

UG 2026

AMDIT CARD NUMBER

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QUESTION BOOKLET NO: 2026UG04



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Duration of Test: 2 Hours (120 minutes)

Maximum Marks : 120

1. This Question Booklet (QB) contains 120 (One hundred and twenty) Multiple Choice Questions across 36 (Thirty Six) pages including 2 (Two) blank pages for rough work. No additional sheet(s) of paper will be supplied for rough work.
2. You shall enter your Admit Card No. on the first page of the QB at the start of the test.
3. You have to answer ALL questions in the separate carbonised Optical Mark Reader (OMR) Response Sheet supplied along with this QB. You must READ the detailed instructions provided with the OMR Response Sheet on the reverse side of this packet BEFORE you start the test.
4. No clarification can be sought on the QB from anyone. In case of any discrepancy such as printing error or missing pages, in the QB, request the Invigilator to replace the QB and OMR Response Sheet. Do not use the previous OMR Response Sheet with the fresh QB.
5. You should write the QB Number, and the OMR Response Sheet Number, and sign in the space/column provided in the Attendance Sheet.
6. The QB for the Undergraduate Programme is for 120 marks. Every Right Answer secures 1 mark. Every Wrong Answer results in the deduction of 0.25 mark. There shall be no deductions for Unanswered Questions.
7. You may retain the QB and the Candidate's copy of the OMR Response Sheet after the test.
8. The use of any unfair means shall result in your disqualification. Possession of Electronic Devices such as mobile phones, headphones, digital watches etc., is/are strictly prohibited in the test premises. Impersonation or any other unlawful practice will lead to your disqualification and possibly, appropriate action under the law.

DO NOT OPEN TILL 2PM

Section – A : English Language

Passage:- 1 Stepping off the train in the southern Italian city of Benevento is not a particularly haunting experience, in the sense that the air on a brisk October day yields nothing other than cloud cover and fog. That this is the so-called “city of witches,” the site where women from all over the country might have flown in the middle of the night to dance around a famous walnut tree and to learn, effectively, how to be a witch, is not immediately apparent. Where the witchiness of Benevento, a city of over 55,000 with a Roman theater and Arch of Trajan from ancient times, may be most felt is in the traditions of its residents, many of whom still hold close these passed-down superstitions. Depending on whom you ask, a curse of the evil eye must still be warded off with a specific ritual involving oil and water and a traditional prayer. Leaving a broom at your door is a good way to ensure the local witches, known as the Janare, won’t sneak under the threshold—they’ll be too distracted counting the strands of straw. And if you wake to find that your horse’s mane has been braided, a Janara must have taken it for a late-night ride.

Even now, when Maria Scarinzi, an anthropologist and head of education programs at Janua, Benevento’s Museum of Witches, interviews older residents about their beliefs, she finds that they hesitate to share everything for fear of retribution. “They still believe that if you name the Janara, she will come to your house at night and she will harm you in some way,” Scarinzi says. “They still believe that if I tell you that I know the formula for getting rid of maggots, you will think that I am a Janara and you’ll distance me from society.”

Some researchers argue that this southern Italian town, a little more than two hours by train from Rome, became known for its witches because of its unique political position. But to understand the root of the myth, we have to go back to 1428. The hunting and persecution of so-called witches was a practice that began to take root in Italy in the late 1300s, supervised and carried out in many ways by the Catholic Church. By 1542, Pope Paul III had created the Congregation of the Holy Office of the Inquisition, which tasked the church with criminalizing those who would speak against the faith.

Extracted with edits and revisions from: <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/travel/how-this-italian-town-came-to-be-known-as-the-city-of-witches-180987599/>

1. According to the author, the continuing fear of the Janare among Benevento’s residents primarily signifies:
 - (a) the endurance of belief systems that continue to govern cultural interaction
 - (b) the Church’s persistent role in shaping the collective conscience of Italians
 - (c) the anthropologists’ inability to challenge long-standing traditional attitudes
 - (d) the transformation of ancient witchcraft tales into mere ritualistic expressions

2. What does the author suggest about Benevento’s atmosphere and cultural identity?
 - (a) It relies entirely on its Roman heritage to attract external interest and tourism
 - (b) It conceals layers of superstition beneath its outward ordinariness and modernity
 - (c) It reflects a society detached from both religion and traditional superstition
 - (d) It manifests as a purely historical town with minimal traces of mystical heritage

3. Choose the word closest in meaning to “haunting” as used in the line: “Stepping off the train in the southern Italian city of Benevento is not a particularly haunting experience.”

(a) terrifying	(b) supernatural	(c) mysterious	(d) evocative
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4. The author’s stance toward the preservation of witchcraft beliefs among Benevento’s people can best be described as:
 - (a) analytically neutral yet appreciative of their anthropological significance
 - (b) overtly skeptical and critical of such irrational cultural remnants
 - (c) emotionally charged and condemnatory toward unscientific reasoning
 - (d) humorously detached, emphasizing exaggeration over genuine belief

5. In the line, “Depending on whom you ask, a curse of the evil eye must still be warded off with a specific ritual involving oil and water and a traditional prayer,” which of the following best replaces “warded off” without altering the meaning?

- (a) endured (b) alleviated (c) repelled (d) nullified

6. What overarching conclusion can be drawn from the author’s depiction of Benevento?

- (a) The coexistence of superstition and history defines its identity more than modern progress
 (b) The Church’s inquisitorial past fully erased the mythic elements from the town’s narrative
 (c) The anthropologists’ interpretations have replaced faith with documented rational evidence
 (d) The local traditions have survived only as decorative remnants of a forgotten culture

Passage:- 2 Living is hard emotional work – until you try dying. Alongside the rage many terminally ill people feel against the dying of the light, there are the memories that return to flagellate the conscience: the failures of kindness, the misjudged words that can’t be unsaid, the feelings left catastrophically unexpressed. Crimes of the heart – and sometimes, worse. The malaise of regret and the yearning for absolution vibrate through Andrew Michael Hurley’s latest work of fiction, a wildly atmospheric, deceptively simple tale that borrows tropes from cosy crime only to snare you into something deeper, darker and more chilling.

The driving animus of Hurley’s fiction has always been placed. In his bestselling debut, *The Loney*, set in Morecambe Bay, and the folk-horror works that followed – *Barrowbeck*, *Devil’s Day* and *Starve Acre* – he evokes the atmosphere and folklore of his settings with deft, idiosyncratic brushstrokes that bring the reader into territory as psychic, even mythic, as it is physical. In *Saltwash*, the titular town of his new novel is a semi-abandoned coastal resort whose estuary has become “suckled down to a delta of dark streams and vast sandbanks”, and on whose tattered streets “the neglect ... was so rife as to seem wilful”. *Saltwash* is not so much a town as a state of mind: one that the novel’s septuagenarian protagonist, Tom Shift, will be forced to reckon with during the course of his brief but soul-shaking visit. He arrives in the pounding rain for a meeting proposed by Oliver, the mercurial, enigmatic penpal brokered for him by the clinic where he goes for therapy. But Tom is drawn to their rendezvous at the crumbling Castle Hotel as much by curiosity as by friendship. Why do Oliver’s letters, though larded with literary allusions to mortality, shy away from the intended subject of their correspondence – which is that both of them are dying?

While the doomed Tom waits for the doomed Oliver in the hotel bar – all mildewed walls, surly staff and peeling stucco – more elderly people appear, as if for a reunion. Maniacally talkative, and dressed in the finery of their younger incarnations, they are cartoonishly drawn yet ghoulishly credible, and as the booze flows it emerges that they, too, are waiting for Oliver, and this is an annual party, the high point of which is to be a lottery.

Extracted with edits and revisions from: <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2025/oct/29/saltwash-by-andrew-michael-hurley-review-raw-dark-folk-horror-confronts-mortality>

7. Hurley’s emphasis on “the dying of the light” primarily conveys

- (a) the inevitability of physical decay as a universal human condition
 (b) the endurance of memory as a form of resistance against death
 (c) the futility of seeking redemption through imagination and art
 (d) the emotional turbulence provoked by confronting one’s own mortality

8. The setting of *Saltwash* serves chiefly to

- (a) depict a decaying external world that mirrors the disintegration of inner life
 (b) celebrate the resilience of aging minds confronting the weight of memory
 (c) reveal the deceptive tranquility that masks moral corruption beneath civility
 (d) construct a nostalgic haven where the past and present find reconciliation

9. The antonym of the word “malaise” as used in the passage is

- (a) agitation (b) tranquillity (c) vigor (d) suspicion

10. The author would most likely disagree with the claim that Hurley's narrative style

- (a) privileges the psychological depth of characters over the atmosphere of place
- (b) merges genre conventions to evoke unease beyond ordinary realism
- (c) transforms physical spaces into reflections of moral and spiritual distress
- (d) unites folklore and setting to explore the darker edges of human emotion

11. The phrase "deceptively simple tale" most nearly suggests that the novel

- (a) relies on minimalism to obscure its lack of substantive thematic material
- (b) disguises its psychological depth beneath an unassuming narrative surface
- (c) simplifies complex moral questions to maintain stylistic clarity and flow
- (d) presents a straightforward plot without philosophical or emotional layering

12. The author's overall view of Hurley's work in this passage reflects

- (a) admiration for his ability to evoke dread through understated literary control
- (b) skepticism about his reliance on familiar horror motifs and tropes
- (c) disappointment with his move away from mythic and folkloric storytelling
- (d) ambivalence toward the novel's blend of crime fiction and emotional realism

Passage:- 3 What is presented here is a theory of justice in a very broad sense. Its aim is to clarify how we can proceed to address questions of enhancing justice and removing injustice, rather than to offer resolutions of questions about the nature of perfect justice. In this there are clear differences with the pre-eminent theories of justice in contemporary moral and political philosophy. As will be discussed more fully in the Introduction that follows, three differences in particular demand specific attention. First, a theory of justice that can serve as the basis of practical reasoning must include ways of judging how to reduce injustice and advance justice, rather than aiming only at the characterization of perfectly just societies– an exercise that is such a dominant feature of many theories of justice in political philosophy today. The two exercises for identifying perfectly just arrangements, and for determining whether a particular social change would enhance justice, do have motivational links but they are nevertheless analytically disjoined. The latter question, on which this work concentrates, is central to making decisions about institutions, behaviour and other determinants of justice, and how these decisions are derived cannot but be crucial to a theory of justice that aims at guiding practical reasoning about what should be done. The assumption that this comparative exercise cannot be undertaken without identifying, first, the demands of perfect justice, can be shown to be entirely incorrect.

Second, while many comparative questions of justice can be successfully fully resolved– and agreed upon in reasoned arguments– there could well be other comparisons in which conflicting considerations are not fully resolved. It is argued here that there can exist several distinct reasons for justice, each of which survives critical scrutiny, but yields divergent conclusions.* Reasonable arguments in competing directions can emanate from people with diverse experiences and traditions, but they can also come from within a given society, or for that matter, even from the very same person. There is a need for reasoned argument, with one self and with others, in dealing with conflicting claims, rather than for what can be called 'disengaged toleration', with the comfort of such a lazy resolution as: 'you are right in your community and I am right in mine'. Reasoning and impartial scrutiny are essential.

Extracted with edits and revisions from: The Idea of Justice by Khushwant Singh

13. If, as the author argues, we begin our pursuit of justice by constructing a perfectly just society, we will...

- (a) better understand the historical patterns of moral development
- (b) successfully derive institutional reforms from absolute principles
- (c) risk ignoring practical actions that could lessen existing injustice
- (d) ensure theoretical unity between morality and institutional practice

14. The author's main purpose in distinguishing perfect justice from comparative justice is to...

- (a) stress that moral reasoning should focus on actionable institutional change
- (b) argue that perfectionist theories must remain foundational for moral guidance
- (c) highlight that comparative reasoning weakens the coherence of moral ideals
- (d) show that practical justice depends entirely on abstract moral principles

15. In the passage, the phrase "disengaged toleration" is used to criticize...

- (a) complacent acceptance of conflicting views without rational scrutiny
- (b) deliberate refusal to engage in political cooperation across societies
- (c) emotional intolerance toward diverse ethical or cultural standpoints
- (d) philosophical skepticism about the value of universal moral principles

16. Which of the following statements is NOT consistent with the author's argument?

- (a) Comparative reasoning about justice can proceed without defining perfection.
- (b) Diverse moral arguments can coexist without being fully reconciled.
- (c) Moral analysis must first establish perfect justice before reforms are attempted.
- (d) Reasoned deliberation is necessary even when agreement cannot be achieved.

17. Which of the following views would the author most likely endorse?

- (a) Moral relativism sustains peaceful coexistence amid unresolved moral debates
- (b) Justice develops through continuous reasoning that balances conflicting claims
- (c) Comparative reasoning becomes futile without a conception of ideal justice
- (d) The pursuit of justice should conclude when moral disagreements continue

18. The tone of the passage can best be described as:

- (a) Analytical
- (b) Prescriptive
- (c) Reflective
- (d) Polemical

Passage:- 4 Recording social interaction allows reminiscing about it more accurately, improving our understanding of what was said and our picture of ourselves and others. Consider the last worthwhile conversation you didn't record – wouldn't it be good to have such a record, just in case? And if you had such a record, wouldn't you want to keep it? Granted, most current (audiovisual) records miss much of our experiences, including inner speech, conscious experiences and emotions. But I am neither arguing that extensive audiovisual records should replace biological memories or other techniques such as journaling, nor that current recording technology can capture everything worth remembering.

Imagine all the pictures you've ever taken and every message were deleted – how would you feel?

We already record much, you might say, why then record even more? Recording more might be valuable, but should we record everything? There is a risk of a status quo bias here. It is, however, unlikely that we have chanced upon the sweet spot of recording just the right amount. Answering what this is presumably requires personal reflection and experimenting with the technology, to determine which records one values, and decide what kind of person one wants to be. Playful imagination can help assess alternatives to our present way of life. Have you ever wished for a perfect recall? Lifelogs are almost like this, although voluntary, accurate and restricted to recordable sensory modalities. Our present recording practices indicate how much we value memory enhancement. Imagine all the pictures you have ever taken and every logged message were deleted – how would you feel and why? I would feel devastated, like having lost a part of me and a prized basis of understanding myself and others in my life. Likewise, we can imagine already possessing extensive records, then losing many of them to end up with what we in fact possess. I imagine this as a comparable loss. We can reflect on our relationship to our enhanced counterparts by thinking about people with memory disorders who use lifelogs for therapeutic purposes. From the imagined perspective of people with access to a universal, friction-free lifelog, our situation would likely appear comparably less desirable. This vision from the future gives us reason to pursue more extensive recording: more will be more!

Extracted with edits and revisions from: <https://aeon.co/essays/if-memory-is-precious-to-you-then-go-ahead-and-record-everything>

19. What best expresses the author's principal argument regarding human memory and recording practices?

- (a) Memory should rely solely on biological recall for authenticity and emotional value.
- (b) Technological recordings threaten to fragment rather than preserve personal identity.
- (c) Recording more experiences can deepen our comprehension of self and relationships.
- (d) Limiting recordings ensures balance between reflection, privacy, and emotional health.

20. According to the passage, "Recording" as discussed by the author refers to:

- (a) A mindful act of documenting experience to enhance future comprehension.
- (b) A habitual behavior motivated by fear of forgetting and emotional dependence.
- (c) A mechanical storage of visual information without interpretive depth.
- (d) A social trend that values accumulation of data over meaningful reflection.

21. The term "status quo bias" in the passage most nearly means:

- (a) Fear of exploring new technologies.
- (b) Habitual comfort with what already exists.
- (c) Preference for moral restraint in change.
- (d) Caution about altering social habits.

22. Which of the following statements is true in the context of the passage?

- (a) Losing recorded data would feel like losing an essential part of personal identity.
- (b) Current audiovisual recording technologies already replicate human consciousness.
- (c) Biological memory alone ensures a more meaningful understanding of experience.
- (d) Technological memory diminishes the emotional weight of human recollection.

23. One word for the phrase "the technological act of preserving lived experiences for reflective recall" is:

- (a) Archiving
- (b) Lifelogging
- (c) Recording
- (d) Memorizing

24. Which of the following best summarizes the author's overall stance on recording and memory?

- (a) Expanding recording practices can meaningfully enhance human identity and memory.
- (b) Recording should be restricted to prevent the erosion of authentic human thought.
- (c) Overreliance on recorded data endangers emotional depth and subjective reflection.
- (d) Recording technologies cannot and should not attempt to improve human recall.

Section – B : Current Affairs including General Knowledge

Passage:- 1 In the first sign of a thaw, leaders of Ladakh, where four people died in police firing during the recent pro-statehood protests, met with Home Ministry representatives here for sub-committee level talks. During the meeting, the Ladakh representatives demanded an immediate release of all arrested leaders, including climate activist Sonam Wangchuck, the widely recognised face of the agitation.

The invitation for the talks had been made by the Centre. The last round of talks between the two sides was held in May. Lok Sabha MP from Ladakh Mohmad Haneefa, who took part in the meeting, stated that the Ladakhi leaders participated in it with an open mind for a positive outcome of their demand for statehood to Ladakh. This was our first meeting, and we can't expect much from it. But we raised the issue of immediate release of all those who were arrested on or after September 24, including Sonam Wangchuck.

The representatives of Ladakh sought the immediate release of all those who were arrested and compensation for those killed in police firing. The MHA announced a judicial inquiry commission headed by a retired Supreme Court judge into the violent clashes of September in Leh. According to a notification issued by the MHA, the judicial probe, to be headed by Justice B S Chauhan, a former judge of the Supreme Court, is mandated to investigate the circumstances leading to the serious law and order situation, the police action and the resultant unfortunate deaths of four people. The appointment of a retired Supreme Court judge to head the inquiry directly addressed the demand by local groups for a high-level, impartial judicial investigation.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/meeting-between-mha-representatives-ladakh-leaders-begins-weeks-after-deadly-protests/articleshow/124743335.cms>]

25. Which law was used by authorities to detain activist Sonam Wangchuk during his peaceful protest demanding statehood for Ladakh?

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| (a) Public Safety Regulation Act | (b) Unlawful Activities Monitoring Act |
| (c) National Security Act | (d) Preventive Custody Enforcement Act |

26. Who has the authority to divide an Autonomous District into separate Autonomous Regions under the Sixth Schedule?

- | | | | |
|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| (a) The Governor | (b) The Chief Minister | (c) The President | (d) The Speaker of the Lok Sabha |
|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|

27. According to the Ramon Magsaysay Award citation, which statement about Sonam Wangchuk's 2018 recognition is correct?

- (a) Honoured in 2018 for improving Ladakh youth education and community progress
- (b) Honoured in 2018 for driving commercial city growth and major business expansion
- (c) Honoured in 2018 for representing India in climate diplomacy at global events
- (d) Honoured in 2018 for promoting tourism trade and mining ventures in Himalayan areas

28. Which constitutional body recommended that Ladakh be included as a tribal area under the Sixth Schedule after it became a Union Territory in 2019?

- | | |
|--|--|
| (a) National Commission for Scheduled Castes | (b) National Human Rights Commission |
| (c) National Commission for Backward Classes | (d) National Commission for Scheduled Tribes |

29. Consider the following statements about the Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution:

- I. It is a constitutional framework designed to provide autonomy to tribal-majority areas.
- II. It is enshrined under Article 244(2) and Article 275(1).
- III. It was shaped by the Bardoloi Committee's recommendations to protect tribal culture, land, and governance systems.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| (a) Only I and II | (b) Only II and III | (c) Only I and III | (d) All I, II and III |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|

30. Which organisations took the lead in demanding the release of Sonam Wangchuk while calling for a judicial probe into security forces' firing in Ladakh?

- (a) Ladakh Harmony Forum and Youth Justice Group (b) Highland Civic Coalition and Border Rights Union
 (c) Himalayan Welfare Council and Ladakh Public Front (d) Leh Apex Body and the Kargil Democratic Alliance

Passage:- 2 US President Donald Trump says Israel and Hamas have "signed off on the first phase" of his 20-point Gaza peace plan, in a major step towards a permanent end to two years of war. He unveiled the plan at the White House on 29 September alongside Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who said Israel accepted the terms. On 3 October, Hamas agreed to return all 48 remaining hostages being held in Gaza in exchange for Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails and Gaza detainees, and to the idea of handing over the governance of Gaza to Palestinian technocrats. But the group did not mention other elements, most notably the requirement that it disarm. Once the ceasefire takes effect, US, Qatari, Egyptian and Turkish mediators will attempt to get both sides to agree to what Trump called a strong, durable, and everlasting peace. Gaza will be redeveloped for the benefit of the people of Gaza, who have suffered more than enough. If both sides agree to this proposal, the war will immediately end. Israeli forces will withdraw to the agreed upon line to prepare for a hostage release. During this time, all military operations, including aerial and artillery bombardment, will be suspended, and battle lines will remain frozen until conditions are met for the complete staged withdrawal. Within 72 hours of Israel publicly accepting this agreement, all hostages, alive and deceased, will be returned. Once all hostages are released, Israel will release 250 life sentence prisoners plus 1,700 Gazans who were detained after 7 October 2023, including all women and children detained in that context. For every Israeli hostage whose remains are released, Israel will release the remains of 15 deceased Gazans.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c70155nked7o>]

31. Which statement correctly explains Hamas in the present context?

- (a) An armed Palestinian group and political movement in Gaza seeking Islamic state rule
 (b) A United Nations peacekeeping force deployed for border safety in Palestinian areas
 (c) A regional economic alliance promoting trade expansion between Gaza and Israel
 (d) An international relief agency supporting refugees across Middle Eastern regions

32. Which group of geographic features correctly surrounds the Gaza Strip?

- (a) Lebanon, Israel and the Red Sea (b) Egypt, Jordan and the Gulf of Aqaba
 (c) Israel, Egypt and the Mediterranean Sea (d) Jordan, Syria and the Dead Sea

33. Which newly proposed body will be deployed in Gaza to support internal security and train vetted Palestinian police forces?

- (a) Regional Peacekeeping Coalition (b) International Stabilization Force
 (c) Global Humanitarian Response Unit (d) Mediterranean Security Partnership

34. Consider the following statements regarding the proposed "Board of Peace" for Gaza's redevelopment:

- I. The Board of Peace will serve as an international transitional body overseeing Gaza's redevelopment until reforms in the Palestinian Authority are completed.
 II. The Board of Peace will be led by the Palestinian Authority's leadership along with local administrative officials.
 III. The Board of Peace will be headed and chaired by President Donald J. Trump and manage the funding and reconstruction framework for Gaza.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only I and II (b) Only II and III (c) Only I and III (d) All I, II and III

35. Which country was the first Non-Arab nation to recognize the PLO as the rightful representative of the Palestinian people in 1974?

- (a) Japan (b) Brazil (c) Russia (d) India

Passage:- 3 The Samudrayaan Mission will establish India as a significant contributor to deep-sea research and strengthen the nation's oceanic knowledge and technological capability. The oceans, covering over 70% of earth's surface, remain one of the planet's last frontiers, promising to reveal new wonders with each expedition. Exploring the deep sea pushes the boundaries of biological research and deepens our understanding of Earth's ecosystems. The data gathered through Samudrayaan will enhance India's ocean resources management, contribute to environmental research and pave the way for sustainable exploitation of deep-sea resources. Oceans will play an increasingly critical role in supporting human life over the next 200 years, making deep-sea exploration and research essential for sustainable development and survival. The extraordinary survival of life in the deep-sea environment and shared fascinating insights into how unique organisms thrive in areas where sunlight cannot reach and temperatures can soar to plus 1,400° near hydrothermal vents.

The launch is planned in a step-by-step process, as a crucial phase of the 500-m depth trial is anticipated by the end of this year. The mission will be instrumental in collecting critical samples from the deeper oceanic zone, offering opportunities for scientists to understand the unique characteristics of the organism and the water in the region. With India's 11,098 km-long coastline, the government has long pushed for a blue economy policy — harnessing ocean resources for economic growth. At the cost of Rs. 4,077 crores over five years, establish an advanced marine station for developing capacities in ocean biology and engineering.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Visakhapatnam/samudrayaan-mission-will-establish-india-as-a-significant-contributor-to-deep-sea-research-says-scientist/article68859865.ece>]

36. Which of the following statements best reflects the purpose of India's innovative 'Samudrajivah' technology?
- It aims to enhance inland aquaculture by increasing controlled freshwater fish cultivation capacity only.
 - It aims to expand sustainable marine aquaculture by enabling improved large-scale open sea cage farming systems.
 - It aims to support deep-sea resource activities by focusing on exploration zones without marine food production goals.
 - It aims to promote ocean-based recreation through the creation of tourism-focused aquaculture experience models.
37. Which institutions are jointly organising the training programme on fisheries?
- National Institute of Oceanography and Fishery Survey of India working together on capacity building
 - Marine Products Export Development Authority and ICAR collaborating for coastal skill development
 - Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute and Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA) jointly conducting the initiative
 - Ministry of Earth Sciences and a private marine institute partnering for fisheries knowledge exchange
38. Consider the following statements about 'Matsya 6000', India's manned submersible under the Samudrayaan Mission:
- It is an advanced 25-tonne 3rd generation vehicle specifically engineered to withstand extreme pressure in the deep ocean.
 - It can carry three scientists on board during missions.
 - Its pressure-resistant hull is made of titanium to withstand high pressure at greater depths.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- Only I and II
 - Only II and III
 - Only I and III
 - All I, II, and III
39. Which of the following is NOT among the few countries currently possessing deep sea exploration capabilities?
- Germany
 - United States
 - Russia
 - Japan

40. Which organisation is serving as the coordinating agency responsible for developing the submersible under the Samudrayaan Project?

- (a) The National Institute of Ocean Technology
- (b) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
- (c) Indian Space Research Organisation
- (d) Defence Research and Development Organisation

Passage:- 4 Guntur city has secured the sixth rank at national level in the Swachh Vayu Survekshan conducted under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. Notably, Guntur is the only city from South India to achieve this distinction, highlighting its growing reputation in environmental management. Mayor Kovelamudi Ravindra and Municipal Commissioner Puli Srinivasulu expressed pride over the recognition, noting that 130 cities across the country participated in the survey under the category of towns with a population below 10 lakh. The award was based on parameters such as greenery expansion and cleanliness along main roads. The National Pollution Control Board evaluated the participating cities and recommended the best-performing ones for 2024–25.

The officials acknowledged that ongoing construction of the Shankar Vilas overbridge, aimed at easing traffic congestion, slightly impacted the city's ranking. However, they were optimistic that Guntur could secure an even better position in future surveys. The Mayor and Commissioner credited the achievement to the collective efforts of citizens, public representatives, and officials. They extended special congratulations on behalf of the Guntur Municipal Corporation, calling the recognition a matter of pride for the entire city.

Cities were assessed based on their self-assessment report submitted to the Central Pollution Control Board on various parameters such as biomass and municipal solid waste burning, dust on the roads, dust from construction and demolition waste, vehicular emissions, emissions from industries, creating awareness among the public, and improvement in PM10 concentrations. Special focus was given to solid waste management, including door-to-door waste collection, preventing roadside dumping and burning, which causes pollution. Complaints are being addressed promptly, and waste collection vehicles are tracked using GPS.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from
<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Tiruchirapalli/tiruchi-bags-ninth-place-in-swachh-vayu-survekshan-survey/article70038092.ece>]

41. Which digital platform enables cities to track their progress and ensure transparency in the implementation of air quality improvement activities?

- (a) AMRUT Dashboard
- (b) Smart City GeoHub
- (c) PRANA portal
- (d) e-Swachh Bharat App

42. Which city secured the 1st rank in Category-1 (population over 10 lakh) in Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan with a perfect score of 200 out of 200?

- (a) Indore
- (b) Pune
- (c) Ahmedabad
- (d) Hyderabad

43. Which of the following statements about Mission LiFE launched by the Prime Minister is correct?

- (a) Mission LiFE focuses on industries adopting clean technologies to reduce emissions only.
- (b) Mission LiFE encourages tourism-related conservation activities in eco-sensitive regions nationwide.
- (c) Mission LiFE promotes sustainable lifestyles through themes like 'Save Water' for daily citizen action.
- (d) Mission LiFE expands protected forests by shifting human populations away from wildlife zones.

44. Which campaign was praised by the Union Minister for extensive tree plantation drives conducted across 131 cities?

- (a) Swachh Bharat Mission
- (b) LiFE Mission
- (c) Green India Mission
- (d) Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam

45. Which theme has been adopted this year for the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies celebrated on September 7 by the UN?

- (a) Healthy Air Future (b) Racing for Air (c) Blue Skies Ahead (d) Act For Clean Air

46. Consider the following statements about the Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan:

- I. It is founded under the National Clean Air Programme to ensure accountability and transparent evaluation.
 II. It promotes healthy competition by assessing 130 NCAP cities annually for improvements in air quality management.
 III. It is restricted only to megacities with a population above one crore for implementation.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only I and II (b) Only II and III (c) Only I and III (d) All I, II, and III

Passage:- 5 Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar's resignation has created a rare mid-term vacancy in the country's second-highest constitutional office. The Constitution does not provide for an acting Vice-President. In the case of the President, the Constitution requires that a vacancy be filled within six months. But for a Vice-Presidential vacancy, there is no such fixed deadline. The only requirement is that the election be held as soon as possible after the post falls vacant. The Election Commission will announce the schedule. As per convention, the Secretary General of either House of Parliament is appointed as the Returning Officer, in rotation.

The Vice-President is elected by an electoral college including nominated members. Unlike in a presidential election, state legislatures do not participate. Voting is held in Parliament House in New Delhi, by secret ballot, using the system of proportional representation with a single transferable vote. Each MP casts a vote by ranking candidates in order of preference. All votes carry equal value. To be declared elected, a candidate must reach a required minimum number of votes — called the quota. This is calculated by dividing the total number of valid votes by two and adding one (fractions, if any, are ignored). If no candidate crosses the quota in the first round, the one with the fewest first-preference votes is eliminated, and their votes are transferred to the remaining candidates based on second preferences. The process continues until one candidate crosses the quota. A person contesting for the post of Vice-President must be a citizen of India, qualified to be elected to the Rajya Sabha, and registered as an elector in any parliamentary constituency. They must not hold any office of profit under the central or state governments, except positions like President, Governor, or Minister.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/what-happens-vice-president-resigns-mid-term-10141171/>]

47. Consider the following statements about vacancies in the office of the Vice-President of India:

- I. V.V. Giri resigned as Vice-President in 1969 to contest the Presidential election.
 II. R. Venkataraman, Shanker Dayal Sharma, and K.R. Narayanan resigned as Vice-Presidents after winning the Presidential election.
 III. The death of Krishan Kant in office in 2002 left the Vice-President's post vacant until Bhairon Singh Shekhawat assumed office.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) Only I and II (b) Only II and III (c) Only I and III (d) All I, II and III

48. Which Chief Justice of India served as the Acting President in 1969 following the death of President Zakir Husain?

- (a) M. Hidayatullah (b) K. Subba Rao (c) P.B. Gajendragadkar (d) S.M. Sikri

49. Under which constitutional provision did Jagdeep Dhankhar resign as Vice-President of India?

- (a) Article 63(b) (b) Article 66(a) (c) Article 67(a) (d) Article 68(c)

50. Which of the following statements about the President (Discharge of Functions) Act, 1969 is correct?

- (a) It directs the Prime Minister to handle presidential duties if the President leaves office suddenly.
 (b) It authorises the Lok Sabha Speaker to perform presidential tasks when the Vice-President resigns.
 (c) It allows the CJI or senior-most judge to act as President when both top offices fall vacant together.

(d) It enables the Election Commission to operate presidential powers during a constitutional emergency.

51. What is the duration of service prescribed for the Vice-President of India under Article 67?

- (a) Two years (b) Three years (c) Five years (d) Seven years

52. According to which Article of the Constitution must a vacancy in the office of the Vice-President due to death, resignation, removal, or otherwise be filled “as soon as possible”?

- (a) Article 62 (b) Article 65 (c) Article 67 (d) Article 68

Section – C : Legal Reasoning

Passage:- 1 Personality rights in India have gained prominence through judicial interpretation, especially amid the growing misuse of celebrity identities on digital and AI platforms. These rights are not expressly codified but draw support from constitutional, statutory, and common law principles that protect an individual's control over their persona. Under Article 21 of the Constitution, the right to life encompasses the right to privacy and dignity, which includes protection from unauthorized commercial exploitation of one's identity. Article 19(1)(a) further guarantees the freedom of expression, implying that individuals possess autonomy over how their personality is projected in public.

The Copyright Act, 1957 provides the principal statutory foundation for protecting celebrity personas. Section 38 recognizes performers' rights, granting them exclusive control over their performances for fifty years. Section 38A empowers them to reproduce, issue copies, communicate their performances to the public, and commercially exploit them, while Section 38B ensures moral rights to claim authorship and prevent distortion or misuse that could damage their reputation. These provisions have become instrumental in addressing AI-generated voice cloning, image manipulation, and digital impersonation that misappropriate celebrity likenesses.

The Trade Marks Act, 1999 complements this protection by preventing false endorsement or passing off. Under Section 27, unauthorized use of a name, catchphrase, or likeness that misleads the public about a celebrity's association with goods or services constitutes actionable misrepresentation. Section 29 provides similar safeguards for registered marks or distinctive identifiers associated with public figures. The Information Technology Act, 2000, particularly Sections 66D and 43A, also penalizes digital impersonation, cheating by personation, and negligent dissemination of personal likeness or data by online platforms.

Recent judicial decisions have crystallized these protections. The Bombay High Court has been at the forefront, granting relief to Asha Bhosle, Suniel Shetty, and Arijit Singh against unauthorized AI-generated content. The Court observed that the unconsented replication of a celebrity's voice, image, or gestures by AI systems violates both privacy and performer rights under the Copyright Act. It held that such digital manipulation amounts to misappropriation of goodwill and breaches the individual's autonomy over their identity. Similarly, the Delhi High Court has restrained misuse of Amitabh Bachchan's name, voice, and phrases, while protecting Anil Kapoor's distinctive expressions and Jackie Shroff's colloquial identifiers. Earlier, the Madras High Court in a case involving Rajinikanth held that personality rights vest in persons who have achieved celebrity status and that any unauthorized depiction of such figures infringes their right to dignity and identity.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from, <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Delhi/high-court-steps-in-as-artificial-intelligence-deepfakes-threaten-image-rights-of-celebrities/article70128437.ece>]

53. StreamVoice AI, a music streaming platform, launched an AI-powered feature generating personalized concert recordings by synthesizing voices of popular singers including playback artist Kavita. Users could create custom "performances" of any song in Kavita's voice without her consent. Kavita discovered hundreds of such AI-generated tracks circulating online, some used in commercial advertisements. She sued StreamVoice for unauthorized exploitation of her voice and persona. StreamVoice defended that the AI merely mimics publicly available vocal patterns, creates transformative new content, and that Kavita cannot monopolize a singing style. Kavita argues her vocal identity has been commercially exploited without permission for fifty years from first performance. How should the court decide Kavita's claim for protection of her vocal persona?

- (a) Dismiss the claim unless Kavita proves actual consumer confusion about her endorsement of specific products, since voice similarity alone without demonstrated marketplace deception cannot constitute actionable violation of personality rights under intellectual property framework.
- (b) Grant relief only for advertisements using AI-generated voice but dismiss claims regarding streaming platform usage, because commercial endorsement crosses the exploitation threshold while platform features constitute legitimate technological innovation protected by safe harbor provisions.
- (c) Dismiss the claim because vocal patterns and singing styles are non-proprietary elements of public artistic heritage that cannot be monopolized, and transformative AI-generated content constitutes fair use rather than actionable misappropriation of identity.

(d) Grant relief to Kavita because performers possess exclusive control over their performances including vocal identity for a statutory period, and unauthorized AI synthesis violates her control over reproduction and commercial exploitation of her performances.

54. Celebrity chef Vikram built his reputation through a distinctive cooking show where he used signature phrases, gestures, and presentation style. TikChef, a food-tech startup, developed an AI avatar replicating Vikram's appearance, mannerisms, and catchphrases to promote their recipe app without his permission. The avatar appeared in promotional videos, social media content, and in-app tutorials. Vikram filed suit claiming violation of his personality rights. TikChef argued that their AI merely uses publicly available footage for technological advancement, that Vikram cannot claim ownership over common cooking gestures, and that the avatar transforms rather than substitutes his actual work. Vikram contends that his complete persona has been digitally appropriated for commercial gain, violating his constitutional right to control how his identity is projected publicly.

Should the court grant relief to Vikram against TikChef's AI-generated avatar?

(a) Grant relief because individuals possess constitutional autonomy over the public projection of their personality, and TikChef's unauthorized creation of an AI avatar replicating Vikram's complete persona for commercial purposes violates this autonomy regardless of transformative technological elements involved.

(b) Deny relief because cooking gestures and phrases, even if distinctive, constitute functional elements of culinary instruction that must remain freely accessible for educational purposes, and AI transformation creates sufficiently distinct derivative content not infringing any recognized property right.

(c) Deny relief unless Vikram demonstrates quantifiable economic loss from TikChef's use, since personality rights absent tangible commercial harm merely involve abstract dignitary interests that are insufficient to restrict legitimate business innovation and technological expression in the marketplace.

(d) Grant relief only if Vikram's catchphrases were formally registered as trademarks, because unregistered personality elements lack the statutory foundation necessary to support injunctive relief against third-party commercial appropriation in the absence of explicit contractual privity between the parties.

55. Renowned classical dancer Priya discovered that VirtualStage, an entertainment platform, was offering subscribers AI-generated performances featuring a digital replica of her performing traditional dance forms. VirtualStage used machine learning trained on Priya's publicly available recorded performances from the past twenty years to create new choreographic sequences in her style and appearance. They monetized this through subscription fees and licensing to cultural festivals. Priya sued, claiming her performances and persona were being exploited without authorization. VirtualStage defended that they created entirely new choreography never performed by Priya, that cultural dance forms are non-proprietary, and that their AI generates original artistic content. Priya argues that her identity and documented performances are being commercially exploited through unauthorized reproduction and public communication. How should the court determine VirtualStage's liability for AI-generated dance performances?

(a) Deny liability because VirtualStage generated new choreographic sequences rather than reproducing Priya's exact historical performances, and algorithmic creation of original content based on stylistic patterns constitutes transformative artistic expression protected under creative freedom rather than impermissible appropriation.

(b) Deny liability unless Priya proves that specific subscribers were deceived into believing they were viewing her authentic performances, since personality rights primarily protect against false endorsement and consumer confusion rather than technological recreation of artistic style elements in digital environments.

(c) Impose liability because performers retain exclusive rights to reproduce and commercially exploit their documented performances, and VirtualStage's AI training on and recreation of Priya's performance style using her visual likeness for subscription revenue constitutes unauthorized reproduction and commercial exploitation.

(d) Impose liability only for the specific performances that served as AI training data but deny relief for newly generated choreography, because copyright protects fixed performances but cannot extend to prevent algorithmic extrapolation of style patterns into future predictive content creating new works.

56. Superstar actor Arjun, known for his iconic dialogue delivery and distinctive mannerisms, discovered that multiple YouTube channels were using deepfake technology to create videos showing him endorsing political candidates in upcoming state elections. The videos replicated his voice, facial expressions, and signature gestures with remarkable accuracy, garnering millions of views. Arjun filed suit seeking injunction and damages, arguing that his celebrity persona had been misappropriated without consent to influence electoral outcomes. The defendants contended that the videos were clearly labeled as "parody" and "fan-made content," that Arjun as a public figure has reduced privacy expectations, and that political speech deserves heightened protection under free expression guarantees. Arjun argues that unauthorized digital replication of his identity violates his fundamental rights regardless of the content's purported purpose.

On what legal basis can Arjun most effectively establish protection of his persona against deepfake misuse?

- (a) Arjun must demonstrate that the deepfake videos caused him quantifiable financial losses or damaged his professional reputation, as personality rights require proof of actual economic harm to be actionable.
- (b) Arjun can rely on the principle that personality rights vest in persons who have achieved celebrity status, and unauthorized depiction of such figures infringes their right to dignity and identity.
- (c) Arjun must prove that viewers were actually deceived into believing he genuinely endorsed the political candidates, since absent consumer confusion, no personality right violation occurs under Indian law.
- (d) Arjun can only succeed if he had previously registered his name, image, and likeness as trademarks, as unregistered personality elements lack enforceable legal protection against digital replication.

57. Fashion influencer Meera, with 5 million social media followers, discovered that FashionBot, an AI-powered styling platform, had created a virtual version of her using machine learning algorithms trained on her social media posts, videos, and photographs. The AI-generated avatar replicated her appearance, voice modulation, styling choices, and even her characteristic hand gestures while providing fashion advice to paid subscribers. FashionBot marketed the feature as "Style advice from Meera" without obtaining her permission or offering compensation. Meera sued for violation of her personality rights and unauthorized commercial exploitation. FashionBot defended that they created transformative AI content, that Meera voluntarily shared her content publicly on social media platforms, and that their technology merely learned patterns from publicly available data without copying any specific original work. Which legal framework most directly addresses Meera's claims against FashionBot's AI avatar?

- (a) The doctrine of fair use permits AI training on publicly available content for transformative purposes, and FashionBot's algorithmic learning falls within educational and technological advancement exceptions to personality rights.
- (b) The principle that only registered performers under the Copyright Act receive protection, and since Meera is a social media influencer rather than a traditional performer, she lacks standing under performer rights provisions.
- (c) The contractual terms of service of social media platforms where Meera posted content govern third-party usage rights, and Meera's remedy lies in breach of platform agreements rather than personality rights violations.
- (d) The judicial observation that unconsented replication of a celebrity's voice, image, or gestures by AI systems violates privacy and performer rights, and such digital manipulation amounts to misappropriation of goodwill.

58. TrendyMart, an e-commerce platform, implemented an AI recommendation system that generated personalized product advertisements. Regional celebrity Ravi discovered that the system created fake endorsement videos using his photograph from public sources combined with AI-generated voice promoting TrendyMart products. When confronted, TrendyMart's legal team argued that individual seller accounts uploaded the content, TrendyMart merely hosts third-party material, and they remove flagged content within 48 hours. Internal documents revealed that TrendyMart's algorithm prioritized celebrity-featuring ads for higher engagement, and the platform earned commission on resulting sales. Ravi filed a criminal complaint alleging digital impersonation. TrendyMart contends their content moderation policy satisfies all legal obligations, and they cannot pre-screen millions of daily uploads. The prosecutor must determine which statutory provisions apply. Under which statutory framework should the prosecutor proceed against TrendyMart?

- (a) The Information Technology Act provisions penalizing digital impersonation and negligent dissemination of personal likeness by online platforms provide the appropriate criminal framework, regardless of TrendyMart's intermediary status.
- (b) Only the Copyright Act applies, as personality rights violations are exclusively civil matters, and criminal prosecution requires demonstrating that TrendyMart directly reproduced Ravi's registered copyrighted performances without license.
- (c) No criminal liability attaches because TrendyMart qualifies as an intermediary under safe harbor provisions, and the seller accounts rather than the platform itself committed any potential offenses warranting prosecution.
- (d) Only trademark law applies if Ravi had registered his name and image, since criminal prosecution for personality rights violations requires prior formal registration of identity elements as intellectual property.

Passage:- 2 Section 26 of the HMA empowers a court, in any proceeding under the Act, “from time to time” to pass such interim orders and make such provisions in the decree as it may deem just and proper with respect to the custody, maintenance and education of minor children, consistently with their wishes wherever possible. It further provides that, after the decree, upon application by petition, the court may make from time to time all such orders and provisions with respect to the custody, maintenance and education of such children; and the court may also revoke, suspend or vary any such orders previously made. The provision includes a proviso that an application with respect to the maintenance and education of the minor children pending the proceeding shall, as far as possible, be disposed of within sixty days from the date of service of notice on the respondent.

The key legal elements under Section 26 are: (1) custody of minor children, (2) maintenance of those children, (3) education of those children, (4) power of the court to grant interim orders, (5) power of the court to make final provisions in its decree, and (6) power to revise or vary earlier orders as circumstances change. Importantly, the statute emphasises that the court must consider the child’s wishes “wherever possible”, thereby introducing a degree of flexibility and recognition of the child’s views.

The provision does not restrict custody orders only to one parent; rather the court may, in its discretion, award custody to either parent or to any person it considers appropriate in light of justice and the child’s welfare. The maintenance clause contemplates ongoing financial support for the child’s living expenses, including food, clothing, healthcare and education costs, and allows for sharing of burden between parents or other persons as the court deems fit. The education clause ensures that interruption of schooling or educational progress is avoided even as matrimonial proceedings continue. The sixty-day disposal proviso applies specifically to applications concerning maintenance and education of minor children pending the main proceedings, reflecting legislative intent to expedite protection of children’s interests.

Because Section 26 allows the court to revoke, suspend or vary earlier orders, a custody or maintenance arrangement is not irreversibly fixed by the initial order; rather, the court retains continuing jurisdiction. This aligns the statute with the larger legal principle that the welfare of the child is the paramount consideration in custody matters. Although the Act does not define “minor” within Section 26, general definition under Indian law applies. Moreover, Section 26 is supplementary to other statutes such as the Hindu Minority and Guardianship Act, 1956 and the Guardians and Wards Act, 1890 which deal with guardianship and custody more broadly.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from, <https://www.indialawoffices.com/legal-articles/preferences-and-inclinations-of-a-minor-child>]

59. Ramesh and Shalini divorce under the Hindu Marriage Act. In the decree, the court awards custody of their 8-year-old son to Shalini and orders Ramesh to pay ₹10,000 monthly as maintenance. Two years later, Ramesh loses his job and his financial situation deteriorates significantly. He files a petition seeking reduction of the maintenance amount to ₹4,000, citing his unemployment and inability to continue the previous payment. Shalini opposes, arguing that the original decree is final and binding, and that Ramesh cannot seek modification merely due to temporary hardship. The court must decide whether it has the power to alter the maintenance order. Can the court modify the earlier maintenance order in this case?

- (a) No, because maintenance orders in decrees are final and cannot be altered under any circumstances.
- (b) Yes, because courts have unlimited power to modify any order relating to children at any time.

- (c) No, because only custody orders can be modified, while maintenance provisions remain permanently fixed.
- (d) Yes, because the court retains continuing jurisdiction to revoke, suspend or vary earlier orders.

60. During divorce proceedings between Kavita and Anil under the Hindu Marriage Act, their 12-year-old daughter Priya requires urgent orthodontic treatment costing ₹80,000. Kavita files an application seeking interim maintenance for Priya's medical and educational expenses. Anil contests the application, leading to prolonged arguments and adjournments. Eight months pass without any order being made. Kavita then files a contempt application against the trial judge for failing to decide the maintenance application promptly. The judge argues that complex factual disputes justified the delay. Kavita contends that the statute mandates expeditious disposal. The court must determine whether the delay violates statutory requirements. Has the court failed in its statutory duty?

- (a) No, because courts have absolute discretion in managing timelines for all applications under the Act.
- (b) Yes, because every application in matrimonial proceedings must be decided within sixty days without exception.
- (c) No, because the sixty-day timeline applies only to final decrees and not interim applications.
- (d) Yes, because applications for maintenance and education pending proceedings should be disposed of within sixty days.

61. Meera and Rajiv are divorcing under the Hindu Marriage Act. They have a 14-year-old son, Arjun, who has consistently expressed his strong desire to live with his father Rajiv, citing better educational facilities near Rajiv's residence and his close relationship with his father. However, the court, after considering all factors including financial stability and past parenting patterns, determines that Meera would be the more suitable custodian and awards custody to her without specifically discussing Arjun's expressed preferences in the order. Rajiv challenges this, arguing that the court was legally bound to follow Arjun's wishes given his age and clear articulation. The court must decide whether it erred in not giving effect to Arjun's preference. Did the court commit a legal error?

- (a) No, because the court must consider children's wishes wherever possible but retains ultimate discretion.
- (b) Yes, because children's wishes must always be followed once they reach the age of twelve years.
- (c) Yes, because ignoring clearly expressed wishes of a mature child violates mandatory statutory requirements.
- (d) No, because children's preferences are irrelevant considerations in custody determinations under the statute.

62. Sunita and Prakash divorce under the Hindu Marriage Act, and their 10-year-old daughter Neha is awarded to Sunita with Prakash ordered to pay ₹12,000 monthly maintenance. The decree specifies ₹7,000 for living expenses including food, clothing, and healthcare, and ₹5,000 for Neha's school fees and tuition. Two months after the decree, Neha's school suddenly closes due to financial difficulties, and Sunita enrolls her in a less expensive school charging only ₹2,500 per month for fees. Prakash then reduces his monthly payment to ₹9,500, arguing that since education costs have decreased, his total obligation should automatically adjust downward. Sunita files contempt proceedings, insisting Prakash must pay the full decreed amount regardless of actual expenses. The court must determine Prakash's obligation. Is Prakash's action legally justified?

- (a) Yes, because maintenance obligations automatically adjust when actual expenses decrease without court intervention.
- (b) No, because maintenance contemplates comprehensive support for living and education requiring full payment as decreed.
- (c) Yes, because courts intend maintenance to match actual costs, allowing parents to adjust payments unilaterally.
- (d) No, because any change requires formal court modification, but the decree itself fixes only minimum obligations.

63. Anita and Mohan divorce under the Hindu Marriage Act. Their 9-year-old son Rohit is in Class 4 at a prestigious school. During the ongoing divorce proceedings, which are expected to take at least two years due to complex property disputes, Mohan stops paying Rohit's school fees, arguing that Anita should bear the cost until the final decree determines each parent's financial responsibility. As a result, the school threatens to strike off Rohit's name and withhold his progress reports. Anita immediately files an urgent application seeking interim orders for Rohit's educational expenses. Mohan contends that educational support obligations should be determined only in the final

decree after complete financial assessment of both parties. The court must decide the appropriate course of action. Should the court wait for the final decree to determine educational support?

- (a) Yes, because educational obligations can only be fairly determined after comprehensive financial assessment in final decree.
- (b) Yes, because interim orders regarding education would prejudice the final determination of parental responsibilities.
- (c) No, because the statute ensures that educational progress continues uninterrupted even during ongoing matrimonial proceedings.
- (d) No, because all educational decisions must be deferred until custody is finally determined in the decree.

Passage:- 3 Education in India has developed into an enforceable right through constitutional evolution and judicial interpretation. At the time of the Constitution's framing, education was a Directive Principle of State Policy rather than a fundamental right. Article 45 originally directed the State to provide free and compulsory education for all children up to fourteen years of age within ten years of the Constitution's commencement. Article 41 emphasized the State's duty to secure the right to work, education and public assistance within its economic capacity. These provisions reflected the founders' recognition of education as essential to social and economic development, though initially non-justiciable.

Judicial pronouncements in the early 1990s transformed this directive into a binding right. In *Mohini Jain v. State of Karnataka*, the Supreme Court held that the right to education is an integral part of the right to life under Article 21, reasoning that life and dignity are meaningless without access to education. The Court observed that the State cannot impose policies that make education unaffordable or inaccessible. Later, in *Unni Krishnan J.P. v. State of Andhra Pradesh*, the Court refined the principle by declaring that free and compulsory education is a fundamental right for children up to fourteen years of age, while the right to higher education is subject to the limits of the State's economic capacity.

These rulings led to the Constitution (Eighty-sixth Amendment) Act, 2002, which inserted Article 21A, making education a distinct fundamental right. It provides that the State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children aged six to fourteen years in such manner as the State may, by law, determine. The amendment also modified Article 45 to focus on early childhood care and education for children below six years and added Article 51A(k), imposing a fundamental duty on parents or guardians to provide educational opportunities to their children.

To operationalize this constitutional mandate, the Parliament enacted the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009. The Act makes it obligatory for the government and local authorities to ensure admission, attendance, and completion of elementary education for all children in the specified age group. It prohibits charging any fees that may prevent completion of schooling and mandates maintenance of neighbourhood schools. The Act further forbids discrimination based on caste, gender, religion, or disability and disallows screening procedures during admission. It ensures that no child is denied education for lack of documents or previous academic background.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from, <https://thelaw.institute/law-and-vulnerable-groups/evolution-right-to-education-india/>]

64. Ramesh, a 13-year-old boy from a rural village, seeks admission to Class 8 at a government school in his district. The school principal refuses admission, stating that Ramesh must first produce his Class 7 mark sheet, birth certificate, transfer certificate from his previous school, and caste certificate to verify eligibility for reserved category benefits. Ramesh's family explains that his previous school in a remote tribal area was destroyed in floods and all records were lost, making it impossible to obtain these documents. The principal remains firm, insisting that admission without proper documentation would violate school admission protocols and create administrative complications. Ramesh's parents approach the court seeking directions for his admission without documentation. Which option correctly determines the school's obligation in this situation?

- (a) The school must admit Ramesh because no child can be denied education for lack of documents or previous academic background.

- (b) The school must refuse admission because documentation requirements serve essential administrative purposes that cannot be dispensed with arbitrarily.
- (c) The school may refuse admission because verification of age and educational qualification prevents fraudulent admissions in the educational system.
- (d) The school has discretion to waive documentation in individual cases where students demonstrate genuine need for educational access.

65. A State Government, facing severe fiscal constraints and budget deficits, announces a policy requiring all students seeking admission to state-run engineering colleges and medical colleges to pay ₹5 lakh as a one-time "infrastructure development fee" in addition to regular tuition. The government justifies this by citing its inability to maintain and upgrade educational infrastructure without additional revenue. Several students from economically weaker sections challenge this policy, arguing it effectively prices them out of higher education despite their academic merit. The government contends that given resource limitations, some cost-recovery measures are inevitable and that free education cannot extend indefinitely to all levels without regard to state finances. The court must determine the constitutional validity of this fee structure. Which option correctly applies constitutional principles to this situation?

- (a) The policy is valid because states have absolute autonomy in determining fee structures for higher education without constitutional constraints.
- (b) The policy is invalid because states cannot impose policies making education unaffordable, as this violates rights integral to life.
- (c) The policy is valid because the right to higher education is subject to the State's economic capacity permitting cost-recovery measures.
- (d) The policy is invalid because all education from primary through postgraduate levels must be provided entirely free under constitutional mandate.

66. The State of Maharashtra passes legislation implementing Article 21A by providing free and compulsory education to all children aged six to fourteen years through a detailed statutory scheme. However, the legislation delegates to the State Education Board the power to frame rules specifying curriculum, teacher qualifications, school infrastructure standards, and admission procedures. A public interest litigation challenges this delegation, arguing that since Article 21A uses the phrase "in such manner as the State may, by law, determine," only the legislature can specify the manner of implementation, and delegation to an executive body violates the constitutional provision. The State defends the delegation as administratively necessary for flexible implementation. The court must determine the constitutional validity of this legislative approach. Which option correctly resolves the challenge to delegation?

- (a) The delegation is invalid because Article 21A's phrase "by law determine" requires the legislature to specify all implementation details directly.
- (b) The delegation is valid because the State may determine the manner of providing education through complete delegation to executive authorities.
- (c) The delegation is invalid because fundamental rights can never be implemented through delegated legislation and require direct parliamentary enactment.
- (d) The delegation is valid because the State may, by law, determine the implementation framework including permissible subordinate rule-making.

67. A private school in Delhi charges ₹2,000 per month as tuition fees for students in Classes 6 to 8, which the school management claims is necessary to pay teachers' salaries, maintain infrastructure, and provide quality education. Several parents from economically weaker sections, whose children are enrolled under the 25% reservation quota mandated by the Right to Education Act, complain that the school is pressuring them to pay various additional charges including examination fees, sports fees, activity fees, and annual maintenance charges totaling another ₹15,000 per year. The school argues these are not "tuition fees" but separate charges for extra services, and that students who don't pay will not be permitted to participate in examinations or sports activities.

Parents seek court intervention arguing this effectively prevents completion of schooling. Which option correctly determines the legality of these additional charges?

- (a) The charges are permissible because schools can charge for additional services beyond basic tuition as these are voluntary extras.
- (b) The charges are impermissible because the Act prohibits any fees that may prevent completion of schooling including such charges.
- (c) The charges are permissible because the fee prohibition applies only to tuition fees while other institutional charges remain lawful.
- (d) The charges are impermissible because private schools must provide completely free education including all services to all students without charges.

68. Priya, a bright 12-year-old student, lives in a densely populated urban neighborhood in Mumbai where the nearest government school is 4.5 kilometers away. Her parents, both daily wage laborers, cannot afford private transportation, and the lengthy commute by public transport takes over 90 minutes each way, making regular attendance extremely difficult for Priya. Despite her strong academic performance and keen interest in studies, she frequently misses school due to the distance and transportation challenges. Her parents petition the State Education Department to establish a school in their locality, which has over 5,000 children in the relevant age group but no elementary school within reasonable distance. The State responds that budget constraints and land acquisition difficulties prevent immediate establishment of new schools, and that existing schools, though distant, are technically accessible. The parents approach the court seeking directions for establishment of a neighborhood school. Should the court compel the State to establish a school in Priya's neighborhood?

- (a) No, because the State has discretion in school location decisions based on budgetary and administrative considerations without judicial interference.
- (b) Yes, because the mandate to maintain neighborhood schools requires establishment of accessible schools regardless of state resource constraints.
- (c) No, because children's ability to access existing schools through public transport satisfies the state's educational obligation under the Act.
- (d) Yes, because any difficulty in regular attendance due to distance violates the statutory prohibition against barriers to completion of schooling.

Passage:- 4 The concept of force in criminal law rests on the physical and mental dimensions of human interaction. Under Section 128 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita 2023, a person uses force on another when he causes motion, change of motion, or cessation of motion either to that person directly or indirectly through a substance or an animal. This definition broadens the traditional understanding of force: it is not limited to physical touching but also includes causing movement that brings an object or creature into contact with another person. Thus, pulling someone by the arm, throwing water on them, or making a bull charge toward them would all amount to the use of force. The inclusion of indirect means reflects the law's intention to cover every act that invades another's personal security or bodily autonomy.

However, every use of force is not punishable. Law becomes concerned only when force is applied without consent and with wrongful intention. Section 129 defines criminal force as intentionally using force on any person without their consent, either in committing an offence or intending to cause injury, fear, or annoyance. The requirement of intention or knowledge separates criminal force from mere accidental contact. For instance, if two passengers accidentally collide in a crowded train, no offence is committed; but if one deliberately pushes the other to insult or intimidate, criminal force is established. This distinction ensures that culpability arises only when the mind of the actor is directed toward a wrongful objective.

The statute recognises that force can operate through gestures or apprehension even before physical contact occurs. Section 130 defines assault as a gesture or preparation creating the reasonable apprehension that criminal force is about to be used. Raising a stick to strike someone or moving aggressively toward them can constitute assault even if the blow never lands. The law thus protects individuals from both physical harm and the mental fear of being harmed.

Beyond these general definitions, the Sanhita classifies aggravated forms of criminal force according to motive. Section 133 punishes the use of criminal force with intent to dishonour a person, while other provisions address its use during theft, wrongful confinement, or outrage of modesty. By structuring offences progressively, from simple force to criminal force and assault, the law reinforces a fundamental moral idea: that every individual has an inviolable right to control over their body and to live free from intimidation, humiliation, and unconsented physical interference.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from, <https://lawfaculty.du.ac.in/userfiles/downloads/LLBCM/Law%20of%20Crimes-I%20BNS%202024.pdf>]

69. During a crowded metro journey, Vikram was standing near the door when the train suddenly braked. He lost his balance and fell against Meera, causing her to drop her phone. Meera immediately accused Vikram of deliberately pushing her and filed a complaint alleging criminal force. Vikram explained that the sudden braking caused his involuntary movement and that he had no intention to touch or harm her. The investigating officer must determine whether Vikram's conduct constitutes criminal force under the law.

How should the investigating officer assess whether Vikram committed criminal force?

- (a) Vikram is liable because he failed to maintain proper balance, and negligence in crowded spaces establishes criminal force.
- (b) Vikram committed the offence as causing another person to drop their phone is injury sufficient to establish criminal force.
- (c) Vikram committed criminal force because any physical contact in a public place amounts to an offence regardless of intent.
- (d) Vikram did not commit an offence as accidental contact without deliberate intent does not constitute criminal force.

70. Rajesh was working at a construction site when his supervisor Arjun approached him. Arjun picked up a loose brick and threw it at the wall directly beside Rajesh's head, missing him by inches. Rajesh felt terrified and believed Arjun intended to hit him. Arjun later claimed he was merely testing the brick's quality by throwing it at the wall and had no intention to harm Rajesh. Rajesh filed a complaint alleging assault. The court must now determine whether Arjun's act constitutes assault even though the brick never made contact with Rajesh.

How should the court rule on whether Arjun committed assault against Rajesh?

- (a) Arjun did not commit assault because the brick never actually touched Rajesh and no physical contact occurred.
- (b) Arjun committed assault as his action of throwing the brick near Rajesh created reasonable apprehension of criminal force.
- (c) Arjun is not liable because he claimed his purpose was to test the brick, negating any criminal intent.
- (d) Arjun committed assault only if he verbally threatened Rajesh before throwing the brick at the wall beside him.

71. Kavita was standing at a bus stop when Sameer, riding a bicycle, deliberately swerved toward her while shouting angrily. He released his pet dog's leash, causing the dog to run at Kavita and jump on her, tearing her clothes. Sameer later argued that since he never physically touched Kavita himself, he could not be held liable for using force. The prosecution contends that Sameer's act of causing the dog to make contact with Kavita constitutes use of force under the law.

Should the court hold Sameer liable for using force on Kavita despite the absence of direct physical contact?

- (a) Sameer is not liable because he did not personally touch Kavita and the dog's actions were independent.
- (b) Sameer is not liable because animals cannot be instruments of force as they have independent will and agency.
- (c) Sameer is liable as force includes causing movement that brings an object or creature into contact with another person.
- (d) Sameer is liable only if the prosecution proves the dog was specifically trained to attack people on command.

72. Priya and Rahul were colleagues who had an ongoing workplace dispute. During a heated argument in the office corridor, Rahul deliberately pushed Priya aside to walk past her, saying "Get out of my way." Priya stumbled but did not fall. She filed a complaint alleging criminal force. Rahul's defense counsel argues that the push was merely

to create space for walking and lacked any intent to cause injury, fear, or annoyance, thus failing to meet the definition of criminal force.

How should the court determine whether Rahul's push constitutes criminal force?

- (a) Rahul committed criminal force as he intentionally pushed Priya without consent to insult or annoy her during the dispute.
- (b) Rahul did not commit criminal force because Priya did not fall or suffer any visible physical injury from the push.
- (c) Rahul is not liable because pushing someone aside to walk past them is socially acceptable conduct in crowded spaces.
- (d) Rahul committed criminal force only if Priya can prove she explicitly refused consent before being pushed aside.

73. Mohit was walking on a narrow street when Aditya, driving a car, suddenly accelerated toward him and stopped just two feet away. Mohit jumped back in fear, believing he was about to be hit. Aditya laughed and drove away. Mohit later learned from witnesses that Aditya had complete control of the vehicle and never intended to actually hit him. Mohit filed a complaint for assault. Aditya's counsel argues that since he never intended to cause actual contact and always had control, no assault occurred.

Should the court find Aditya liable for assault despite his claim of never intending actual contact?

- (a) Aditya is not liable because he maintained control of the vehicle and never intended actual physical contact with Mohit.
- (b) Aditya is not liable because assault requires the accused to have actual present ability to carry out the threatened harm.
- (c) Aditya committed assault as accelerating aggressively toward someone can constitute assault even if actual contact never occurs.
- (d) Aditya committed assault only if he made verbal threats or gestures while accelerating the vehicle toward Mohit.

Passage:- 5 A contingent contract is one whose performance depends upon the happening or non-happening of a future, uncertain event. The Act defines it as a contract to do or not to do something if an uncertain event collateral to such contract happens or does not happen. The key words here are “future”, “uncertain”, and “collateral”: the event must lie ahead and must not form part of the main contract's consideration. For instance, if A agrees to pay B a sum of money if B's ship returns safely from a voyage, A's obligation depends on the uncertain event of the ship returning. If the return does not occur, there is no liability; if it does, the obligation activates.

In practical terms, contingent contracts allow parties to manage risk by linking obligations to events beyond their control. To be valid and enforceable several essentials must be met. First, there must be a valid contract capable of being enforced once the contingency is fulfilled. Secondly, the condition must hinge on an uncertain event, an event that may or may not happen. Third, the event must be collateral to the contract, meaning that the contract's main obligation is not the event itself but the contract is conditioned on it. Fourth, the event should not be at the absolute discretion or control of the promisor, otherwise the contingency becomes illusory and the contract may be treated as a simple promise rather than a contingent one.

The Act recognises how enforceability changes depending on whether the event happens or does not happen. For a contract contingent on an event's happening, it cannot be enforced until that event occurs; if the event becomes impossible, the contract becomes void. On the other hand, where the obligation is contingent on the event not happening, the contract becomes enforceable once it is certain the event will not happen or the time fixed for it has passed. This dual structure allows parties to tie obligations either to the occurrence or non-occurrence of events, but in both cases only when the legal condition is satisfied.

In addition, the Act deals with the question of time in contingent contracts. Where the contract is contingent on an event within a specified time frame, if the time expires without the event happening, or if before the time expires the event becomes impossible, then the contract becomes void. Conversely, if the condition is fulfilled within the time, the contract becomes enforceable in due course.

Distinct from outright gambling or wagering agreements, contingent contracts are recognised as valid and enforceable when lawfully made, because the parties have a genuine interest in the event and the contract is not speculative alone. These contracts therefore serve as useful legal tools in commercial and personal dealings for allocating obligations where future uncertainties might exist.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from, <https://lawfoyer.in/contingent-contracts-definition-and-enforcement/>]

74. Developer Raj entered into an agreement with landowner Sunita whereby Raj promised to pay ₹50 lakh for purchasing Sunita's agricultural land "if and when the State Government issues a notification converting the land from agricultural to residential use within two years." Raj paid ₹5 lakh as earnest money. After eighteen months, the State Government rejected all pending conversion applications in that district due to environmental concerns, making conversion legally impossible. Raj now demands return of his earnest money and seeks to enforce Sunita's obligation to refund it. Sunita argues that the contract remains valid and Raj must wait until the two-year period expires before claiming any refund, as the agreed timeframe has not yet concluded.

How should the court determine the enforceability of this contract?

- (a) The contract remains valid and Raj must continue waiting because impossibility of the event does not affect contracts where earnest money has already been paid and accepted.
- (b) The contract becomes enforceable in Raj's favor for refund because contingent contracts automatically reverse obligations when the contingency fails to materialize within any period.
- (c) The contract remains enforceable because the two-year period has not expired, and parties must wait until the stipulated timeframe concludes before determining the contract's fate.
- (d) The contract becomes void because it was contingent on an event within a specified time frame, and the event became impossible before the time expired, terminating all obligations.

75. Software company TechVista agreed to pay consultant Arjun ₹20 lakh "upon successful completion of the digital transformation project." The contract further specified that Arjun would receive the payment "if the company's board of directors is satisfied with the project outcomes and passes a resolution approving the final deliverables." Arjun completed all technical deliverables meeting industry standards, but the board declined to pass the approval resolution, citing internal strategic changes. Arjun sued for payment, arguing he fulfilled all objective technical requirements. TechVista contends the board's satisfaction was a valid contingency, and since no resolution was passed, payment cannot be claimed. Arjun argues the contingency was illusory because it depended entirely on TechVista's discretion.

What is the legal status of this payment obligation?

- (a) The contract fails as a contingent contract because the event is at the absolute discretion of the promisor, making the contingency illusory and the contract a simple promise for completed work.
- (b) The contract is a valid contingent contract because board satisfaction represents a future uncertain event, and parties are free to make payment conditional upon subjective approval criteria.
- (c) The contract remains enforceable as contingent because corporate board resolutions constitute collateral events independent of the promisor's direct control, even when the board belongs to the paying company.
- (d) The contract is void from inception because making payment dependent on the promisor's internal decision-making process violates the fundamental principle that contingencies must involve external third parties.

76. Exporter Meena entered into a contract with buyer Karthik whereby Meena promised to deliver 500 tonnes of wheat at ₹30,000 per tonne "if international wheat prices fall below ₹28,000 per tonne within six months." The contract explicitly stated that delivery would occur only upon this price condition being met. Three months later, before prices fell to the specified level, a global crop failure caused wheat prices to surge to ₹45,000 per tonne and remain elevated. Commodity experts certified that prices would not fall below ₹28,000 for at least two years. Karthik now seeks to enforce the contract, arguing that Meena promised to deliver wheat and the price condition was merely incidental. Meena refuses delivery, claiming the contract was contingent and has become void due to impossibility.

Which characterization of the contract is legally correct?

- (a) This is a simple sale contract where the price condition was merely a target figure, and Meena must deliver the wheat at the current market price since wheat delivery was the primary obligation.
- (b) This is a futures contract rather than a contingent contract because it involves commodity pricing, and therefore different commercial law principles apply making the price condition binding and enforceable.
- (c) This is a contingent contract where the event must be collateral to the contract, meaning the contract's main obligation is not the event itself but is conditioned on it, making delivery unenforceable until prices fall.
- (d) This is a void agreement from inception because contracts cannot validly make delivery obligations dependent on market price movements, as such conditions constitute speculation prohibited under contract law.

77. Rohit agrees to pay Priya ₹5 lakhs if the shipment of her goods arrives safely at the Mumbai port. Before the ship reaches India, a severe cyclone sinks it near the Arabian coast, and all goods are lost. Months later, a different vessel recovers part of the cargo floating near the coast, which Priya claims as salvaged property. She now demands payment from Rohit, arguing that partial recovery counts as the ship's "return." Rohit refuses, asserting that the contract stands void due to impossibility of the event. The dispute revolves around whether the occurrence of the event has become legally impossible, thereby rendering the obligation void.

How should the court decide?

- (a) The contract remains enforceable because the recovery of goods equals safe return.
- (b) The contract becomes void because the uncertain event has become impossible.
- (c) The contract is still pending until full confirmation that no further goods can be found.
- (d) The contract continues since the ship's partial survival keeps the contingency alive.

78. Meena promises to pay Arjun ₹10,000 if it rains on Diwali night. The night passes without rainfall, but the next morning a brief drizzle occurs. Arjun insists that since the rain happened "around Diwali," the condition is fulfilled. Meena denies liability, arguing that the event's non-happening during the specific time agreed makes the contract void. Arjun contends that the drizzle represents the uncertain event materializing, though delayed by hours. The issue concerns whether the event occurred as agreed or whether the contingency lapsed once the defined time for its happening expired.

What is the correct legal position?

- (a) The contract becomes void because the uncertain event did not happen within the agreed time.
- (b) The contract remains alive until the weather pattern for Diwali week is finally concluded.
- (c) The contract stands enforceable since the drizzle occurred soon after the specified period.
- (d) The contract can be enforced partially due to near-fulfilment of the uncertain condition.

79. Devika agrees to pay Nirmal ₹2 lakhs if Nirmal's rival company fails to obtain a mining permit by 31 December 2025. The authority does not issue any decision until 2 January 2026. On 3 January, Nirmal demands payment, claiming the time fixed for the event has passed without the permit being granted. Devika refuses, arguing that a delayed administrative order might still approve the permit, so the event has not conclusively failed. The dispute turns on whether the expiry of the fixed time itself constitutes sufficient certainty to make the obligation enforceable.

How should the dispute be resolved?

- (a) The contract becomes void because the uncertain event is still capable of happening later.
- (b) The contract continues indefinitely until the permit is formally refused or withdrawn.
- (c) Devika's obligation becomes enforceable since the fixed time has expired without the event occurring.
- (d) The contract remains suspended until the final administrative decision is officially announced.

Passage:- 6 In tort law, the idea of discharge refers to the ways in which a wrongful act's liability is terminated or rendered unenforceable, so the injured party can no longer pursue further remedy. One of the most basic modes is the death of either party: if the person who committed the tort (the defendant) dies, or the person against whom it was committed (the plaintiff) dies, then the personal right of action may perish with them under the maxim *actio personalis moritur cum persona*. The logic is that the cause of action is personal and cannot survive beyond the

lives of the individuals concerned. However, the law recognises exceptions such as where the legal representative or heir is permitted by statutory or succession law to carry on the claim.

Another method is accord and satisfaction. Here the wrongdoer and the injured party agree (accord) to settle the dispute, and the wrongdoer gives the agreed consideration (satisfaction). Once that settlement is completed with free consent, the right to pursue the tort is extinguished. For instance, if a driver causes injury to a pedestrian and the parties agree to a fixed compensation which is paid, the injured party forgoes further legal action in respect of that tort. Consent must be free and untainted by fraud, coercion or undue influence for the discharge to be valid.

Release is closely related. The injured party may voluntarily release the wrongdoer from liability by promising not to sue, effectively waiving the right. This discharge must also be voluntary and informed if the injured person signs a release under duress or without proper understanding, the release may be invalid.

A further method is by judgment: once a court has rendered a final decision on the tortious claim, with or without appeal rights exhausted, the liability is discharged because the cause of action has been adjudicated the principle of res judicata prevents re-litigation of the same tort claim between the same parties.

Waiver and acquiescence also operate to discharge tort liability. Waiver arises where the injured party chooses one available remedy but thereby relinquishes others. For example, if someone has both contractual and tortious claims for the same act and picks one, they may lose the other. Acquiescence occurs where the injured party, through inaction or long neglect, permits the wrongdoer to assume there will be no challenge; the delay itself may extinguish the right.

Finally, the law of limitation plays a key role: when the statutory period for filing a tort claim expires, the claimant loses the right to enforce the liability. For example, certain torts may have a time-bar of one year, three years or another period as prescribed; once that time has passed without action, the tort is discharged by limitation.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from, <https://lawbhoomi.com/discharge-of-torts/>]

80. Rajesh suffered injuries when Vikram's car collided with his motorcycle. After initial discussions, Vikram's insurance company offered ₹5 lakhs as compensation. Rajesh, who was unfamiliar with legal procedures and believed this was the maximum he could receive, signed a settlement agreement releasing Vikram from all liability. Later, Rajesh discovered his medical expenses would exceed ₹12 lakhs and that he was entitled to claim this amount. He now seeks to sue Vikram for the additional damages, arguing the release should not bar his claim.

How should the court decide on the validity of the release signed by Rajesh?

- (a) Rajesh cannot pursue further action because he voluntarily signed the release agreement, making it binding.
- (b) Rajesh may challenge the release's validity since he signed without proper understanding of his rights and damages.
- (c) Rajesh is bound by the release because insurance settlements are automatically enforceable once signed.
- (d) Rajesh must honour the release as lack of legal knowledge does not constitute improper understanding.

81. Malini was defrauded by Suresh in a business transaction that also breached their written contract. She filed a civil suit seeking damages for breach of contract, and after two years of litigation, the court awarded her ₹8 lakhs in contractual damages with a final judgment. Six months after receiving this compensation, Malini discovered additional evidence of Suresh's fraudulent misrepresentations during the transaction. She now wishes to file a fresh suit against Suresh for the tort of fraud, seeking exemplary damages beyond the contractual compensation already received.

How should the court rule on Malini's attempt to pursue the tort claim after obtaining contractual damages?

- (a) Malini can proceed with the tort claim because contractual and tortious damages serve different purposes.
- (b) Malini cannot pursue the fraud claim as choosing the contractual claim resulted in waiver of the tortious remedy.
- (c) Malini retains both rights because discovery of additional evidence creates an exception to election of remedies.
- (d) Malini's tort claim remains viable since exemplary damages for fraud are distinct from compensatory contract damages.

82. Deepak was injured in an accident caused by Arjun's negligence. After months of negotiations, Arjun's lawyer prepared a settlement agreement offering ₹10 lakhs compensation. During the signing meeting, Arjun's business

associate, who was present in the room, made several veiled threats about Deepak's small business potentially losing important contracts if the settlement was not signed immediately. Feeling intimidated and fearing economic ruin for his business, Deepak signed the agreement. Three weeks later, after consulting a lawyer, Deepak learned these threats had influenced his decision and now seeks to set aside the settlement and pursue his tort claim.

How should the court rule on the validity of the settlement as a discharge of tort liability?

- (a) The settlement validly discharges the tort because Arjun himself did not personally make the threats.
- (b) Deepak is bound by the settlement since he waited three weeks before challenging it after consulting a lawyer.
- (c) The discharge is invalid because consent was tainted by undue influence through economic intimidation.
- (d) The settlement stands as economic pressure in business negotiations is common and does not invalidate consent.

83. Priya was injured in a workplace accident caused by her employer Mehta Industries' negligence. Priya died six months later from unrelated health issues before filing any legal claim. Her adult son Karan, as her legal heir, wishes to pursue the tort claim against Mehta Industries for the injuries his mother suffered. Mehta Industries argues that since Priya died without filing suit, the right to pursue the tort claim perished with her under the personal action principle, and Karan has no standing to continue a claim that never formally existed during Priya's lifetime.

How should the court rule on Karan's standing to pursue the tort claim on behalf of his deceased mother?

- (a) Karan cannot pursue the claim because the tort action was entirely personal to Priya and perished with her.
- (b) Karan may pursue the claim if statutory provisions permit legal representatives to carry forward unfiled tort claims.
- (c) The claim is barred because Priya's failure to file suit before death demonstrates lack of intent to pursue.
- (d) Karan has no standing since succession laws only permit continuation of claims already formally initiated during the injured party's lifetime.

84. Anita and Ramesh were involved in a car accident caused by Ramesh's reckless driving, resulting in injuries to Anita. After the accident, Ramesh visited Anita multiple times, expressing remorse and offering to pay all medical expenses. Anita verbally agreed to accept ₹6 lakhs as full settlement, which Ramesh promised to pay within one month. However, when Ramesh later tendered the payment, Anita refused to accept it and instead filed a lawsuit for ₹15 lakhs, claiming her agreement was merely preliminary and non-binding since no formal document was signed. Ramesh argues the verbal accord and his tender of the agreed amount should discharge his liability.

How should the court determine whether Ramesh's tort liability has been discharged through the settlement arrangement?

- (a) Anita's claim is valid because verbal settlements cannot discharge tort liability without formal written documentation.
- (b) The liability remains undischarged because while accord was reached, satisfaction was never completed due to Anita's refusal.
- (c) Ramesh's liability is extinguished since he fulfilled his obligation by tendering payment as agreed.
- (d) The settlement is incomplete because Anita's subsequent lawsuit demonstrates absence of genuine free consent at the time.

Section – D : Logical Reasoning

Passage:- 1 When it comes to heart health, any exercise is good. But a new study published suggests women receive greater benefits than men for the same amount of physical activity. The study analyzed more than 85,000 adults in the United Kingdom over about eight years by comparing participants' health records with data from activity trackers worn on the wrist. Of the participants, around 80,000 had no history of heart disease. For women in this group, around four hours of exercise per week decreased their risk of heart disease by 30 percent. Men in this group required more than 8.5 hours of exercise per week for the same heart health benefits. Among the 5,000 participants who had a history of coronary heart disease—the leading cause of death worldwide—women who exercised for 2.5 hours per week were 70 percent less likely to die for any reason within the next eight years, compared to women who did not meet that exercise benchmark, reports Christa Lesté-Lasserre at New Scientist. Men who did the same amount of exercise were only 20 percent less likely to die than those who did not exercise. This isn't bad news for men, it's just something we should know about. Once we know, we can do better—we can do more exercise. And while it's reassuring for women who are busy all the time, I also think women should not miss the fact that they need to exercise as well.

Physiological differences between males and females likely account for some of the varying effects of exercise. Estrogen can prompt body fat loss during exercise, which is linked to improved cardiovascular health, and women naturally have higher levels of estrogen than men. Women's greater proportion of slow-twitch muscles also tends to help their bodies work more efficiently during exercise, while men's muscles often lend themselves to quicker, more powerful movements. The World Health Organization advises that adults get at least 150 minutes of moderate aerobic activity or 75 minutes of vigorous activity each week. Past research has found that, worldwide, fewer women than men meet these exercise goals. I hope this study encourages people across the board to exercise. We particularly hope that our findings could encourage physically inactive females to become more active, thereby reducing their cardiovascular risk. Understanding how these findings apply to a more racially diverse and socioeconomically disadvantaged population will be imperative in the future, given their higher burden of cardiovascular disease.

Extracted with edits and revisions from: <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/women-need-about-half-as-much-exercise-as-men-for-the-same-heart-benefits-study-suggests-180987584/>

85. If future research finds that estrogen supplements in men do not lead to the same cardiovascular benefits that women derive from natural estrogen, which of the following conclusions is most strongly supported?

- (a) Estrogen's cardiovascular benefits during exercise depend on broader physiological systems beyond hormone levels alone, including factors like muscle composition.
- (b) The study's findings about gender differences in exercise benefits are invalid because they incorrectly attributed the differences to estrogen levels.
- (c) Men should focus on developing slow-twitch muscle fibers rather than pursuing hormonal interventions to achieve cardiovascular benefits from exercise.
- (d) Natural estrogen production in women creates permanently superior cardiovascular efficiency that cannot be replicated through any medical intervention in men.

86. Which of the following, if true, would most seriously weaken the inference that women's higher benefit from exercise is due to estrogen?

- (a) Studies show that post-menopausal women with significantly reduced estrogen levels receive similar cardiovascular benefits from exercise as younger women with higher estrogen.
- (b) Research indicates that men with naturally higher estrogen levels than average still require more exercise than women to achieve equivalent cardiovascular benefits.
- (c) Data reveals that women who take estrogen-suppressing medications for medical conditions continue to derive greater exercise benefits than men with comparable activity.
- (d) Evidence demonstrates that girls before puberty, who have not yet developed adult female estrogen levels, show similar exercise response patterns to adult men.

87. Which of the following is least likely true as per the above passage?

- (a) The study's findings suggest that current exercise guidelines from the World Health Organization may be insufficient for men to achieve optimal cardiovascular benefits.
- (b) Women's physiological advantages in deriving cardiovascular benefits from exercise mean that physically inactive women face lower cardiovascular risks than inactive men.
- (c) The research team hopes their findings will particularly motivate physically inactive women to increase their activity levels to reduce cardiovascular disease risk.
- (d) Future research needs to examine whether these gender-based differences in exercise benefits apply consistently across diverse racial and socioeconomic populations.

88. If a policymaker uses this study to justify lowering national exercise recommendations for women, which of the following best evaluates the reasoning?

- (a) The reasoning is flawed because the study shows women gain more benefits per hour, not that they need less exercise overall.
- (b) The reasoning is sound because if women achieve better cardiovascular outcomes with less exercise, guidelines should reflect this efficiency.
- (c) The reasoning is flawed because the study focused on cardiovascular benefits without examining other important health outcomes affected by exercise.
- (d) The reasoning is sound because establishing gender-specific exercise guidelines would optimize public health outcomes based on physiological differences.

89. The conclusion that "fewer women meet WHO exercise goals worldwide" implicitly assumes that:

- (a) Women have less access to exercise facilities and safe spaces for physical activity compared to men across different global regions.
- (b) Meeting WHO exercise goals requires the same absolute time commitment from both men and women despite physiological differences in benefit.
- (c) The WHO exercise guidelines were established based primarily on research conducted on male participants rather than diverse populations.
- (d) Women's greater efficiency in deriving cardiovascular benefits from exercise has not yet been incorporated into current WHO recommendations.

90. Which of the following arguments parallels the reasoning structure of the passage?

- (a) Research shows electric cars travel farther per charge than gasoline cars per tank, suggesting electric vehicles are more efficient transportation.
- (b) Studies find that students who study four hours score as well as those studying eight hours, proving shorter study is optimal.
- (c) Data reveals that medication A produces better outcomes at lower doses than medication B at higher doses for treating hypertension.
- (d) Analysis shows that certain soil types require less fertilizer than others to achieve equivalent crop yields across different farms.

Passage:- 2 The Great Wildebeest Migration is one of the most remarkable natural spectacles on Earth. Each year, immense herds of wildebeest, joined by zebras and gazelles, travel 800-1,000km between Tanzania and Kenya in search of fresh grazing after the rains. This vast, circular journey is the engine of the Serengeti-Mara ecosystem. The migration feeds predators such as lions and crocodiles, fertilises the land and sustains the grasslands. Countless other species, and human livelihoods tied to rangelands and tourism, depend on it. Because this migration underpins the entire ecosystem, it's vital to know how many animals are involved. A change in numbers would not only affect wildebeest, but would ripple outward to predators, vegetation and the millions of people who rely on this landscape. For decades, aerial surveys have been the main tool for estimating the size of east Africa's wildebeest population. Aircraft fly in straight lines (transects) a few kilometres apart and use these strips

to estimate the total population. This dedicated and arduous work, using a long-established method, has given us an estimate of about 1.3 million wildebeest. In recent years, conservation scientists have begun testing whether satellites and artificial intelligence (identifying patterns in large datasets) can offer a new way to monitor wildlife. Earlier work showed that other species – Weddell seals, beluga whales and elephants – could be identified in satellite imagery using artificial intelligence.

In 2023, we showed that migratory wildebeest could be detected from satellite images using deep learning. That study proved it's possible to monitor large gatherings of mammals from space. The next step has been to move from simply detecting animals to estimating their populations – using satellites not just to spot them, but to count them at scale. Across both years, the models detected fewer than 600,000 wildebeest within the dry-season range. While these numbers are lower than some previous aerial estimates, this should not necessarily be interpreted as evidence of a population decline, and we encourage more surveying effort to work out the relative error biases in each approach. While some animals are inevitably missed, under trees or outside the imaged area, it is unlikely that such factors could account for hundreds of thousands more. To confirm that the main herds were covered, we validated the survey extent using GPS tracking data from collared wildebeest and ground-based observations from organisations monitoring herd movements in the region. These results provide the first satellite-based dry-season census of the Serengeti-Mara migration. Rather than replacing aerial surveys, they offer a complementary perspective on seasonal population dynamics. The next step is to coordinate aerial and satellite surveys in parallel. This way each method can help refine the other and build a more complete picture of this extraordinary migration. Extracted with edits and revisions from: <https://theconversation.com/the-great-wildebeest-migration-seen-from-space-satellites-and-ai-are-helping-count-africas-wildlife-266308>

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

- (a) Satellite-based surveys should completely replace aerial surveys as the primary method for monitoring wildebeest populations given technological advances.
- (b) The discrepancy between satellite and aerial estimates requires further investigation to understand the biases inherent in each methodology.
- (c) Lower satellite counts definitively prove that previous aerial survey estimates of 1.3 million wildebeest were significantly inflated.
- (d) Artificial intelligence has demonstrated superior accuracy compared to traditional methods in detecting and counting migratory wildlife populations.

92. If future satellite surveys consistently report lower wildebeest numbers than aerial surveys, which of the following would best undermine the conclusion that the population is declining?

- (a) Discovery that wildebeest cluster densely under tree canopy during the dry season when satellite imagery is captured for surveys.
- (b) Evidence that aerial survey pilots have become more experienced over time, improving their ability to spot and count animals accurately.
- (c) Research showing that wildebeest migration timing has shifted, causing herds to disperse more widely across the landscape during surveys.
- (d) Data indicating that satellite image resolution has decreased slightly over recent years, making individual animal detection more challenging.

93. If scientists later find that satellite surveys consistently detect exactly half the wildebeest counted by aerial surveys, what would most logically follow?

- (a) Satellite methodology should be abandoned as it systematically undercounts populations by a predictable margin that indicates fundamental flaws.
- (b) A correction factor of two could be applied to satellite counts to make them comparable to aerial surveys for population estimates.
- (c) The true wildebeest population likely falls between the satellite and aerial estimates, requiring integrated analysis to determine actual numbers.

(d) Aerial surveys have been overcounting wildebeest populations by a factor of two, and satellite technology has revealed the accurate population size.

94. All of the following can be inferred from the above passage, EXCEPT:

- (a) The Serengeti-Mara ecosystem's stability depends significantly on maintaining the wildebeest migration at its current scale and patterns.
- (b) Previous studies have successfully demonstrated that artificial intelligence can identify various large mammal species in satellite imagery.
- (c) Satellite-based monitoring provides advantages over aerial surveys in terms of cost-effectiveness and frequency of data collection.
- (d) GPS tracking collars on wildebeest and ground observations were used to verify that satellite surveys captured the main herds.

95. Which of the following, if true, would strengthen the case for using AI-based satellite imagery for long-term monitoring?

- (a) Satellite surveys can be conducted during both wet and dry seasons without weather-related disruptions that frequently ground aerial survey aircraft.
- (b) Analysis reveals that satellite imagery consistently detects the same individual wildebeest across multiple survey dates throughout the migration cycle.
- (c) Studies show that aerial survey accuracy decreases over time as experienced pilots retire and training new pilots requires years of practice.
- (d) Research demonstrates that wildebeest herds exhibit stress responses to low-flying aircraft but show no behavioral changes during satellite passes overhead.

96. Which of the following is the most appropriate summary of the above passage?

- (a) Satellite surveys using artificial intelligence have proven more accurate than traditional aerial surveys, detecting approximately 600,000 wildebeest compared to inflated estimates.
- (b) New satellite technology with AI successfully counted wildebeest from space, but lower numbers compared to aerial surveys require investigation of biases.
- (c) The Great Wildebeest Migration faces serious population decline as evidenced by satellite surveys showing significantly fewer animals than previously estimated.
- (d) Artificial intelligence has revolutionized wildlife monitoring by enabling complete replacement of expensive and dangerous aerial survey methods with satellite imagery.

Passage:- 3 Sometimes, the most manifest gains are won after the most Herculean of battles. For France to establish that “force is the crime” to establish that the use of force without consent causing injury, rape, fear or annoyance is a criminal act, took years; extraordinary courage from one woman, and an uprising where other women stood in solidarity with her. France has adopted a law that defines rape as any non-consensual sexual act, a milestone for the women in the country, but overall, a strike against sexual violence. The law was passed in response to urgent calls from society to infuse consent into the law, and make sure that the law protects sexual autonomy, particularly with reference to women. Last year, Gisèle Pelicot fought her toughest battle when she took the stand in court, in a case accusing her husband of drugging and allowing her to be raped by several men, some complete strangers. In December last year, the court granted 51 convictions in the case, but it was more significant in how it became a watershed moment to establish consent as a pillar of law. It has been well established that survivors of sexual violence have an arduous journey bringing their case to a court of law, and many women from disadvantaged social and economic backgrounds, indeed do not have that privilege. There is a great deal of stigma, and worse, judgement of the survivors in cases of rape, as recent public statements in India by leaders blaming the women have painfully underlined again, and again. Even when a case of rape enters the trial stage, the chances of securing a conviction are not encouraging. According to the NCRB’s data, conviction rates for rape were between 27%-28% from 2018 to 2022. And this, despite the fact that Section 129 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita recognises “criminal force”.

To establish sexual autonomy as the cornerstone of the judicial process, while a first step, is scarcely all. Preventing sexual violence will also involve shaping community views on gender roles, dismantling rigid patriarchal codes with a measure of law, but also awareness programmes that begin early, and orienting the police force to these principles, besides funnelling resources into assisting survivors cope with the trauma. The road ahead is long and arduous; for the journey of the survivors to be eased, governments should start with a complete intolerance for sexual violence, and a commitment to stand by survivors, employing empathy in the investigation and trial processes. To do any less, would be an injustice that would interrupt the momentum of the women's 'Arab Spring' Pelicot had set in motion.

Extracted with edits and revisions from: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/consent-is-all-on-sexual-violence-support-for-survivors/article70226300.ece>

97. If the French reform defines rape solely on the basis of absence of consent, which of the following represents the strongest logical consequence of this definition?

- (a) Conviction depends on demonstrating visible physical injuries sustained by the survivor.
- (b) Physical resistance is no longer required to prove rape occurred during the sexual encounter.
- (c) Only explicit verbal consent can establish the legality of sexual acts.
- (d) Intent of the accused becomes irrelevant in determining guilt for rape.

98. Suppose future data shows that conviction rates rise sharply in France after the new law. Which of the following would most weaken the claim that this improvement stems solely from the legal change?

- (a) Public awareness campaigns emphasizing consent were launched simultaneously with the legal reform.
- (b) Police investigation procedures and quality improved substantially following the reform implementation.
- (c) The total number of rape cases reported to authorities increased dramatically.
- (d) Courts began prioritizing rape cases in their dockets for faster trials.

99. The author cites India's conviction rate (27–28%) for rape to illustrate which broader point?

- (a) France's judiciary functions more efficiently than India's in handling cases.
- (b) India's penal code lacks any provision recognizing or defining criminal force.
- (c) Legal definitions alone do not ensure justice without systemic and cultural change.
- (d) Social stigma around sexual violence has disappeared in India recently.

100. Which of the following statements would the author least likely agree with?

- (a) Patriarchal social codes must be challenged alongside changes in the law to ensure true equality.
- (b) Survivors from disadvantaged backgrounds often face greater barriers in accessing justice.
- (c) Empathy and sensitivity during investigations can make the justice process less traumatic.
- (d) Legal reform alone is sufficient to eradicate sexual violence if the definition of rape is broadened.

101. Which of the following can be most reasonably inferred from the passage?

- (a) The transformation of legal definitions can act as a catalyst for deeper cultural and institutional change.
- (b) Conviction rates alone are a reliable indicator of a country's progress against sexual violence.
- (c) Public outrage against crimes of sexual violence usually fades quickly without legislative response.
- (d) Legal systems in all democracies have uniformly accepted consent as the foundation of rape law.

102. Which of the following, if true, would contradict the author's position that empathy in investigation is essential for justice?

- (a) Survivors consistently report feeling more comfortable when questioned by empathetic officers during investigations.
- (b) Objective, procedural investigation without emotional involvement yields higher conviction rates than empathetic approaches.
- (c) Investigators trained in trauma-informed empathetic methods collect more reliable evidence than those using standard procedures.

(d) Public trust in the justice system increases significantly when police display empathy toward survivors.

Passage:- 4 Study the following information carefully and answer the questions given beside.

Eight persons Aamir, Bhumi, Deepika, Ranveer, Alia, Salman, Katrina and Shah Rukh live on eight different floors from bottom to top such that ground floor is numbered as 1 and top floor is numbered as 8.

Deepika lives on an even numbered floor. Only three people live between Deepika and Ranveer. Only five persons live between Shah Rukh and Alia, and both live on odd numbered floors and Shah Rukh lives above Deepika. Both Salman and Katrina live above Aamir. Salman lives somewhere above Katrina. Shah Rukh lives above Bhumi. Three persons live between Aamir and Bhumi, who lives on an even numbered floor.

103. Who stays just below Deepika's floor?

- (a) Aamir (b) Katrina (c) Salman (d) Shah Rukh

104. Three of the following four are alike in a certain way and so form a group. Find the one which does not belong to that group?

- (a) Ranveer (b) Aamir (c) Deepika (d) Salman

105. How many floors are between Ranveer and Shah Rukh?

- (a) One (b) Two (c) None (d) Three

106. How many persons live above Alia?

- (a) One (b) Two (c) More than four (d) Three

107. Who lives at the topmost floor?

- (a) Ranveer (b) Aamir (c) Deepika (d) Salman

108. Who among the following lives at the even floor?

- (a) Aamir (b) Shah Rukh (c) Katrina (d) Alia

Section – E : Quantitative Techniques

[Directions for Q.109-Q114]: At Saraswati Public School in Lucknow, the annual Eco-Design Exhibition was in full swing. Among the most eye-catching models was a “Smart Mini Park” created by four students: Diya, Raghav, Ishaan, and Kritika. The team combined 2-D and 3-D shapes to make a realistic miniature park entirely from recycled materials.

At the center stood a cylindrical fountain with a radius of 2 m and height of 1.5 m, surrounded by a circular walking path of outer radius 5 m. Diya had calculated the area of tiles needed for paving the path but wanted to double-check before ordering them. On one side of the park, Raghav built a rectangular garden bed measuring 12 m × 8 m, bordered by a narrow gravel strip 1 m wide. Ishaan constructed a pyramid-shaped glass shelter to protect seedlings it had a square base of side 3 m and a slant height 4 m. Kritika designed a hemispherical dome over the fountain to protect it from dust, using transparent fiber.

Later, their teacher challenged them to paint all visible surfaces and fill the fountain halfway with water to test its capacity. To estimate costs, they had to calculate areas and volumes of the structures, the surface area to be painted, the amount of water required, and the total fencing length around the garden bed.

109. What is the area of the circular walking path (annulus) around the fountain? (Use $\pi = 22/7$)

- (a) 62.00 m² (b) 63.50 m² (c) 66.00 m² (d) 69.00 m²

110. The fountain is half-filled with water. How many litres of water are needed? (Use $\pi = 22/7$; 1 m³ = 1000 L)

- (a) 9,414 L (b) 9,429 L (c) 9,500 L (d) 9,369 L

111. The gravel strip of width 1 m borders the 12 m × 8 m garden bed on all sides. What is the area of the gravel strip?

- (a) 44 m² (b) 45 m² (c) 48 m² (d) 52 m²

112. A fence is to be placed around the outer boundary of the garden + gravel strip, but a 2 m entrance gap is left. What length of fencing is required?

- (a) 44 m (b) 45 m (c) 48 m (d) 46 m

113. Assume they paint only the visible curved surfaces: the curved surface of the cylindrical fountain (outside) and the curved outer surface of the hemispherical dome. No bases are painted. What is the total paintable area? (Use $\pi = 22/7$)

- (a) 40.00 m² (b) 42.00 m² (c) 44.00 m² (d) 46.00 m²

114. The pyramid shelter (square base 3 m, slant height 4 m) has one triangular face kept open as a door. If 1 litre of paint covers 3 m², how many litres are needed to paint the remaining outer triangular faces?

- (a) 5 L (b) 6 L (c) 7 L (d) 8 L

[Directions for Q.115-Q120]:

At the Harmony Music Academy in Delhi, four friends: Rohit, Meera, Ananya, and Dev, were preparing for the upcoming Inter-School Talent Show. Each of them had to balance practice hours, grades, and expenses, and their mentor, Mr. Kapoor, decided to use their data to teach them about averages.

Over the first week, Rohit practiced 2 hours daily, Meera 2.5 hours, Ananya 3 hours, and Dev 4 hours. During the second week, their enthusiasm increased Rohit averaged 3 hours, Meera 3.5 hours, Ananya 4 hours, and Dev 5 hours per day. Mr. Kapoor asked them to find their average daily practice time over the two weeks. Meanwhile, each friend spent differently on costumes and props: Rohit ₹1,200, Meera ₹1,500, Ananya ₹1,800, and Dev ₹2,100. They planned to divide all expenses equally and wanted to know how much each one should contribute or receive back.

To motivate them, Mr. Kapoor also tracked their performance scores from three judges, each giving marks out of 100. Rohit got 76, 82, and 88; Meera 85, 80, and 90; Ananya 78, 84, and 86; and Dev 90, 88, and 92. He asked them to find their average scores, and then the class average of all four participants.

115. What is Dev's average daily practice time over the two weeks?

- (a) 4.0 hours (b) 4.5 hours (c) 5.0 hours (d) 3.5 hours

116. What is Rohit's average daily practice time over the two weeks?

- (a) 2.0 hours (b) 3.5 hours (c) 2.75 hours (d) 2.5 hours

117. What is the overall class average across all 12 judges' scores (round to 2 decimals)?

- (a) 84.75 (b) 84.92 (c) 85.25 (d) 85.00

118. After equal split of expenses, how much should Rohit pay or receive?

- (a) Pay ₹450 (b) Receive ₹450 (c) Pay ₹150 (d) Receive ₹150

119. Ananya practiced 3 h/day in Week 1 and 4 h/day in Week 2 (total 14 days). She wants her average over 15 days (adding one bonus day) to be 3.8 h/day. How many hours must she practice on the bonus day?

- (a) 6 hours (b) 7 hours (c) 8 hours (d) 9 hours

120. Meera's scores are 85, 80, 90. If the 80 is re-evaluated to a new value k so that her average equals Dev's average (90), what is k ?

- (a) 92 (b) 94 (c) 95 (d) 96

Rough Work
