Sharma, because she personally committed the negligent act and Mr. Kapoor had no direct involvement.
- B. Neither, since Mr. Kapoor had no legal duty to supervise every delivery trip personally.
- C. Mr. Kapoor, as the employer ("master") is vicariously liable for torts committed by his employee ("servant") in the course of employment.
- D. The victim, because contributory negligence applies when the courier company issues general guidelines but does not enforce them.

Q60. A security firm assigns Officer Rao to patrol a shopping complex from 9 AM to 5 PM. At 2 PM, Rao detours 500 metres off duty route to visit a friend's office within the complex, where he negligently collides with a visitor in the lobby. The visitor sues the security firm, claiming vicarious liability for Rao's negligence. Is the security firm vicariously liable for Officer Rao's actions during this detour?

- A. Yes, because any tort committed by an employee during work hours automatically binds the employer.
- B. Yes, since the officer remained on premises and could be seen as furthering the employer's interest in security.
- C. No, because the employer can only be liable if the tort occurs while the servant performs duties expressly authorised.
- D. No, as a detour to personal business constitutes a "frolic," removing the action from the course of employment.

Q61. Fact Situation: TechBuild Ltd. contracts with Apex Electricians, an independent electrical services company, to install wiring in its new office under Apex's complete supervision. An Apex technician, while rewiring a faulty socket, electrocutes a visitor. Apex Electricians holds professional indemnity insurance, invoices TechBuild for work, and controls its staff's tasks. The visitor sues TechBuild Ltd. for damages under a vicarious liability claim. Can TechBuild Ltd. be held vicariously liable for the technician's negligence?

- A. No, independent contractors fall outside vicarious liability since the hirer lacks the right to control the manner of work performance.
- B. No, because the technician's professional indemnity insurance relieves TechBuild of secondary liability.
- C. Yes, if TechBuild exercised any oversight or inspection rights over the technician's work methods.
- D. Yes, because any harm on premises of the hiring company triggers respondeat superior.

Q62. Factual Matrix: BrightHomes Ltd. hires security guards from SafeHire Agency without verifying references or conducting background checks. One guard, Mr. Iyer, with a violent criminal past unknown to BrightHomes, assaults a resident while on duty. The resident sues BrightHomes Ltd. for assault injuries sustained. Under the concept of "culpa in eligendo," is BrightHomes Ltd. vicariously liable for the guard's tort?

- A. No, because BrightHomes did not directly employ the guard and lacked supervisory authority.
- B. Yes, because failure to exercise due care in selecting a competent agent makes the principal liable for the agent's wrongful acts.
- C. No, since SafeHire Agency was independently responsible for vetting its personnel.
- D. Yes, but only if the guard's assault occurred during a task explicitly instructed by BrightHomes.

Q63. Factual Matrix: Dr. Rao runs a mobile clinic service and employs Nurse Verma to administer vaccinations at community outreach events. While driving the clinic van between events, Verma, obeying Dr. Rao's schedule directives, negligently collides with a motorcyclist at an intersection. The motorcyclist sues Dr. Rao for injuries and damage to the motorcycle. Is Dr. Rao vicariously liable for Nurse Verma's negligence?

- A. Yes, because the nurse was performing duties within the scope of her employment and Dr. Rao's enterprise benefited from her driving.
- B. Yes, but only if Dr. Rao personally instructed the nurse to drive recklessly or exceed speed limits.
- C. No, because vicarious liability applies only to torts committed while administering medical treatment, not driving.
- D. No, since the vehicle was insured, shifting liability to the insurance company rather than the employer.

Q64. Which of the following most accurately captures the essence of vicarious liability as explained by Winfield in the passage?

- A. A person (A) is directly liable to another (C) for harm caused by a third party (B) if A had a pre-existing contractual duty to supervise B.
- B. Vicarious liability arises only when A personally participates in B's wrongdoing or expressly authorises the wrongful act.
- C. A is held responsible to C for harm caused by B's negligence or wrongdoing when A has a specific relationship with B and B acts within that relationship's scope.
- D. Liability shifts to A whenever A benefits financially from B's acts, regardless of any control or relationship between A and B.

Passage 3: The Latin phrase Audi Alteram Partem, meaning "hear the other side," is a cornerstone of natural justice in law. It mandates that before any adverse decision is made against an individual, they must have a chance to present their case. This principle is vital in both administrative and constitutional law, protecting against unfair treatment and ensuring impartial justice. Alongside Nemo Judex in Causa Sua (no one should be a judge in their own case), it forms the bedrock of natural justice. The original intent was to prevent decisions being made without allowing the affected person to be heard. Courts have consistently emphasized its importance in modern legal frameworks.

Essentially, Audi Alteram Partem dictates that no one should be judged without being heard. This requires that before any action impacting someone's rights, freedom, or interests, they must:

- Receive notice of the proceedings
- Have a fair opportunity to present their side

This includes the right to a fair hearing and the chance to challenge opposing evidence or arguments. Courts, notably those in India, have firmly established Audi Alteram Partem as a fundamental right. The Supreme Court case *Maneka Gandhi v. Union of India* (1978) affirmed it as an essential part of constitutional guarantees of fairness, requiring a fair procedure, including the right to be heard, when someone's rights are affected. Similarly, in *K. K. Verma v. Union of India* (1954), the Court applied the principle to quasi-judicial decisions, underscoring the necessity of a fair hearing for legitimate decision-making. In the case of *Neha Jain v. University of Delhi*, the Delhi High Court affirmed that Article 14 mandates fairness in state action, which includes non-arbitrariness and limits judicial interference in policy. However, the court identified four specific exceptions permitting such intervention:

- When a decision is demonstrably arbitrary, discriminatory, or mala fide
- When it is unreasonable or violates the Constitution or statutes
- When it is legally flawed and outside regulatory power
- When it is capricious, arbitrary, and lacks rational basis

To be effective, Audi Alteram Partem requires:

- **Notice:** Affected parties must be informed of proceedings and issues, usually in writing, with sufficient preparation time.
- **Opportunity to be Heard:** They must be able to present their case, including evidence, witnesses, and arguments.
- **Right to Reply:** They must be allowed to respond to evidence or arguments presented by the other side.

These elements ensure both sides have an equal chance to present their case before a judgement is made. While widely applicable, Audi Alteram Partem is not absolute. Its application can be relaxed in certain situations:

- **Urgency:** In instances like national security or public safety, immediate action may justify delaying or waiving this hearing.
- **Ex-parte Decisions:** Decisions may be made without the affected party present, usually when they can't be located or fail to attend. However, these decisions are usually subject to review. For example, during natural disasters, immediate responses might be prioritized, with review offered afterward.

[<https://legalserviceindia.com/legal/article-19368-audi-alteram-partem-a-core-principle-of-justice.html>]

Q65. Rajesh applied for a municipal hawker's licence online on March 1. The licensing authority scheduled a hearing for March 15 but never informed Rajesh of the date or venue. On March 20, they summarily denied his application, citing unsuitability without hearing him or allowing submissions. Rajesh only learned of the decision when attempting to renew his trade permit two weeks later. Which defect violates the principle of Audi Alteram Partem in this scenario?

- A. The authority failed to provide an opportunity to reply to objections after the denial.
- B. Rajesh did not receive notice of the hearing or grounds of objection before the decision.
- C. The authority granted an ex-parte hearing, which is permissible when parties fail to attend.
- D. The decision was taken within a longer statutory period, but without reasons, which is fatal.

Q66. Factual Matrix: At a university disciplinary inquiry into alleged misconduct, Neha received a vague notice on April 5 stating only "misconduct charges" without details. The inquiry panel met on April 7, heard witness statements, and reached a verdict without allowing Neha to cross-examine them or present her defence documents prepared overnight. Which aspect breaches Audi Alteram Partem?

- A. The panel issued the notice only two days before the hearing, leaving insufficient preparation time.
- B. The panel was constitutionally composed but lacked quorum when Neha appeared.

- C. Neha was denied the chance to examine opposing witnesses and to present her prepared evidence.
- D. The panel provided oral but not written reasons for its findings, making the decision opaque.

Q67. Factual Matrix: During severe floods, the district collector ordered summary demolition of unsafe riverbank huts on June 10 without notifying residents, citing imminent danger to public safety. Residents returned post-demolition to find no prior hearing offered and filed a grievance seeking quashing of the order under principles of natural justice. Which principle applies to justify or fault this ex-parte action?

- A. Audi Alteram Partem prohibits all ex-parte decisions, making the demolition void.
- B. Nemo Judex in Causa Sua required the collector to assign an independent officer before ordering demolition.
- C. The urgency exception permits immediate action without hearing, subject to later review.
- D. The doctrine of fairness demands full notice and hearing before any executive action.

Q68. Factual Matrix: An agricultural board suspended farmer Sanjay's subsidy for alleged misreporting of acreage without informing him of the specific discrepancies or allowing him to explain before the suspension. Upon judicial challenge, the court noted that Sanjay was never given written reasons nor invited to discuss his reports before losing benefits. Which requirement of Audi Alteram Partem did the board breach?

- A. The board failed to provide written notice of allegations and allow Sanjay to present explanations before suspension.
- B. The suspension was by a tribunal lacking judicial functions, so no hearing was needed under the Evidence Act.
- C. Sanjay's right to legal representation was not guaranteed, but that is not part of the doctrine.
- D. The board complied with reasonable timeframes but failed to hold in-person hearings, which is optional.

Q69. Factual Matrix: A regulatory authority revoked Ritu's import licence without a hearing, citing solely a government memo alleging policy change. There was no evidence Ritu had been informed of any draft policy or allowed to comment. Ritu moved the High Court, arguing the decision was arbitrary and beyond the authority's statutory power.

Under the exceptions articulated in *Neha Jain v. University of Delhi*, which ground supports judicial interference?

- A. The authority acted reasonably in policy change, which courts must respect under non-interference.
- B. The decision was demonstrably arbitrary, lacking any chance for Ritu to know or challenge the alleged policy.
- C. The revocation was based on bona fide statutory interpretation, so no challenge is permissible.
- D. The authority's action was within regulatory power, precluding capriciousness claims.

Q70. Which description best encapsulates the core requirement of Audi Alteram Partem?

- A. Affected parties must receive either a written or oral notice and may waive hearing in writing before any decision.
- B. No decision affecting rights or interests should be made without first informing parties and allowing them to present their case.
- C. Parties need only be given notice of proceedings; actual opportunity to present arguments is at the decision-maker's discretion.
- D. Decisions may be rendered without hearing if public interest demands, and no review is necessary.

Passage 4: Section 2(a) of the Indian Contract Act, 1872, defines an offer (or proposal) as "when one person signifies to another his willingness to do or abstain from doing anything, with a view to obtaining the assent of that other to such act or abstinence, he is said to make a proposal." The person making the proposal is called the proposer or offeror, and the person to whom the proposal is made is known as the offeree.

Essentials of a Valid Offer

1. **Expression of Willingness:** The offeror must express a clear intention to be bound by the offer once it is accepted.
2. **Communicated to the Offeree:** An offer must be communicated to the offeree before it can be accepted.
3. **Must Create Legal Relations:** The proposal should not be a mere social or moral obligation but should intend to create a legal obligation.
4. **Definiteness and Certainty:** The terms of the offer must be clear and definite to avoid ambiguity.
5. **Not a Mere Invitation to Offer:** Advertisements, price lists, and catalogues generally do not constitute offers but invitations to offer.

For example, A offers to sell his house to B for Rs. 50 lakh. If B accepts the offer, a contract is formed. However, if A merely advertises that he intends to sell his house, it is an invitation to offer and not a binding proposal.

Definition of Acceptance under Indian Contract Act: Section 2(b) of the Indian Contract Act states, "When the person to whom the proposal is made signifies his assent thereto, the proposal is said to be accepted." Upon acceptance, the proposal becomes a contract.

Essentials of a Valid Acceptance

1. **Must be Absolute and Unqualified:** The acceptance must correspond exactly with the offer without modifications.

2. **Must be Communicated to the Offeror:** Acceptance must be conveyed to the offeror in a manner prescribed or usual in business practice.
 3. **Mode of Acceptance:** If a particular mode is prescribed, acceptance must be given in that manner.
 4. **Within a Reasonable Time:** Acceptance must be made within a reasonable time before the offer lapses or is revoked.
 5. **Acceptance Must be Made by the Offeree:** Only the person to whom the offer is made can accept it.
 6. **Silence is Not Acceptance:** Mere silence does not amount to acceptance unless the parties have agreed otherwise.
- [<https://lawctopus.com/clatalogue/clat-ug/offer-and-acceptance-under-indian-contract-act/>]

Q71. A boutique restaurant, “Saffron Leaf,” publishes a glossy Instagram post with a fixed “Monsoon Tasting Menu” and prices for the week. The post notes “Walk-ins welcome; reservations preferred.” Priya messages the page, asking if a 7:30 pm table for Friday is available; the social media handler “likes” her message but does not reply. Priya arrives on Friday at 7:25 pm; the maître d’ says the tasting menu price has increased by 15% due to ingredient shortages. Priya insists the Instagram post and her message together formed a binding contract at the original price. The maître d’ counters that the post was merely informational and that no reservation confirmation was issued. Priya paid a small “priority hold” fee through a third-party booking widget embedded in the page; the widget’s terms say “hold fee is non-refundable; not a confirmation; restaurant discretion applies.” After dining, Priya refuses to pay the higher price and threatens to sue, claiming a concluded contract at the advertised price existed before she sat down. The manager asserts no concluded contract arose until a table was actually offered and accepted at the door with current prices. Which statement correctly applies the principles?

- A. The Instagram post was an invitation to offer; Priya’s arrival constituted an offer to dine at then-current terms, accepted at seating, so no prior contract at the advertised price arose.
- B. The Instagram post was a firm offer, and Priya’s message plus widget payment amounted to communicated acceptance fixing the original price, irrespective of later ingredient shortages and discretion clauses.
- C. The “like” reaction counts as legally sufficient acceptance since it indicated assent; any price increase after that digital acknowledgement is a breach of a concluded contract.
- D. The non-refundable “priority hold” fee converted the informational post into a binding offer, as consideration transforms marketing communications into enforceable contractual commitments at displayed prices.

Q72. Arun emails Meera: “I offer to sell my DSLR camera Model X123 for ₹60,000. Accept only by **registered post** reaching me by 5 pm on 15 June.” On 12 June, Meera replies by **email**: “I accept,” then, fearing non-compliance, also dispatches registered post on 13 June, which arrives **after** 5 pm on 15 June due to a postal delay. On 14 June, Meera’s assistant phones Arun and says, “Meera accepts; treat the email as good.” Arun receives a better offer on 15 June morning and sells the camera at noon. Meera’s registered letter arrives at 6 pm; she sues, arguing her email plus assistant’s call substantially complied, and any postal delay should not prejudice her. Arun argues that he prescribed the mode strictly and insisted on receipt by the deadline. What is the correct legal position?

- A. Meera’s earlier email acceptance bound Arun because time stipulations are directory, not mandatory, where the offeree substantially manifests assent before the deadline through any reasonable channel.
- B. The assistant’s phone call was enough because verbal confirmation is a common business practice; prescribing registered post cannot override custom when the offeror actually learned of assent in time.
- C. The registered letter, though late, related back to its posting date; so acceptance is effective from dispatch, rendering Arun’s noon sale a breach despite late physical delivery after 5 pm.
- D. No contract arose because the offeror prescribed the mode and receipt-by-time condition; email/phone were non-conforming, and the registered post arrived after the deadline, defeating acceptance.

Q73. Leena texts Dev: “I’m willing to sell **my car** soon; price to be **mutually decided later**. Delivery sometime after my move. Interested?” Dev replies: “Yes, I accept.” Leena owns two cars—an electric hatchback and a diesel SUV. Dev assumes the SUV. Over the next week, Dev sells his existing sedan expecting Leena’s SUV. Leena later clarifies she meant the hatchback and suggests “fair market valuation to be negotiated.” Dev alleges a concluded contract for the SUV at a reasonable price, citing industry practice for such deals. Leena counters that essential terms, including **which car** and **price**, were uncertain, and nothing was communicated binding her to either vehicle. A mutual friend messages Leena, “Dev accepts your SUV at 15 lakh—done,” to which Leena does not respond. Dev sues to enforce transfer of the SUV at 15 lakh or for damages.

Which option aligns with the governing principles?

- A. A contract exists because acceptance may fill minor gaps; the identity of the car and price are collateral matters resolved by trade usage and reasonable standards of fairness in negotiations.
- B. A contract exists because Dev’s reliance (sale of his sedan) cures uncertainty; promissory estoppel supplies definiteness where the offeror’s intent to be bound is informally communicated through ongoing dealings.
- C. No contract exists as the “offer” lacked definiteness regarding subject and price, creating ambiguity; informal messages did not express a clear intent to be legally bound upon acceptance.
- D. No contract exists solely because Leena maintained silence after a third party’s message; however, Dev’s reliance converts silence into acceptance as a matter of equity, completing the contract terms.

Q74. Factual Matrix: Company Z emails Vendor Q: “We propose to purchase 1,000 units at ₹900 per unit; confirm acceptance by signed PDF on letterhead by Monday 6 pm.” The email goes to the shared procurement inbox monitored by Ravi (assistant) and Asha (manager). Asha is on leave. Ravi, without authority, replies: “Accepted,” attaching a typed note on plain paper. He then forwards Z’s email to Asha’s personal account, writing, “I accepted to lock price; please formalise later.” Z’s system auto-acknowledges receipt. At 7 pm, Asha returns online, replies: “We cannot accept at ₹900; minimum ₹950; note Ravi isn’t authorised to accept.” Z insists a contract is concluded already because the acceptance was communicated, and silence until after 6 pm should not defeat it. Vendor Q claims no contract: wrong person, wrong mode, wrong medium; the manager did not assent and the letterhead condition was not met.

What is the correct analysis?

- A. A contract exists because Z received an unequivocal acceptance before 6 pm; internal authority limits and letterhead format are internal matters that cannot prejudice the offeror after communication.
- B. No contract exists since acceptance must be communicated **by the offeree or authorised person** in the **prescribed manner**; an unauthorised assistant’s reply on plain paper fails both requirements.
- C. A contract exists because the employer’s shared inbox implied apparent authority; usage of trade treats any procurement staff reply as binding once the offeror relies on communicated assent.
- D. No contract exists since acceptance after 6 pm was invalid; however, had the assistant replied on letterhead, authority defects would have been cured by the formal mode requirement alone.

Q75. During a family gathering, Ananya announces: “If you help me host Diwali this year, I’ll give each cousin ₹5,000 for the trouble.” The tone is jovial; everyone laughs and agrees to “pitch in as always.” Later, Ananya circulates a group email with a checklist and approximate roles—decorations, sweets, and logistics—closing with “Let’s make it grand! Settlements after the event.” Raghav buys expensive lanterns and hires extra help. After Diwali, Ananya declines to pay, saying the promise was a family courtesy; expenditures were voluntary. Raghav claims a binding offer existed, accepted by performance. Ananya argues the setting was social, lacking intention to create legal relations; the email was coordination, not contractual. Raghav counters that the email showed seriousness: she assigned roles and mentioned “settlements,” evidencing a legal commitment beyond mere social arrangements.

Which statement best applies the principle?

- A. A contract arose because promises in group emails are presumed legally intended; the phrase “settlements after the event” conclusively proves a commercial undertaking, defeating the social setting presumption.
- B. No contract arose as family arrangements typically lack intention to create legal relations; the email did not transform the convivial promise into a legal commitment absent clear commercial language.
- C. A contract arose upon Raghav’s performance because acceptance by conduct binds the promisor, and social context cannot negate enforceability when tasks are executed with significant monetary outlay.
- D. No contract arose because an intention to create legal relations was not established; organisational emails and role lists do not, by themselves, evidence a legal obligation to pay within a family context.

Q76. Arvind, a boutique furniture maker, runs a web page displaying “Summer Sale” designs with indicative prices and a note: “Enquire to customise; bookings confirmed only on emailed order forms.” Tina emails: “I’ll take the ‘Oakline’ table at ₹45,000; please confirm.” Arvind replies: “Submit the order form to lock the price.” Tina uploads the form but forgets to sign the last page. Arvind’s assistant sends a courtesy email: “Received—processing,” without stating acceptance. The next day Arvind writes: “Price now ₹49,000; confirm if you wish to proceed.” Tina insists a contract already formed at ₹45,000. Which option is most consistent with the governing principles?

- A. No contract formed because the web page was an invitation to offer; Tina’s order was an offer requiring communicated acceptance in the prescribed manner, which was neither completed nor conveyed.
- B. A contract formed because Tina substantially complied; uploading the form, even unsigned, plus the courtesy email together amounted to acceptance, fixing the original indicated price.
- C. A contract formed because indicative prices combined with “processing” create a reasonable reliance; Arvind’s later price change is a unilateral variation after a concluded bargain, hence unenforceable.
- D. No contract formed because acceptance must be absolute and unqualified; Tina’s initial email contained a price, which counts as a counter-offer, preventing consensus on the standard order process.

Q77. Which option best reflects the treatment of advertised/indicative prices and automated acknowledgments under the passage?

- A. Where a website lists indicative prices and sends an automated “order received,” the listing remains an invitation and the acknowledgment lacks assent; no contract arises without communicated acceptance.
- B. Because online commerce is fast-paced, indicative prices and automated acknowledgments together establish assent by conduct, rendering subsequent explicit acceptance unnecessary in ordinary transactions.
- C. An automated acknowledgment constitutes communicated acceptance if the buyer reasonably relies on it, even where

the terms declare acknowledgments non-binding or purely informational.

D. If a price list states “invitation only,” but the seller later emails acceptance, the earlier invitation converts retroactively into an offer, and the email functions only as confirmation of performance.

Passage 5: To commit the tort of negligence, there are primarily 6 main essentials that are required. An act will be categorized as negligence only if, all the conditions are satisfied namely –

- 1) **Duty Of Care:** It is one of the essential conditions of negligence in order to make the person liable. It means that every person owes, a duty of care, to another person while performing an act. Although this duty exists in all acts, but in negligence, the duty is legal in nature and cannot be illegal or unlawful and also cannot be of moral, ethical or religious nature.
- 2) **The Duty must be towards the plaintiff:** A duty arises when the law recognizes a relationship between the defendant and the plaintiff and requires the defendant to act in a certain manner toward the plaintiff. It is not sufficient that the defendant owed a duty of care towards the plaintiff but it must also be established by the judge.
- 3) **Breach of Duty to take care:** It’s not enough for a plaintiff to prove that the defendant owed him a duty of care but he must also establish that the defendant breached his duty to the plaintiff. A defendant breaches such a duty by failing to exercise reasonable care in fulfilling the duty. In other words, the breach of a duty of care means that the person who has an existing duty of care should act wisely and not omit or commit any act which he has to do or not do as said in the case of *Blyth v. Birmingham Waterworks Co*, (1856). In simple terms, it means non-observance of a standard of care.
- 4) **Actual cause or cause in fact:** In this scenario, the plaintiff who is suing the defendant for negligence has the liability to prove is that the defendant’s violation of duty was the actual cause of the damages incurred by him. This is often called the “but-for” causation which means that, but for the defendant’s actions, the plaintiff would not have incurred the damages.
- 5) **Proximate cause:** Proximate cause means “legal cause,” or the cause that the law recognizes as the primary cause of the injury. It may not be the first event that set in motion a sequence of events that led to an injury, and it may not be the very last event before the injury occurs. Instead, it is an action that produced foreseeable consequences without intervention from anyone else. A defendant in a negligence case is only responsible for those damages that the defendant could have foreseen through his actions.
- 6) **Consequential harm to the plaintiff:** Proving that the defendant failed to exercise reasonable care is not enough. It should also be proved that the failure of the defendant to exercise reasonable care resulted in damages to the plaintiff to whom the defendant owed a duty of care.

[<https://blog.ipleaders.in/negligence-in-the-law-of-torts/>]

Q78. Neuron Labs sponsors a weekend “hackathon” in a mall atrium. Their contractor lays thick power cables across a side corridor used by service vendors; a warning cone is placed near one end, and a rubber cable ramp covers only half the span due to a last-minute shortage. Security notes two near-trips by children in the morning and emails the event manager at 10:40 am; the manager replies, “Will add tape, busy with demos.” At 12:15 pm, Riya, a florist with a valid delivery permit for the mall, pushes a cart through the corridor. The tape has loosened; her wheel snags, she falls, fracturing her wrist and damaging ₹35,000 worth of flowers. Neuron’s terms on a poster say “Attendees assume all risks inside event zone.” The corridor is outside the taped “event zone,” but within the sponsor’s setup footprint. Riya sues Neuron for negligence. Neuron argues no duty to a non-attendee, reasonable precautions were taken, and any obligation was only moral.

Which statement best reflects the legal position?

- A. Neuron owed only a moral duty of general caution to members of the public; because Riya was not an attendee, no legally cognizable duty of care arose regarding the corridor conditions.
- B. Neuron owed a legal duty to foreseeable corridor users, including permitted vendors; ignoring prior near-miss warnings and relying on partial measures constitutes breach by failing to meet a reasonable standard of care.
- C. Any breach required a written contract with Riya; absent privity, duty cannot exist, and therefore negligence fails as the relationship is purely incidental and not recognized by law.
- D. Duty and breach are irrelevant because Riya assumed the risk by entering a mall carrying an obvious cart; her voluntary exposure defeats any negligence claim regardless of precautions taken.

Q79. A resident welfare association (RWA) organizes a community fireworks show in its internal park. The launch tubes face toward the boundary wall. During testing, a shell misfires and arcs over the wall, exploding above a public footpath, startling Karan, a passerby, who stumbles into a pothole and fractures his ankle. The RWA insists it owed duties only to invitees inside the park; Karan was a stranger outside the premises. The municipal permit requires “reasonable measures to prevent debris and misfires from affecting adjoining public ways.” The safety officer had suggested angled shields, which were not installed due to cost. Karan sues for negligence, claiming the RWA owed him a duty as a foreseeable person in the zone of risk.

Which is the most accurate conclusion?

- A. A legal duty toward Karan arose because the law recognizes a relationship where activities creating foreseeable risk extend duties to persons like passersby; whether such duty is owed is determined by the court.
- B. No legal duty existed because the RWA neither invited nor contracted with Karan; duties in negligence require invitation, membership, or privity, which are absent on these facts.

- C. Duty depends solely on whether the fireworks were lawfully permitted; once permitted, any injuries outside the venue fall to municipal maintenance of the footpath rather than to the organizer.
- D. Duty cannot extend beyond physical boundaries of the premises; any risk off-site is too remote as a matter of law when the activity is contained within private property.

Q80. In a busy emergency department, triage nurse Meena uses a hospital algorithm that flags “non-urgent” for chest discomfort if pain is below 4/10 and vital signs are normal. Aarav, age 47, reports left-arm tingling and indigestion after a 5 km run; pain 3/10; normal vitals. Meena places him in the non-urgent queue without an ECG, despite the algorithm’s note: “If atypical ischemia signs present, escalate for ECG notwithstanding score.” Ninety minutes later, Aarav suffers a non-ST elevation myocardial infarction in the waiting area. An internal review finds the algorithm advisory was ignored and that resource constraints were not exceptional that day. Aarav sues the hospital for negligence, alleging breach of the standard of care at triage. **Which option best applies the breach standard?**

- A. There is no breach because Meena adhered to the overall algorithmic score; reasonable care allows reliance on standardized tools irrespective of advisory notes that complicate workflow and priorities.
- B. There is no breach because Aarav’s vitals were normal and self-reported pain was low; reasonable nurses are not expected to investigate atypical symptoms where objective measures show stability.
- C. There is a breach because failing to perform a readily available ECG despite flagged atypical signs is non-observance of the standard of reasonable care expected at triage under the circumstances.
- D. There is a breach only if the algorithm is proven scientifically invalid; otherwise, following institutional policy conclusively meets the required standard of care in emergency settings.

Q81. To speed lunchtime service, Café Aurum stacks delivery crates on the curb, narrowing the bicycle lane by half. Seeing the bottleneck, courier Lila swerves into the adjacent traffic lane. At the same moment, a speeding motorist, Vik, illegally crosses a solid line and clips Lila’s rear wheel. Lila falls, fracturing her clavicle; her bike then slides into a bus stop, causing a minor fire after puncturing a sanitizer dispenser. Lila sues the café for negligence, alleging its obstruction was the cause of her injuries and property damage. The café concedes “but-for” its obstruction Lila might not have swerved, but argues Vik’s unlawful driving is an intervening act that breaks the chain. The city had previously emailed the café warning about crate placement near the lane. **Which statement best reflects causation?**

- A. Actual and proximate cause are identical; because the obstruction was a factual cause, the café is automatically liable for all downstream harm, including the bus-stop fire, without further inquiry.
- B. Because Vik’s driving was unlawful, the café cannot be a legal cause; any independent tortfeasor’s act always breaks the chain of causation regardless of foreseeability or prior warnings.
- C. The café is liable for all harm because once any negligence contributes, foreseeability is irrelevant; proximate cause turns solely on chronological sequence from the first negligent act.
- D. The obstruction may satisfy “but-for” causation, but proximate cause limits liability to foreseeable consequences; Vik’s illegal swerve could be a superseding cause for some harms depending on foreseeability.

Q82. Which option **best synthesizes** the passage’s distinction between **actual cause** and **proximate cause**, and its requirement of **consequential harm**?

- A. Actual cause demands foreseeability, while proximate cause is any contributing event; once any duty is breached, damages are presumed without proof because harm naturally flows from negligence.
- B. Actual cause asks the “but-for” question, while proximate cause selects the primary legal cause by foreseeability limits; even with both, the plaintiff must still prove actual damages resulting to them.
- C. Actual cause is proven by any temporal sequence; proximate cause exists whenever the defendant was the first actor; consequential harm may be inferred from violation of safety norms alone.
- D. Once breach and duty are shown, causation is merged into a single test of reasonableness; consequential harm is unnecessary if a risk of injury existed and was elevated by the defendant’s conduct.

Q83. A city water board’s inspector negligently leaves a minor leak unrepaired at a curb valve serving Nisha’s bookstore. The leak wets the pavement intermittently during early mornings; photos show damp patches but no pooling inside the shop. Nisha discovers the leak, emails the board twice, and places a small “wet floor” sign outside. Two weeks later, the board repairs the valve. Nisha sues for negligence, claiming that her sales dipped during those two weeks due to reduced footfall, though she offers no financial records or customer statements; no physical damage occurred to inventory or interiors. The board admits duty and careless delay but contests damages. **What is the correct outcome on these facts?**

- A. The claim fails absent proof of consequential harm; negligence requires that the defendant’s failure result in actual damages to the plaintiff, not merely a theoretical or unsubstantiated loss of business.
- B. The claim succeeds because breach alone implies harm; when a public utility is negligent, courts presume business losses from any inconvenience until the defect is fully remedied as a matter of policy.
- C. The claim succeeds if duty and breach are shown; consequential harm is optional where the defendant is a government

entity, since accountability compensates for evidence gaps in small businesses.

D. The claim partially succeeds because nominal damages are awarded in every negligence action; establishing fault guarantees at least a symbolic recovery irrespective of loss evidence.

Q84. Which option most faithfully reflects the “**duty towards the plaintiff**” requirement when combined with **breach** and **causation**?

A. Duty exists whenever someone is injured; breach is assumed if precautions appear inexpensive; proximate cause attaches to the deepest pocket among defendants to ensure compensation.

B. Duty is a moral imperative to be careful toward everyone; whether it is owed to a particular plaintiff is a jury question always, independent of any legal relationship recognized by law.

C. Duty is legal, not moral; it must be owed **to the plaintiff** in a relationship the law recognizes; absent such duty, even proven breach and but-for causation cannot produce liability in negligence.

D. Duty arises from any safety rule; once a rule is broken and the plaintiff is harmed, the law deems both breach and causation satisfied without separate analysis to avoid fragmented trials.

SECTION - D : LOGICAL REASONING

Passage 1: According to most dictionaries, ‘tariff’ is a noun and means a tax on imports into a country. Sometimes, there is a tax on exports too. Very rarely, ‘tariff’ is used as a verb, but such use is now more common thanks to President Donald Trump. He has ‘tariffed’ most countries of the world including two islands — Heard and McDonald — where the only living creatures are penguins, and the penguins export nothing to the United States.

Mr Trump believes that stiff tariffs on goods imported into the U.S. will ‘Make America Great Again’ (MAGA). On April 2, 2025 he unveiled a table of tariffs. As the table unraveled, it became clear that the ‘calculation’ of tariffs was based on a simple formula that was adopted to make sense to simpletons. The tariff for a target country was one-half of the trade deficit with the target country divided by the value of the goods exported to the U.S. by the target country.

In 2024, it was Republican red in the vast swathe of America between the two coasts minus four states. The 2024 American presidential election was reduced to one question: who will win the seven swing states or most of them? Mr Trump won all the seven states of Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, and took their 93 electoral votes. Mr Trump’s constituency is the seven swing states. They share common characteristics: de-industrialized, high unemployment, and political discourse around issues like inflation, immigration and white male industrial workers’ preferences. Since Mr Trump won all the seven states he believes that the issues that concern the seven states are the issues that concern the United States and he is obliged to address those issues.

In the 80 years since the end of the Second World War, the world has greatly benefited by the free movement of labour, goods and services, and the greatest beneficiary-country is the United States. It is the wealthiest, mightiest, most innovative country in the world. It has among the best companies, best universities, best laboratories and best athletes of the world. The U.S. dollar is universally accepted and is the world’s reserve currency. The U.S. green card and the U.S. passport are the most coveted documents. Most countries, including China and India, invest significant portions of their foreign exchange holdings in U.S. bonds making the U.S. the only country in the world that does not worry about the fiscal deficit. Unfortunately, the only people who apparently believe that all these ‘superlatives’ have brought no benefit to their lives are the voters of the seven states. Mr Trump is loyal to them than to facts.

[https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/p-chidambaram-writes-mr-trump-will-be-a-loser-9941017/?ref=top_opinion]

Q85. Which of the following statements most clearly expresses an explicitly stated premise in the passage?

A. The common use of “tariff” as a verb nowadays is solely due to President Trump’s policy actions and is unprecedented in modern English usage.

B. According to most dictionaries, a ‘tariff’ is defined as a tax on imports (and sometimes exports) into a country, though its verbal use has become more common recently because of President Trump.

C. The passage claims that by applying a simple formula to calculate tariffs, President Trump aimed to reduce complex economic issues into basic arithmetic that even the common man could understand.

D. The passage asserts that tariffs have historically been beneficial for an economy, especially when used to protect domestic industries by taxing imports and exports.

Q86. Which inference is most reasonably drawn from the discussion about Trump’s tariff formula?

A. Trump’s tariff formula was a groundbreaking economic model intended to significantly reshape global trade with scientific precision.

B. The formula was intended as a substitute for traditional economic analysis, relying instead on a simplistic calculation to justify tariffs across the board.

C. The tariff calculation, based on halving the trade deficit and dividing by the value of exports, was designed to appear transparent and easily understandable to the public, thereby appealing to voters with limited economic expertise.

D. The formula implies that the level of tariffs was solely determined by pre-existing economic conditions, leaving no room for political manipulation.

Q87. Which of the following conclusions is most strongly supported by the passage?

- A) The overall economic success of the United States is entirely attributable to the free movement of labor and trade, independent of any protectionist tariffs.
- B) The use of tariffs by President Trump signifies an abandonment of free trade principles in favor of international economic isolationism.
- C) By imposing tariffs using an oversimplified formula, Trump intended to stimulate domestic production and restore traditional manufacturing values across all states.
- D) Trump's tariff policy is driven more by the political demands of the seven swing states—characterized by de-industrialization, high unemployment, and specific socio-economic grievances—than by a dispassionate application of free-trade principles, reflecting his loyalty to his core electorate over national economic data.

Q88. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument that Trump's tariff policy is primarily designed to please his core constituency?

- A) Independent polling data show that voters in the seven swing states have a significantly higher distrust of free-trade policies and are more likely to support protectionist measures than voters in the rest of the country.
- B) Studies reveal that free trade has consistently benefited all states equally, regardless of regional economic conditions or political loyalties.
- C) Historical comparisons indicate that protectionist policies have never yielded any economic benefit and thus are largely symbolic measures.
- D) Evidence suggests that industries across the United States, regardless of political affiliation, strongly oppose any form of tariff-based protectionism.

Q89. Which assumption is most critical to the argument that Trump's tariff policy primarily serves the interests of his swing-state constituents?

- A) It is assumed that the entire U.S. economy benefits uniformly from free trade, regardless of regional disparities.
- B) It is assumed that voter sentiment in the swing states is chiefly determined by short-term economic hardships rather than long-term national prosperity.
- C) It is assumed that the concerns of the swing states—such as de-industrialization, high unemployment, and perceived economic neglect—are not generally shared by the majority of the American population, making them a narrow but politically significant constituency.
- D) It is assumed that all U.S. voters have a deep understanding of complex trade policies and can evaluate tariffs on a purely economic basis.

Q90. Which option best encapsulates the paradox inherent in the passage's discussion of the United States' economic success versus the political grievances of the seven swing states?

- A) The paradox is that, although the United States is the wealthiest and most innovative country in the world—benefiting greatly from free trade—the benefits of that free trade are not perceived by the voters of the seven swing states, who feel left behind and thus become the primary target of protectionist tariffs.
- B) The paradox is that free trade, though celebrated globally for its benefits, is now being abandoned in favor of isolationist economic policies that ironically diminish the country's economic stature.
- C) The paradox is that the elaborate tariff formula, intended to be simple and transparent, ends up making trade calculations unnecessarily complicated and opaque, thereby confusing the electorate further.
- D) The paradox is that although tariffs are imposed to protect domestic industries and create jobs, they often lead to international retaliation and economic uncertainty, thus harming the very constituencies they aim to protect.

Passage 2: The most disreputable thing in Yancey Goree's law office was Goree himself, sprawled in his creaky old arm-chair. The rickety little office, built of red brick, was set flush with the street — the main street of the town of Bethel. Bethel rested upon the foot-hills of the Blue Ridge. Above it the mountains were piled to the sky. Far below it the turbid Catawba gleamed yellow along its disconsolate valley.

The June day was at its sultriest hour. Bethel dozed in the tepid shade. Trade was not. It was so still that Goree, reclining in his chair, distinctly heard the clicking of the chips in the grand-jury room, where the "court-house gang" was playing poker. From the open back door of the office a well-worn path meandered across the grassy lot to the court-house. The treading out of that path had cost Goree all he ever had — first inheritance of a few thousand dollars, next the old family home, and, latterly the last shreds of his self-respect and manhood. The "gang" had cleaned him out. The broken gambler had turned drunkard and parasite; he had lived to see this day come when the men who had stripped him denied him a seat at the game. His word was no longer to be taken. The daily bouts at cards had arranged itself accordingly, and to him was assigned

the ignoble part of the onlooker. The sheriff, the county clerk, a sportive deputy, a gay attorney, and a chalk-faced man hailing “from the valley,” sat at table, and the sheared one was thus tacitly advised to go and grow more wool.

Soon wearying of his ostracism, Goree had departed for his office, muttering to himself as he unsteadily traversed the unlucky pathway. After a drink of corn whiskey from a demijohn under the table, he had flung himself into the chair, staring, in a sort of maudlin apathy, out at the mountains immersed in the summer haze. The little white patch he saw away up on the side of Blackjack was Laurel, the village near which he had been born and bred. There, also, was the birthplace of the feud between the Gorees and the Coltranes. Now no direct heir of the Gorees survived except this plucked and singed bird of misfortune. To the Coltranes, also, but one male supporter was left — Colonel Abner Coltrane, a man of substance and standing, a member of the State Legislature, and a contemporary with Goree’s father. The feud had been a typical one of the region; it had left a red record of hate, wrong and slaughter. But Yancey Goree was not thinking of feuds.

[<https://englishliterature.net/o-henry/a-blackjack-bargainer>]

Q91. Which of the following statements most clearly expresses an explicitly stated premise in the passage?

- A) Yancey Goree’s law office, being set flush with the main street of Bethel and built of red brick, exemplifies the town’s pride in its historic architecture.
- B) The passage states that Yancey Goree himself is the most disreputable element in his law office, a fact evident from his present state and behavior.
- C) The text clearly establishes that Yancey Goree lost all he ever had—his inheritance, family home, and self-respect—due to his constant gambling with the “court-house gang.”
- D) The description of the town’s geography, including the Blue Ridge mountains above and the turbid Catawba below, is provided to illustrate the natural beauty surrounding Bethel.

Q92. Which inference is most reasonably drawn from the passage regarding Yancey Goree’s character and circumstances?

- A) Goree’s disreputable status stems exclusively from external factors, such as the corrupt influence of the “court-house gang,” rather than any personal shortcomings.
- B) The physical decay of Goree’s office is the primary reason for his loss of self-respect and the disdain in which he is held by the town.
- C) Goree’s repeated losses in gambling and his subsequent ostracism imply that his character and personal choices played a major role in his downfall.
- D) Although the passage mentions a feud between the Gorees and the Coltranes, it can be inferred that this historical conflict is the sole reason for Goree’s current social isolation.

Q93. Which of the following conclusions is most strongly supported by the passage?

- A) The ancient feud between the Gorees and the Coltranes remains Goree’s primary concern, dominating his daily thoughts and actions.
- B) Despite the rich history of the feud with the Coltranes, the passage implies that the immediate cause of Goree’s downfall is his behavior at the card game.
- C) The picturesque description of the town of Bethel offsets the otherwise tragic narrative of Goree’s personal collapse, suggesting a romantic view of decline.
- D) Goree’s current status as a “broken gambler” who is excluded from the game underscores that his misfortunes—both financial and personal—are largely the result of his own destructive choices rather than external misfortune.

Q94. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument that Goree’s downfall is primarily a result of his personal failings and choices?

- A) Eyewitness accounts confirm that Goree’s continual poor decision-making in his gambling sessions directly led to the loss of his inheritance, home, and self-respect.
- B) Local historians reveal that the feud between the Gorees and the Coltranes was far more complex and less decisive in shaping contemporary public opinion in Bethel than Goree’s gambling habits.
- C) Recent studies indicate that even before his losses, Goree’s reputation had already been tarnished by rumors of dishonesty and unreliability in his professional practice.
- D) Evidence shows that other lawyers in Bethel, who were victims of similar financial misfortunes, continued to enjoy respect and a prominent clientele despite economic setbacks.

Q95. Which assumption is most critical to the argument that Goree’s downfall is largely self-inflicted?

- A) It is assumed that the economic environment of Bethel and the social dynamics of its “court-house gang” would have inevitably led to public disgrace regardless of Goree’s personal choices.
- B) It is assumed that Goree’s repeated losses and failure to maintain his fortune are primarily due to his irresponsible behavior and poor decision-making rather than unpredictable external events.

C) It is assumed that the historical feud with the Coltranes had ceased to influence the town's judgment of Goree, rendering his gambling losses the decisive factor in his social ostracism.

D) It is assumed that all individuals in Bethel who engage in gambling inevitably lose their wealth and self-respect, making Goree's experience a common fate for his peers.

Q96. Which option best encapsulates the paradox inherent in the passage regarding Yancey Goree's situation?

A) The paradox is that although once a man with potential and familial legacy, Goree's descent into a broken gambler has reduced him to a state of social invisibility, even as his very downfall serves as a cautionary tale in Bethel.

B) The paradox is that while the physical structure of Goree's office and the natural grandeur of Bethel's surroundings suggest beauty and stability, they simultaneously underscore the decay of personal honor and financial prosperity.

C) The paradox lies in the fact that despite the historical significance of the feud between the Gorees and the Coltranes, Goree's contemporary disgrace is entirely detached from this legacy and is solely a product of his gambling misfortunes.

D) The paradox is that even though Goree is the most disreputable person in his office and among his peers, the town still reluctantly acknowledges his past influence and contributions to the local legal field.

Passage 3: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI)'s Monetary Policy Committee's unanimous decision to cut the repo rate by 25 basis points, to 6%, is a timely reprieve for India's business community. For weeks now, exporting sectors have been imploring the government to hasten bilateral trade negotiations with the U.S. to attempt to shield themselves from President Donald Trump's "reciprocal" tariffs. The tariffs have been paused for 90 days, except for the 10% universal tariff, which is still applicable. The pause, even while raising tariffs against China to 125% in a trade stand-off with Beijing, suggests a strategy pivot to stem the massive sell-off of U.S. treasury bonds and the gutting of trillions of dollars in American stock valuations. Worried about an economic slowdown as investor sentiment turns negative, the RBI has changed its stance from "neutral" to "accommodative" that could indicate further rate cuts are likely. A decrease in the repo rate will most likely be reflected in loan service reductions for businesses, homeowners and retail borrowers, as banks pass on the rate cut. This began happening hours after the rate cut announcement. The central bank hopes this rate reduction ensures liquidity for businesses in a time of uncertainty, so that they can continue investing in the real economy even as they attempt to diversify their exports.

More ominous, however, is the RBI's lowered GDP growth estimates for the current fiscal, from 6.7% to 6.5%. This indicates that despite the RBI's growth stimulus, steadily declining retail inflation — down to 3.61% in February — and steep falls in food staple prices, the central bank expects a growth contraction due to the uncertain economic climate. It is a universally accepted economic principle that stable governance, along with a predictable policy framework, is a necessary condition to foster growth. It would be no exaggeration to say that this principle has been turned on its head since Mr. Trump's return as President. China's move to impose retaliatory tariffs, totalling 84%, signals the beginning of a full-blown trade war, the likes of which the world has not witnessed since the Smoot-Hawley Act of 1930. Those tariffs, with objectives similar to the current ones — to protect American farming and manufacturing — ushered in an era of economic nationalism in the inter-war years, hitting global trade and contributing significantly to the Great Depression. Perhaps a lesson for nations must be that protecting one's own economy can be achieved without hurting others, so long as countries recognise their competitive advantages and build on them. In America's case, it is doubling down on research, education and innovation.

[<https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/a-cut-in-time-on-rbi-and-repo-rate-cut/article69435761.ece>]

Q97. Which of the following statements most clearly expresses an explicitly stated premise in the passage?

A) The RBI's decision to reduce the repo rate ensures that all sectors of India's economy will immediately enjoy lower loan servicing costs.

B) Exporters in India have been urging the government to expedite bilateral trade negotiations with the United States as a response to the imposition of tariffs.

C) President Trump's "reciprocal" tariffs have forced global investors to worry about massive sell-offs, prompting economic uncertainty internationally.

D) The RBI's Monetary Policy Committee unanimously decided to cut the repo rate by 25 basis points to 6%, which is presented as a timely reprieve for India's business community.

Q98. Which inference is most reasonably drawn from the passage regarding the RBI's shift from a "neutral" to an "accommodative" stance?

A) The RBI intends to completely reverse the effects of international trade wars through aggressive domestic spending.

B) The shift in policy implies that the RBI anticipates a further downturn in growth, necessitating additional rate cuts to support liquidity.

C) The change from "neutral" to "accommodative" suggests that the RBI has abandoned free-market principles in favor of a centrally planned economy.

D) The accommodative stance is intended to boost export performance by making borrowing cheaper for exporters.

Q99. Which of the following conclusions is most strongly supported by the passage?

- A) The RBI rate cut will immediately result in a significant recovery in India's GDP growth.
- B) By lowering GDP growth estimates, the RBI has signaled that domestic economic conditions are far worse than previously believed.
- C) India's economic policy is effectively insulated from global trade tensions, as indicated by the RBI's measures.
- D) Despite strong fundamentals in the overall U.S. economy, the political and economic pressures from trade wars have forced domestic policymakers—like those at the RBI—to adopt stimulus measures as a hedge against growth contraction.

Q100. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument that the RBI's accommodative stance is a necessary response to global economic uncertainty?

- A) International analysts report that only emerging markets are experiencing similar economic slowdowns, while developed economies are thriving.
- B) Recent data show that the Indian rupee has significantly depreciated against major currencies, prompting the RBI to act to stabilize liquidity.
- C) Empirical studies demonstrate that accommodative monetary policies during periods of global economic uncertainty lead to sustained business investment and improved market sentiment.
- D) Historical evidence indicates that maintaining a "neutral" policy stance during economic crises often results in prolonged periods of stagnation.

Q101. Which assumption is most critical to the argument that Trump's tariffs and ensuing trade tensions are influencing domestic monetary policy in India?

- A) It is assumed that all countries facing trade wars will eventually adopt similar protectionist measures.
- B) It is assumed that the RBI's policy decisions are primarily reactive to domestic economic indicators and are not influenced by international developments.
- C) It is assumed that trade negotiations with the U.S. will invariably remain delayed regardless of diplomatic efforts.
- D) It is assumed that global investor sentiment, particularly regarding U.S. treasury bonds and American stock valuations, significantly impacts economic conditions in India, compelling the RBI to adopt an accommodative policy stance.

Q102. Which option best encapsulates the paradox inherent in the passage regarding India's economic situation?

- A) The paradox is that although the United States is experiencing severe economic turmoil due to trade wars and protectionist measures, India's economy benefits from free trade yet must still adopt stimulus measures to support growth.
- B) The paradox is that while the RBI's rate cut is intended to stimulate business and ease liquidity constraints, it also reflects the pessimistic view that domestic growth is likely to contract despite a favorable global economic environment.
- C) The paradox lies in the fact that the very measures meant to stimulate the economy (such as accommodative monetary policy) may eventually lead to inflationary pressures and other negative side effects.
- D) The paradox is that although India's overall economy is buoyed by international trade, its domestic policymakers are forced to act as if the country were in deep economic distress, even as export sectors continue to thrive.

Passage 4: Almost any workplace study in the last decade will tell you that the death of productivity – and the death of profits – is a direct result of having miserable, overworked and micromanaged employees. In an attempt to make themselves feel in control, bosses delude themselves into believing that a tight grip will yield big results from their staff. Overwhelmingly though, the reality is the opposite: that relaxed, empowered workers (with plenty of free time) are the ones who manage to do the best work, often in shorter days than 9-5.

Can this delusion be added to the list of those held by Elon Musk and Donald Trump? Last week, Trump administration officials told US federal employees that Musk's department of government efficiency (Doge) was using artificial intelligence to surveil staff emails for any anti-Trump sentiment or perceived disloyalty. A Guardian report said certain federal agencies were warned to watch what they said in any work setting, with the Doge team secretly recording virtual meetings and loading new monitoring software on to computers – adding that any diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) buzzwords were also being scanned by AI. It remains unclear what the administration might do with this information, who it might be shared with and whether it is about to inform another round of the administration's now-characteristic mass layoffs.

The use of shoddy tech to enforce McCarthyist principles may seem like a predictable next step in the Trump-Musk alliance, whose express goal in the last three months has been to cut up the government, in ways that often benefit their private ventures. (Already, they claim to have used Musk's AI chatbot, Grok, to gut government departments.) But this story comes in the wake of a screeching pivot in the world of work, where hypersurveillance and inflexibly harsh practices are fashionable again after a brief hiatus, where they have been adopted – as in the case of Musk's department – to increase efficiency.

The late 2010s and early 2020s were defined by pseudo-benevolence from corporations. It was an era of companies as families and fun over functionality; when management pushed yoga classes, snack walls and in-office mini golf, and bosses were pitched as friends rather than the next rung up in a rigid hierarchy. This was a superficially gilded age of work: perks and swish spaces were more often than not a mask for poor benefits and conditions, and even worse pay. The pandemic

saw a rise in workplace surveillance technology, as managers scrambled to retain control over their staff, whom they could no longer monitor behind the glass walls of their open-plan offices – despite the popular idea that we were witnessing the birth of a new, better working world.

[<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2025/apr/13/surveillance-is-in-perks-out-bosses-have-dropped-their-masks-but-gen-z-is-fighting-back>]

Q103. The passage asserts that managers often believe micromanagement boosts productivity even though research shows that relaxed and empowered workers are more productive. Which of the following is most clearly a premise upon which this assertion is based?

- A. The common practice of enforcing rigid hierarchies in workplaces directly reduces employee satisfaction, which has been shown to lower overall productivity levels over extended periods.
- B. Research from various workplace studies in the last decade consistently indicates that an environment of flexibility and empowerment leads to better performance and higher profits, unlike overworked and micromanaged conditions.
- C. Employee benefits such as yoga classes, snack walls, and in-office entertainment are merely superficial attempts to mask poor working conditions and do not address underlying issues in management practices.
- D. The prevalence of open-plan offices and relaxed atmospheres in the late 2010s helped foster a culture that prioritized employee well-being over strict oversight, even if it did not always boost efficiency immediately.

Q104. Based on the passage, which of the following inferences most logically follows about the Trump administration's approach to managing federal employees?

- A. The Trump administration's implementation of AI surveillance to monitor employee communications indicates a belief that restricting free expression through high-tech oversight will foster a more controlled work environment and align staff behavior with their political objectives.
- B. By intensifying workplace surveillance and adopting restrictive practices, the Trump administration sought to directly increase productivity by eliminating inefficiencies typically resulting from relaxed work cultures.
- C. The deployment of AI tools to monitor for "anti-Trump sentiment" suggests that the administration intends to replace traditional management practices with automated technology, assuming that these methods are inherently more reliable.
- D. The move towards intense technological monitoring by the Trump administration implies that they fully support the idea of empowered workplaces, which in turn would naturally reduce reliance on micromanagement practices.

Q105. Which of the following conclusions best summarizes the central message of the passage?

- A. The modern work environment has shifted so drastically that traditional methods of management, like direct supervision and frequent monitoring, have become completely obsolete in achieving high productivity.
- B. While the era of luxurious workplace perks promised a new world of enhanced employee satisfaction, it ultimately failed to address the fundamental issues of employee empowerment and actual working conditions.
- C. The reliance on outdated management techniques, such as micromanagement and rigid control, is a direct cause of lower productivity and undermines the potential benefits of modern technological advancements in the workplace.
- D. Despite the ostensible emphasis on employee well-being and creative workplace environments during the early 2020s, both traditional and modern organizations continue to experience diminished productivity due to the persistence of authoritative managerial practices.

Q106. The argument that relaxed, empowered workers are more productive than overworked, micromanaged ones rely on which of the following assumptions?

- A. The success of a workplace hinges solely on flexible hours and employee autonomy, rendering any form of structured oversight unnecessary.
- B. Employee productivity metrics are predominantly influenced by factors unrelated to management style or workplace culture, such as the economic climate and industry-specific challenges.
- C. The effectiveness of modern productivity-enhancing strategies in the workplace is predicated on the assumption that employees will naturally excel when given the freedom to manage their own time and responsibilities, rather than being pressured by constant supervision.
- D. The historical evidence of improved productivity in workplaces with relaxed management practices negates any potential benefits that may arise from targeted management interventions or structured oversight mechanisms.

Q107. Which of the following best captures a paradox highlighted in the passage regarding workplace management practices?

- A. Although companies adopt myriad high-tech solutions to replace human oversight, these very technologies inadvertently create new, unforeseen challenges that undermine overall employee morale.
- B. The passage implies that when companies adopt seemingly progressive practices like flexible work schedules, the resulting increase in free time actually leads to reduced overall engagement and motivation among employees.

C. There exists a paradox in which the pursuit of benevolent employee treatment through perks and relaxed environments results in oversimplified management strategies that fail to meet the complex needs of modern workers.

D. While modern technology has promised an era where employee autonomy is maximized, the paradox lies in the fact that the same high-tech tools are repurposed to enforce authoritarian controls, thereby negating the very benefits of a flexible work culture.

Q108. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the argument that implementing AI-driven surveillance is a counterproductive management tactic that invariably decreases productivity?

- A. Evidence demonstrating that AI surveillance, when combined with autonomy-enhancing strategies, can actually streamline workflow and increase overall productivity in environments that balance oversight with trust.
- B. A series of studies indicating that employee performance is solely driven by external economic factors and remains largely unaffected by variations in workplace monitoring or management style.
- C. An independent report showing that the majority of companies implementing AI-driven monitoring systems have not experienced significant changes in productivity levels, suggesting that such systems neither harm nor dramatically enhance employee output.
- D. Findings that confirm while AI surveillance might negatively affect certain aspects of employee satisfaction, it simultaneously provides measurable improvements in efficiency by quickly identifying and resolving operational bottlenecks.

SECTION - E : QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

Each set of questions in this section is based on a single passage, graph or other representation. Please answer each question by deriving information from such passage, graph, or other representation, or applying mathematical operations on such information as required by the question.

Direction: 1 The following information is about performance of Divyaraj in RRB Clerk exam 2020.

The exam consists of 200 marks, with 5 sections i.e. Reasoning, Quant, English, G.A., Computer. Divyaraj attempted 22 questions in Reasoning with an accuracy of $77\frac{3}{11}\%$. Each question of reasoning consists of 2 marks with a negative marking of 25% (if right question is of 2 mark, then total of 2.5 mark will be deducted for each wrong answer). Each section of the exam have the 25% of negative marking for each wrong question. The total number of questions in reasoning is 30.

Each question of computer consists of $1/2$ marks and maximum marks in computer are 10. Total 16 questions are attempted by Divyaraj in computer with the ratio of right questions to wrong questions 3:1. The number of questions in English is equal to maximum marks of English. Divyaraj attempted 26 questions with 50% accuracy. The number of questions attempted in English is 65% of the total number of questions in English.

GA section consists of 40 questions with each question 0.75 marks. Divyaraj attempted 23 questions out of which 8 are wrong. Quant section contains 40 questions out of which Divyaraj attempted 35 questions and got 52.5 marks

Q109. Another student Arunoday attempted 70% questions in the same exam, then find the number of questions left by Arunoday?

- (a) 119
- (b) 68
- (c) 51
- (d) 65

Q110. Find the marks obtained by Divyaraj in G.A.

- (a) 8.75
- (b) 9.25
- (c) 9.75
- (d) 10.75

Q111. The number of correct questions in reasoning is how much more than the number of incorrect questions in the same subject?

- (a) 12
- (b) 7
- (c) 18
- (d) 9

Q112. Find the total marks obtained by Divyaraj in the exam?

- (a) 101
- (b) 105
- (c) 109
- (d) 102

Q113. Find the total number of incorrect questions attempted by Divyaraj in the exam.

- (a) 27
- (b) 15
- (c) 28
- (d) None of these

Q114. In which Subject Divyaraj Scored the maximum marks.

- (a) Reasoning
- (b) Quant
- (c) English
- (d) GA

Direction: 2 Following Information shows total number of population of five cities in thousands and Percentage of literate population, Percentage of male out of total population and Percentage of illiterate female out of total Illiterate population.

Note:- Total Population = (Male + Female) Population = (literate + Illiterate) Population. The total population of Agra is 28000, out of which 40% are literate population. Number of male in Agra is 57.14% of total population of same city, and 57.14% of

total literate population is female. The ratio of total population of Agra and Baroda is 7:8. In Baroda 45% of total population are literate. In which 41.666% are female. The Ratio of male population to female population in Baroda is 5:3. Total population in Calicut is 25% more than the total population in Agra. Out of Total population in Calicut 65% are literate population out of which 57.14% are female. The Ratio of male population of total population in Calicut is 4:7. The total population in Delhi is 27000 in which 70% population is literate and the ratio of literate male to literate female in Delhi is 2:1. 55.55% of Total population are male population. The total population in Ellora is 1000 times of 1 more than the 4 times of the cube of least Prime number 48% of Total population of Ellora is literate population in which 66.66% are female literate out of total literate. The percentage of male population out of Total population in Ellora is 54.54%

Q115. Illiterate male population of city Agra is approximately what percent more than literate female population of same city?

- (a) 175% (b) 125% (c) 165% (d) 170%

Q116. What is average population of illiterate male in city Baroda, Calicut and Ellora together?

- (a) 11523 (b) 11526 (c) 11256 (d) 11525

Q117. Literate males in city Delhi is what percent more than literate female in city Baroda?

- (a) 110 (b) 120 (c) 112 (d) 115

Q118. Total literate population of city Agra and Baroda together is how much more than total illiterate population of city Calicut and Delhi together?

- (a) 5350 (b) 5250 (c) 5550 (d) 6550

Q119. What is ratio of literate female in city Agra to literate female in city Calicut?

- (a) 35:61 (b) 32:65 (c) 1:2 (d) 51:49

Q120. Find the difference between the female literate population in Agra to the female literate population in Delhi.

- (a) 100 (b) 200 (c) 300 (d) None of these