

UG 2026

AMDIT CARD NUMBER

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QUESTION BOOKLET NO: 2026UG10



### 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** The liberal international order or Pax Americana, the world order built by the United States after the Second World War, is coming to an end. Not surprisingly, this has led to fears of disorder and chaos and, even worse, impending Chinese hegemony or Pax Sinica. Importantly, this mode of thinking that envisages the necessity of a dominant or hegemonic power underwriting global stability was developed by 20th-century US scholars of international relations, and is known as the hegemonic stability theory (HST).

In particular, hegemonic stability theory developed out of the work of the American economist Charles P Kindleberger. In his acclaimed book *The World in Depression 1929-1939* (1973), Kindleberger argued that: ‘The world economic system was unstable unless some country stabilised it,’ and that, in 1929, ‘the British couldn’t and the United States wouldn’t.’ While Kindleberger was mainly concerned with economic order, his view was transformed by international relations scholars to associate hegemony with all sorts of things. In particular, a hegemonic power is generally expected to perform one or all of three main roles: first, as the dominant military power that ensures peace and stability; second, as the central economic actor within the global system; and third, as a cultural and ideational leader – either actively disseminating its political ideas across the system or serving as a model that others seek to emulate.

HST extends to all aspects of Pax Americana, and US naval power is seen as a ‘public good’ provided by the hegemon that secures the world’s maritime commons. However, many thinkers now see China’s growing power, especially naval power, as a consequential challenge to the US-led liberal international order, and fear that this assault on US hegemony portends disorder. The return of the US president Donald Trump to the White House has of course accentuated these liberal fears, especially in the US but also among America’s allies, particularly its Western partners. The premise of HST, crafted by Americans at the height of the American century, however, is wrong. History shows us that there are other pathways to international order, and that stability does not require hegemony. Maritime Asia’s long history indicates that, contrary to this American theory about international orders, a hegemon is not required for a functioning world order.

Extracted with edits and revisions from: <https://aeon.co/essays/what-southeast-asian-history-tells-us-about-a-multipolar-order>

1. What is the author’s central criticism of hegemonic stability theory in this passage?
  - (a) It asserts that global stability is dependent on hegemonic control and lacks historical nuance.
  - (b) It assumes world leadership must emerge from military strength rather than regional consensus.
  - (c) It envisions hegemony as a natural progression of economic dominance across civilisations.
  - (d) It elevates American naval authority without accounting for shifting geopolitical realities.
  
2. How is Pax Americana primarily portrayed in the author’s analysis?
  - (a) As a declining concept reimagined by scholars through retrospective Cold War theory.
  - (b) As a regional settlement maintained through strategic alliances and shared ideologies.
  - (c) As a multilateral experiment dependent on postcolonial cooperation and trade flows.
  - (d) As a framework shaped by U.S. dominance in military, economic, and cultural domains.
  
3. The term “portends” in the line “this assault on US hegemony portends disorder” most nearly means:
 

(a) escalates	(b) conceals	(c) threatens	(d) regulates
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4. What belief fuels the anxiety surrounding China’s maritime expansion, as per the passage?
  - (a) That only a singular hegemon can maintain security across shared maritime routes.
  - (b) That rival economic powers pose limited challenges without naval modernization.
  - (c) That international trade suffers when smaller states coordinate naval activity.
  - (d) That regional maritime networks depend solely on Cold War-era alliances.

5. What broader inference does the author suggest about history's role in global stability?
- (a) History illustrates that civilisations collapse when hegemonic control becomes decentralised.
  - (b) History demonstrates that enduring world orders can exist without hegemonic enforcement.
  - (c) History reveals that global systems survive only through continuous military intervention.
  - (d) History confirms that political alliances dissolve whenever leadership becomes diffused.
6. Which word best replaces the phrase “crafted by Americans at the height of the American century” in the passage?
- (a) theorized
  - (b) glorified
  - (c) imposed
  - (d) mobilized

**Passage:- 2** Vertigo is a sensation of spinning or movement of the surroundings, even when they are not actually moving. While it may not be a disease, it may be a sign of a problem of the inner ear or the brain. People with vertigo may feel dizzy or unsteady, as if the ground was spinning or tilting. Now before we get into it, let's explore the science behind our body's balance. The body balances itself through a complex system of three sources in integration: eyes for vision, inner ear, or the vestibular system for detecting motion and position, and the muscles and joints to sense pressure and movement. These inputs are sent to the brain which processes them to help the body in maintaining its regular posture. Sometimes, the brain can receive conflicting signals from these sources — which in turn leads to the brain getting confused — and that's when vertigo strikes. Vertigo is the very specific sensation of spinning or unstable movement, while dizziness is a broader term for feeling lightheaded, faint, or unsteady. In other words, dizziness is feeling “woozy” or off-balance without the spinning sensation. Vertigo comes with nausea, vomiting, sweating, and difficulty focusing. Benign Paroxysmal Positional Vertigo (BPPV) is triggered by tiny calcium particles in the inner ear that shift out of place. Labyrinthitis or Vestibular Neuritis is triggered by the flu, which in turn leads to inflammation in the inner ear. Meniere's disease sees a fluid build-up in the inner ear, and a ringing in the ears (tinnitus). Other causes can include migraines, head injuries, and certain medications. BPPV can be treated with simple head movements like the Epley manoeuvre, a series of head movements used to guide the crystals out of the inner ear. Medication can aid symptoms like nausea and dizziness. Rest, hydration, and stress management can be useful in preventing recurrences. In more severe or chronic cases, vestibular rehabilitation therapy (VRT) helps retrain the brain to maintain balance. Vertigo can feel disorienting, even scary at times, but awareness is the first step to fighting it. It's your body's built-in alarm system signalling your body to get a reset. With the right care — and some patience — you can find yourself steady again.

Extracted with edits and revisions from: <https://www.thehindu.com/children/head-spinning-chaos-what-is-vertigo/article70217902.ece>

7. Which of the following statements is NOT TRUE according to the passage?
- (a) Vertigo is a disease caused by permanent brain malfunction.
  - (b) Vertigo involves a specific sensation of spinning or unstable movement.
  - (c) Benign Paroxysmal Positional Vertigo (BPPV) is caused by tiny calcium particles in the inner ear.
  - (d) The Epley manoeuvre uses head movements to reposition inner-ear crystals for BPPV.
8. How does the passage integrate the physiological and therapeutic aspects of balance regulation?
- (a) By linking sensory inputs with rehabilitative exercises that restore equilibrium.
  - (b) By contrasting inherited traits with lifestyle factors affecting inner-ear health.
  - (c) By associating emotional distress with the body's mechanical stability system.
  - (d) By asserting that medication alone ensures permanent correction of imbalance.
9. Which of the following is NOT listed by the passage as one of the three integrated sources that maintain the body's balance?
- (a) Visual input through the eyes.
  - (b) Vestibular sensing from the inner ear.
  - (c) Proprioceptive feedback from muscles and joints.
  - (d) Hormonal signaling from the endocrine glands.
10. Which statement best captures the distinction the passage draws between vertigo and dizziness?

- (a) Vertigo describes any mild unsteadiness, while dizziness indicates a fixed directional spinning.
- (b) Dizziness represents a visual distortion of surroundings, while vertigo refers to anxiety-induced disorientation.
- (c) Vertigo refers to the perception of rotation or motion, whereas dizziness denotes a general imbalance or faint sensation.
- (d) Both vertigo and dizziness refer to identical neurological conditions without clinical difference.

11. In the context of the passage, what does the phrase “sensory integration” most closely imply?

- (a) The harmonious processing of multiple bodily inputs to sustain stability.
- (b) The independent working of organs that regulate human posture balance.
- (c) The chemical interaction of neurons that control inner-ear fluid pressure.
- (d) The partial coordination between physical and emotional response systems.

12. Which long-term approach does the passage identify as most effective for retraining balance in persistent vertigo cases?

- (a) Continuous pharmacological sedation to suppress vestibular activity indefinitely.
- (b) Vestibular rehabilitation therapy using guided exercises and sensory adaptation.
- (c) Avoiding all motion or exercise to prevent triggering dizziness episodes.
- (d) Prolonged use of high-dose steroids as a preventive neurological measure.

**Passage:- 3** One of the main myths I have always heard about Bengali cuisine is that we only eat fish, prawns and other non-vegetarian food. Contrary to this, Bengali cuisine is not only more focused on vegetarian preparations than non-vegetarian, it is the only Indian cuisine that is eaten course by course, with multiple vegetarian courses and always a dal before you get to the fish or meat delicacy. Of course, today, people are familiar with dishes like alu posto (potatoes cooked with poppyseed), shukto (bitter mixed vegetables cooked in milk), labra (mixed vegetables flavoured with five spices, or chhanar paturi (cottage cheese with mustard steamed in banana leaf parcels). What most people don’t know is that these dishes came about as a way of dealing with adversity, due to one of the most regressive practices in Bengal – the way widows in the region were treated for almost 800 years. Considered too unlucky to live at home, Bengali widows were relegated to ashrams in Vrindavan or Benaras till around the 1950s. If they were lucky, they were allowed to keep living in their marital homes, but were reminded of their lot in life by having to cut their hair short, wear white sarees of rough cloth, and adhere to strict dietary restrictions. Bengal’s widows were not allowed to eat non-vegetarian food, onion, garlic, chilis, or even masoor dal, which is considered to be non-vegetarian in Bengal – a belief that stems from a myth based on the Mahabharata, which links it to the blood of the divine cow Kamdhenu. But necessity is the mother of invention, and it is the resourceful Bengali widow who cooked up the most delicious vegetarian dishes, which are today considered to be delicacies and the cornerstone of Bengali cuisine. Also, because the widows in the family were made to eat food separately from the family and their food was cooked separately, they were able to experiment with limited ingredients and complex cooking techniques. And from this emerged what we know as Bengali widow cuisine. When you read the list of vegetarian delicacies which are commonplace today, you will realise the impact Bengali widow cuisine had on defining the region’s repertoire of dishes.

Extracted with edits and revisions from: <https://indianexpress.com/article/lifestyle/food-wine/how-bengals-widows-overcame-dietary-restrictions-birthed-delicacies-that-made-way-into-mainstream-cuisine-10347008/>

13. If, as the author asserts, adversity played a significant role in culinary innovation, it would mean that...

- (a) religious prohibitions are the main source of culinary transformation
- (b) the lack of access to ingredients leads to blandness in traditional cooking
- (c) cuisine evolves primarily through scholarly refinement, not domestic need
- (d) restrictions imposed by tradition can unintentionally foster creative resilience

14. The author’s primary purpose in recounting the lives of Bengali widows is to...

- (a) explain how adversity gave rise to many revered vegetarian Bengali dishes
- (b) argue that food practices are largely derived from local religious customs

- (c) show how restrictive traditions gave widows a distinct cultural identity
- (d) suggest that widowhood was a romanticized subject in Bengali literature

15. The phrase “Bengali widow cuisine” is used to illustrate...

- (a) a regional culinary style that replaced all forms of meat with dairy-based dishes
- (b) a modern reinvention of ancient recipes through experimental gastronomy
- (c) a hidden culinary tradition born from deprivation and creative adaptation
- (d) a school of cooking that flourished under the influence of temple cuisine in Benaras

16. Which of the following statements would most contradict the author’s perspective?

- (a) Bengali widow cuisine was rooted in severe social injustice that nonetheless inspired culinary ingenuity
- (b) Vegetarian Bengali dishes are celebrated today without understanding their origins in hardship
- (c) The limitations on widows’ diets ensured that their food lacked richness and variety
- (d) The evolution of Bengali cuisine cannot be separated from the experiences of its marginalized communities

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

- (a) Constraints often lead to meaningful innovation in traditional cooking
- (b) Traditional recipes evolve only through scholarly culinary research
- (c) Bengali dishes gained flavour only after modern food experiments
- (d) Cooking methods changed mainly due to temple-led food customs

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

- (a) Celebratory
- (b) Revealing
- (c) Nostalgic
- (d) Critical

**Passage:-** 4 HE—for there could be no doubt of his sex, though the fashion of the time did something to disguise it—was in the act of slicing at the head of a Moor which swung from the rafters. It was the colour of an old football, and more or less the shape of one, save for the sunken cheeks and a strand or two of coarse, dry hair, like the hair on a cocoanut. Orlando’s father, or perhaps his grandfather, had struck it from the shoulders of a vast Pagan who had started up under the moon in the barbarian fields of Africa; and now it swung, gently, perpetually, in the breeze which never ceased blowing through the attic rooms of the gigantic house of the lord who had slain him. ) Orlando’s fathers had ridden in fields of asphodel, and stony fields, and fields watered by strange rivers, and they had struck many heads of many colours off many shoulders, and brought them back to hang from the rafters. So too would Orlando, he vowed. But since he was sixteen only, and too young to ride with them in Africa or France, he would steal away from his mother and the peacocks in the garden and go to his attic room and there lunge and plunge and slice the air with his blade. Sometimes he cut the cord so that the skull bumped on the floor and he had to string it up again, fastening it with some chivalry almost out of reach so that his enemy grinned at him through shrunk, black lips triumphantly. The skull swung to and fro, for the house, at the top of which he lived, was so vast that there seemed trapped in it the wind itself, blowing this way, blowing that way, winter or summer. The green arras with the hunters on it moved perpetually. His fathers had been noble since they had been at all. They came out of the northern mists wearing coronets on their heads. Were not the bars of darkness in the room, and the yellow pools which chequered the floor, made by the sun falling through the stained glass of a vast coat of arms in the window? Orlando stood now in the midst of the yellow body of an heraldic leopard.

Extracted with edits and revisions from: Orlando by Virginia Woolf

19. What does the author most likely suggest about Orlando’s desire to emulate his ancestors?

- (a) He seeks to dramatize ancestral warfare as a noble escape into imagined gallantry
- (b) He craves public distinction by imitating the knightly exploits of his noble forebears
- (c) He aspires to reclaim masculine honour by rehearsing past triumphs in solitude
- (d) He longs to fulfill inherited glory by privately enacting visions of chivalric conquest

20. What can be inferred about the house from its role in Orlando’s actions?

- (a) It functions as a living presence that shapes Orlando's internal fantasies and movements
- (b) It prevents Orlando from fulfilling his ambitions by isolating him from real-world events
- (c) It symbolizes the weight of tradition that stifles any modern impulses or rebellion
- (d) It serves as a physical reminder of his family's duty to preserve territorial dominance

21. The word "perpetually" in the phrase "moved perpetually" is closest in meaning to:

- (a) deliberately
- (b) ceaselessly
- (c) cautiously
- (d) faintly

22. Which statement best captures the symbolic use of the swinging skull in the passage?

- (a) It reflects the unresolved violence of the past continually intruding on Orlando's present
- (b) It emphasizes his boredom with aristocratic duties and longing for meaningful war
- (c) It signals his internal decay caused by failure to achieve ancestral expectations
- (d) It illustrates the social decay of nobility through morbid displays of historic conquest

23. The phrase "fastening it with some chivalry almost out of reach" most likely implies:

- (a) He ties the skull with a sense of idealistic bravery and ceremonial honour
- (b) He deliberately hides the skull to escape the burden of inherited violence
- (c) He struggles to preserve the skull's position as a gesture of personal amusement
- (d) He removes the skull each time to protest against his family's cruel legacy

24. Which of the following statements is NOT TRUE according to the passage?

- (a) Orlando's ancestors were engaged in battles across different continents for generations
- (b) The wind in the attic seemed to animate the space with constant and eerie motion
- (c) Orlando displayed disdain for the family legacy by confronting the skull as an enemy
- (d) The decor and stained-glass windows reflected a noble lineage rooted in heraldry



## Section - B : Current Affairs including General Knowledge

**Passage:-** 1 The United Nations chief has described the famine confirmed in Gaza City and its surrounding areas as a failure of humanity. A UN-backed body, which identifies hunger levels around the world, raised its food insecurity status in parts of the territory to Phase 5 - the highest and most severe. More than half a million people across Gaza are facing catastrophic conditions characterised by starvation, destitution and death. The report was labelled an outright lie by Israel, which has denied there is starvation in the territory.

Israel is continuing to restrict the amount of aid entering Gaza, which Israel also denies.

Its denials are in direct contradiction to what more than 100 humanitarian groups, witnesses on the ground, multiple UN bodies, and several of Israel's allies, including the UK. An immediate, at-scale response is needed or there will be an unacceptable escalation in famine-related deaths.

The report also projects that up to June 2026, malnutrition will threaten the lives of 132,000 children aged under five. Since the start of the war, Gaza's Hamas-run health ministry has reported that 271 people have died of malnutrition - including 112 children. Only four previous famines have been classified since it was established in 2004, the most recent in Sudan in 2024. Since the start of the war, Gaza's Hamas-run health ministry has reported that 271 people have died of malnutrition - including 112 children.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c05ed5rgld3o>]

25. Which of the following best defines a famine according to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC)?

- (a) A situation where one in five households faces starvation, destitution, and extreme malnutrition leading to widespread death
- (b) A condition where many families suffer hunger, deprivation, and severe malnutrition causing widespread distress
- (c) A crisis where large communities endure food scarcity, destitution, and intense malnutrition resulting in mass suffering
- (d) A period when households experience food shortage, starvation, and malnutrition leading to critical mortality levels

26. Which proposal unveiled by the US President outlined the framework to end the Gaza conflict through a phased peace plan accepted by both Israel and Hamas?

- |                               |                                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (a) 15-point Peace Initiative | (b) 10-point Stability Accord   |
| (c) 12-point Gaza Framework   | (d) 20-point Comprehensive Plan |

27. Which of the following statements about the International Stabilisation Force (ISF) in Gaza is correct?

- (a) The ISF will deliver aid and manage logistics to assist civilians while maintaining peace and reconstruction stability in Gaza.
- (b) The ISF will replace governance and take full control of Gaza while overseeing political, security, and reconstruction efforts.
- (c) The ISF will deploy to Gaza to train and support vetted police while coordinating borders and reconstruction logistics regionally.
- (d) The ISF will monitor borders and prevent arms inflow while supporting reconstruction and coordinating regional cooperation.

28. Consider the following statements about the Famine classification (IPC Phase 5):

- I. It is the highest phase of the IPC Acute Food Insecurity scale.
- II. It is declared when at least 20% of households face an extreme lack of food.
- III. It is declared when at least 50% of children suffer from acute malnutrition.

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:- 3** The Global Wetland Outlook 2025 (GWO 2025) is the most recent and comprehensive assessment to date of the state, value and trajectory of wetlands worldwide. The report summarises the latest empirical data on wetland extent, loss and degradation trends, the economic value of ecosystem services and the investment scale required to meet international restoration and conservation targets. The report presents vital evidence to inform national and international priorities. It supports the design of investment strategies, the integration of wetlands into climate and biodiversity commitments, and the development of monitoring systems to track progress. GWO 2025 serves as a diagnostic and strategic planning tool for policymakers, planners and technical experts. It quantifies the ecological and economic costs of inaction, highlights the growing financing gap and identifies ways to increase the scale of effective wetland conservation and restoration. Depending on classification and monitoring methods, wetlands currently cover between 1,425 and 1,800 million hectares globally. These include inland freshwater systems, coastal wetlands and marine-associated types, such as peatlands, mangroves, lakes and coral reefs. However, these ecosystems are experiencing widespread and persistent loss and degradation. Since 1970, an estimated 411 million hectares of wetlands have been lost worldwide, representing a 22% decline in global extent and an average annual loss rate of 0.52% per year. These losses are unevenly distributed, with the highest rates occurring in low-income regions where wetlands are more ecologically critical and closely linked to local livelihoods, food systems, and water supplies. The wetland types that have experienced the most significant historical declines include inland marshes, peatlands, and lakes.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from <https://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/2025-07/GWO2025%20Briefing%20Paper.pdf>]

36. Which lake, along with Keoladeo National Park in Rajasthan, was designated as one of India's first two Ramsar sites in 1982?

- |                                  |                          |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| (a) Bhojtal Lake, Madhya Pradesh | (b) Chilika Lake, Odisha |
| (c) Sasthamkotta Lake, Kerala    | (d) Deepor Beel, Assam   |

37. How many broad wetland types are evaluated in the Global Wetland Outlook 2025?

- |            |          |         |            |
|------------|----------|---------|------------|
| (a) Eleven | (b) Nine | (c) Ten | (d) Twelve |
|------------|----------|---------|------------|

38. Consider the following statements about the Global Wetland Outlook:

- I. It is the flagship report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).
- II. It is developed by the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP).
- III. The report incorporates contributions from over 60 experts representing more than 16 countries.

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 |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|

39. What proportion of wetlands is already in poor ecological condition globally?

- |                 |                  |                  |                |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| (a) One in four | (b) One in eight | (c) One in seven | (d) One in six |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|

40. Which of the following statements about the Global Wetland Outlook 2025 launch is correct?

- (a) The report is being launched ahead of COP15, which will be held in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe.
- (b) The report is being launched after COP15, which will be held in Harare, Zimbabwe.
- (c) The report is being launched alongside COP16, which will be held in Victoria Falls, Zambia.
- (d) The report is being launched before COP14, which will be held in Nairobi, Kenya.

41. Where is the Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands headquartered?

- |                         |                   |                        |                     |
|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| (a) Geneva, Switzerland | (b) Bonn, Germany | (c) Gland, Switzerland | (d) Vienna, Austria |
|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------|

**Passage:- 4** The fifth anniversary of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, a reform effort aimed at transforming India's education system. Over the past five years, paradigms have shifted, AI has entered classrooms and leading global institutions have set up campuses in India. But away from the spotlight, a steady and strong

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47. Which platform, developed by IIT Bombay in collaboration with NCERT under the Ministry of Education, enables data-driven decision-making in education governance by assessing and improving reading fluency for students in Grades 3–8?

- (a) SHIKSHA Analytics Dashboard (b) VIDYA VISTAR Portal  
(c) GYANDEEP Assessment Tool (d) TARA App Portal

**Passage:- 5** The Lok Sabha passed the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill, 2025 after seven minutes of discussion. The Rajya Sabha passed it the next day and the Bill became law after receiving Presidential Assent. Government data suggests that Indians are losing ~₹15,000 crore every year. The World Health Organization (WHO) has linked RMGs to compulsive behaviour, psychological distress, financial hardship, and an overall disruption of family life. Reflecting these dangers, 32 cases of suicide attributed to online gaming addiction have been reported in Karnataka in the past 31 months. The RMG industry says this ban may threaten more than two lakh jobs across 400+ companies. While the Act aims to promote e-sports and social gaming segments, it seeks to ban all forms of RMGs and its advertisements.

Variants of popular games like Poker, Rummy, Fantasy Cricket, and Ludo would be classified as RMGs. Several such platforms are represented by celebrities including Ranbir Kapoor and Aamir Khan (Dream11), M.S. Dhoni (WinZo), Hrithik Roshan (RummyCircle) and Sourav Ganguly (My11Circle). It may include the payment of a registration or participation fee alongside performance-based prize money. Examples include games like Grand Theft Auto and Call of Duty. The amended rules envisaged a system of self-regulated bodies with government oversight. Online gaming firms were required to comply with KYC norms, and uphold measures to safeguard children through measures for parental access control alongside age rating mechanisms based on the nature and type of content. The new Act makes no provisions to constrain minors from playing online social games or e-sports.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/what-does-the-new-online-gaming-act-outline-explained/article69959828.ece>]

48. Which Indian State became the first to ban all forms of online gaming, including skill-based games, in 2017?

- (a) Kerala (b) Telangana (c) Tamil Nadu (d) Karnataka

49. Consider the following statements about the provisions under the Online Gaming Regulation Bill:

I. Under Section 4, the government can promote the development and availability of online social games for recreational and educational purposes.

II. The Act defines e-sports as online games recognised under the National Sports Governance Act, 2025.

III. The Act prohibits the recognition of e-sports under any national law related to sports governance.

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

50. How many categories of online games have been proposed for regulation?

- (a) One category (b) Two categories (c) Three categories (d) Four categories

51. Which of the following statements correctly defines an online money game?

- (a) A game played for leisure with no monetary reward or entry requirement.  
(b) A digital game involving skill alone and offering non-cash virtual rewards.  
(c) A game conducted online without any stakes, entry fee, or real incentives.  
(d) A game played online, based on skill or chance, involving fee or money stakes.

52. Which of the following organisations has been authorised to disable access to banned online money gaming apps and coordinate with Interpol if required?

- (a) National Cyber Coordination Centre (NCCC) (b) Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C)  
(c) Data Protection Authority of India (DPAI) (d) Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-IN)

## Section - C : Legal Reasoning

**Passage:-** 1 Offences against property in the Indian Penal Code are unified by the principle of dishonesty, defined as intending wrongful gain to one person or wrongful loss to another, though the modes of illegal deprivation vary across offences. The doctrine of theft requires a dishonest intention to take movable property out of another's possession without consent and the moving of that property for such taking; the offence is complete upon dishonest movement and does not require permanent deprivation. The possession principle clarifies that theft protects possession rather than title, so taking from one who holds custody or even "special property" suffices, and consent may be express or implied by the person in possession or one authorized. The severance doctrine specifies that things attached to the earth are not movable property until severed, and the very act that both severs and moves can constitute theft. The extortion doctrine in Section 383 consists of intentionally putting a person in fear of injury and thereby dishonestly inducing delivery of property or valuable security; delivery must be by the person so put in fear, and the property may be movable or immovable or even an incomplete signed instrument capable of becoming valuable security.

The robbery-by-theft doctrine in Section 390 treats theft as robbery where, for that end, whether in order to commit theft, in committing it, or in carrying away the stolen property, the offender voluntarily causes or attempts to cause death, hurt, wrongful restraint, or fear of instant death, instant hurt, or instant wrongful restraint. The robbery-by-extortion doctrine converts extortion into robbery when the offender is present with the person put in fear, induces fear of instant death, hurt, or wrongful restraint to that person or another, and thereby procures then-and-there delivery; presence extends to being sufficiently near to create that instant fear.

The dacoity doctrine defines "gang robbery" as robbery committed or attempted conjointly by five or more persons, counting those present and aiding, and it does not depend on the victim offering resistance. The criminal misappropriation doctrine punishes dishonest misappropriation or conversion of movable property already in the offender's possession, and the finder-of-goods rule permits retention only after reasonable steps to discover the owner; immediate misappropriation attracts liability. The criminal breach of trust doctrine requires entrustment or dominion over property and dishonest misappropriation, use, or disposal in violation of law or contract, with aggravated penalties for carriers, clerks or servants, and public servants or bankers. The cheating doctrine demands deception coupled with dishonest or fraudulent inducement causing delivery, retention, or prejudicial acts or omissions, the culpable intention existing at the time of inducement, and includes cheating by personation. Collectively, these doctrines calibrate liability by mental state, possession, consent, presence, numbers, and entrustment, and fix graded punishments accordingly.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from <http://student.manupatra.com/Academic/Abk/Indian-Penal-Code/chapter12.htm>]

53. Ravi discovered a gold bracelet lying on a park bench. He picked it up and wore it immediately, planning to keep it for himself without making any effort to locate its owner. Two days later, when the police traced the bracelet to him through CCTV footage, Ravi argued that since the bracelet was abandoned property and he had not taken it from anyone's possession, he could not be prosecuted for theft. He further contended that his retention of the bracelet after finding it constituted a mere civil wrong at most. Can Ravi be held criminally liable under the Indian Penal Code for his actions regarding the found bracelet?

- (a) No, because found property not in anyone's possession cannot be subject to theft.
- (b) Yes, because immediate misappropriation without reasonable owner-discovery steps attracts liability.
- (c) No, because misappropriation liability arises only after prolonged retention, not immediate taking.
- (d) Yes, because any finder of lost property automatically commits theft upon picking it up.

54. Kavita was hired as a servant in the household of Mr. Sharma, who entrusted her with managing his collection of rare coins stored in a locked cabinet for which she held the key. Over time, Kavita dishonestly sold several valuable coins from the collection and replaced them with common coins of similar appearance. When discovered, Kavita argued that she had violated no law because Mr. Sharma had never given her any written contract or specific instructions prohibiting the sale or replacement of coins. She contended that without explicit contractual terms,

her actions could not constitute criminal breach of trust under the doctrine applicable to property offences in the Code.

- (a) No, because servants with dominion over entrusted property face aggravated liability for dishonest misappropriation or use.
- (b) Yes, because criminal breach of trust requires explicit written contractual prohibition of the specific act.
- (c) Yes, because replacing items with similar-looking substitutes does not constitute misappropriation under property law.
- (d) No, because any employee handling valuable property automatically commits breach of trust upon unauthorized replacement.

55. Suresh, needing firewood urgently, entered his neighbor's orchard and cut down a mango tree. As he was severing the tree from its roots with an axe, he simultaneously dragged the falling trunk toward his cart with the dishonest intention of taking it without permission. He loaded the severed wood immediately and began moving his cart when the neighbor spotted him and called the police. Suresh's defense lawyer argued that theft could not have occurred because at the moment Suresh's dishonest intent crystallized, the tree was still attached to the earth and therefore not movable property, and the subsequent severance merely created new property rather than involving theft of existing movable property.

- (a) Yes, because theft is incomplete until stolen property is transported beyond the victim's land boundary.
- (b) No, because presence on another's land with cutting tools establishes completed theft automatically.
- (c) Yes, his argument succeeds because dishonest intention must exist before property becomes movable for theft.
- (d) No, because the act that both severs and moves attached property can constitute theft.

56. Anjali and four friends surrounded Vikram in a parking lot at midnight. Anjali stood directly before Vikram displaying a knife, while her friends blocked all escape routes. She threatened Vikram with immediate stabbing unless he surrendered his laptop, and Vikram, terrified, handed it over instantly. At trial, Anjali's counsel argued that since exactly five persons participated and the victim surrendered property without offering any physical resistance, the incident constituted only robbery and not the more serious gang robbery, because the definition of the graver offence requires victims to resist before it can be established under the applicable doctrine in the Code.

- (a) Yes, gang robbery requires victim resistance, and Vikram's non-resistance precludes the graver classification.
- (b) Yes, because the graver offence applies only when six or more persons participate together.
- (c) No, because five persons committing robbery conjointly constitutes gang robbery regardless of victim resistance.
- (d) No, because blocking escape routes automatically elevates any robbery to gang robbery under the doctrine.

57. Pradeep deceived Ramesh by falsely claiming to be a certified financial advisor and convinced Ramesh to invest ₹5 lakhs in a fraudulent scheme. At the time Pradeep made these false representations, he genuinely believed the investment scheme was legitimate and would generate returns, though it later turned out to be a complete fraud operated by others. When the scheme collapsed, Ramesh lost his entire investment and filed charges against Pradeep for cheating. Pradeep's defense argued that he lacked the requisite guilty mind because he honestly believed in the scheme's legitimacy when he induced Ramesh to invest, and his representations were made in good faith rather than with dishonest or fraudulent intention at that critical moment.

- (a) No, because deception coupled with inducement causing delivery automatically constitutes cheating regardless of belief.
- (b) Yes, because cheating requires dishonest or fraudulent intention existing at the time of inducement.
- (c) No, because personating a financial advisor always constitutes cheating irrespective of subjective mental state.
- (d) Yes, because victims' actual loss of money is sufficient to establish cheating without proving inducer's intent.

**Passage:- 2** The statutory framework on adoption and guardianship drawn from the Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act, 1956 and allied rules alongside guardianship norms where personal laws do not recognise adoption. The principle of secularisation of adoption after 1956 establishes that adoption, though historically sacramental, is now a secular process for Hindus, Buddhists, Jains, and Sikhs, with no religious ceremony required,



while Muslims, Christians, Parsis, and Jews generally seek guardianship under the Guardians and Wards Act, 1890, and any Indian or foreigner may adopt if medically fit and financially able. The principle of requisites of a valid adoption under Section 6 requires four cumulative conditions: the adopter must have capacity and right; the giver must have capacity; the child must be capable of being adopted; and all further statutory conditions must be complied with. The principle of capacity to adopt differentiates by sex: a male Hindu of sound mind and not a minor may adopt with the living wife's consent unless specified disabilities apply; a female Hindu of sound mind and not a minor may adopt if unmarried, or if married only where the marriage has dissolved, the husband has died, renounced the world, ceased to be Hindu, or been declared of unsound mind. The principle governing persons who may give a child in adoption (Section 9) vests the right in the father with the mother's consent, in the mother alone when statutory contingencies exist, and in a guardian with prior court permission when parents are unavailable; the court must be satisfied that adoption serves the child's welfare and that no prohibited payment has been made. The principle defining who may be adopted (Section 10) requires that the child be Hindu, generally under fifteen, and recognises adoption of an abandoned or illegitimate child; a Hindu may adopt a daughter but not more than one. The principle of other mandatory conditions (Section 11) bars adoption where the adopter already has a child of the relevant line, requires a twenty-one-year age gap for opposite-sex adoptions, forbids simultaneous adoption of the same child by multiple persons, and insists on an actual giving and taking with intent to transfer the child to the adoptive family. The principle of legal effects (Section 12) deems the adoptee the child of the adoptive parents from the adoption date, severs birth-family ties, preserves pre-adoption vested property, prevents divesting of vested estates, and maintains prohibited degrees of marriage. Ancillary principles include the non-cancellable character of a valid adoption (Section 15) refers to the rule that once a lawful adoption has been completed in accordance with all statutory requirements, it becomes final and irrevocable. The evidentiary presumption for registered adoption documents (Section 16), and the prohibition, punishable with sanction requirements, of payments in consideration of adoption (Section 17). In guardianship, the welfare of the minor is the paramount consideration for court appointment, and a de facto guardian cannot deal with a Hindu minor's property. Under Muslim law, adoption is not recognised; guardianship (hizanat) and acknowledgement of paternity operate subject to stated conditions. This synthesis is confined to the stated statutory capacities, conditions, effects, evidentiary rules, and welfare limits.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from [https://www.legalserviceindia.com/legal/article-4884-adoption-and-guardianship.html#google\\_vignette](https://www.legalserviceindia.com/legal/article-4884-adoption-and-guardianship.html#google_vignette)]

58. Ramesh, a 45-year-old Hindu male of sound mind, wishes to adopt a 10-year-old Hindu boy. Ramesh is married to Sita, who is alive and living with him. However, Sita suffers from a mental illness that has been judicially declared, rendering her of unsound mind. Ramesh proceeds with the adoption without obtaining Sita's consent, citing her legal incapacity. The birth parents have validly consented to the adoption, and all other statutory requirements are satisfied. A challenge is raised questioning the validity of the adoption on the ground that Ramesh failed to obtain his wife's consent. Which of the following best determines the validity of this adoption?

- (a) The adoption is invalid because only physical separation or dissolution of marriage excuses the consent requirement, not mental incapacity.
- (b) The adoption is valid because consent from a person of unsound mind is legally impossible and the requirement is automatically waived.
- (c) The adoption is invalid because a married Hindu male must obtain his wife's consent in all circumstances, regardless of her mental condition.
- (d) The adoption is valid because the wife's unsound mind constitutes a specified disability that excuses the consent requirement.

59. Kavita, a 38-year-old Hindu woman, was married to Arun, who recently converted to Islam. Following his conversion, Kavita wishes to adopt a 5-year-old Hindu girl named Priya. Kavita is of sound mind, financially stable, and meets all age requirements. Priya's biological parents have consented to the adoption with proper capacity. Kavita's marriage to Arun has not been dissolved, and Arun has not died, renounced the world, or been declared of unsound mind. Arun objects to the adoption, arguing that as Kavita's husband, his consent is required. Kavita



contends that since Arun has ceased to be Hindu, she has the capacity to adopt independently. Which of the following correctly determines Kavita's capacity to adopt in these circumstances?

- (a) Kavita lacks capacity because her marriage remains legally valid and undissolved, and religious conversion does not terminate the marital bond for adoption.
- (b) Kavita has capacity to adopt because her husband's conversion constitutes cessation of being Hindu, allowing married females to adopt independently.
- (c) Kavita lacks capacity to adopt because only death, renunciation, or unsound mind of the husband permits a married woman to adopt independently.
- (d) Kavita has capacity because religious conversion creates irreconcilable difference that constructively dissolves the marriage for adoption law purposes.

60. Deepak and Anjali, a Hindu couple, wish to adopt 8-year-old Maya. Maya's biological father, Rajesh, is alive and willing to give Maya in adoption, but Maya's mother, Sunita, refuses to consent to the adoption, citing emotional attachment. Rajesh argues that as the father, he has the primary right to give the child in adoption and proceeds with the adoption formalities without Sunita's consent. Deepak and Anjali, satisfied with Rajesh's consent alone, complete the adoption. Subsequently, Sunita challenges the adoption's validity, asserting that her consent was mandatory. Rajesh contends that the father's consent alone suffices when both parents are alive. Which of the following best determines the validity of this adoption?

- (a) The adoption is invalid because the father's right to give the child must be exercised with the mother's concurrent consent when both are alive.
- (b) The adoption is valid because the father holds the primary right to give a child in adoption and the mother's consent is merely advisory.
- (c) The adoption is valid because the father's decision demonstrates sufficient cause and judicial permission can be implied when parents disagree.
- (d) The adoption is invalid because the mother's emotional attachment creates a superior parental right that prevents unilateral action by the father.

61. Vikram, a 55-year-old Hindu male, wishes to adopt 12-year-old Rohan, a Hindu boy. Vikram already has a biological son, Karan, who is 25 years old and married. Vikram's wife consents to the adoption. Vikram argues that since Karan is now married and has established his own household, Vikram's family line requires another son to perform religious duties and provide care in old age. All other statutory requirements for adoption are satisfied, and Rohan's parents have validly consented to give him in adoption. A legal objection is raised challenging Vikram's capacity to adopt on the ground that he already has a male child. Which of the following best determines whether Vikram may validly adopt Rohan?

- (a) Vikram may validly adopt because the age and independence of the existing biological son demonstrates that the statutory purpose has been satisfied.
- (b) Vikram cannot validly adopt unless he obtains judicial permission establishing exceptional circumstances warranting an exception to the prohibition.
- (c) Vikram may validly adopt because his existing son's marriage and separate household establishment revives his capacity to adopt another son.
- (d) Vikram cannot validly adopt because the statutory bar applies when the adopter already has a child of the relevant line.

62. Meera, a 40-year-old Hindu woman, wishes to adopt 16-year-old Asha, a Hindu girl who was abandoned by her birth parents at age three. Asha has been living in an orphanage since abandonment, and the orphanage director, acting as her de facto guardian, consents to the adoption. Meera is unmarried, financially stable, and of sound mind. She argues that Asha, despite being over fifteen years of age, qualifies as an abandoned child and therefore may be adopted under the statutory framework. The orphanage confirms that Asha was indeed abandoned and has no contact with her biological parents. All other procedural requirements are satisfied. An objection is raised that Asha, being over fifteen, cannot be legally adopted. Which of the following best determines whether Meera may validly adopt Asha?

- (a) Meera may adopt Asha because the abandoned child status creates an exception to the age requirement allowing adoption of older children.
- (b) Meera cannot adopt Asha because the statutory requirement that adoptees be generally under fifteen applies without exception to all adoptions.
- (c) Meera may adopt Asha because the orphanage director's consent as de facto guardian combined with abandoned status cures age-related defects.
- (d) Meera cannot adopt Asha because while abandoned children are recognized, no explicit age exception exists for them under the general fifteen-year rule.

63. Arjun and Kavita, a married Hindu couple, adopted a two-year-old girl, Nisha, through a registered adoption deed after fulfilling all statutory conditions, including consent, ceremony, and verification. Three years later, Kavita seeks divorce and petitions the court to revoke the adoption, claiming she was emotionally pressured into agreeing to it and that continuing parental responsibility toward Nisha is causing severe mental distress. Arjun opposes the plea, contending that the adoption, having been validly completed in accordance with law, is final and cannot be undone even by mutual agreement or change of circumstances. The Court must decide whether the adoption can be cancelled on such grounds.

Should the Court allow cancellation of the adoption?

- (a) Yes, because emotional coercion at the time of adoption vitiates consent and permits revocation.
- (b) Yes, because mutual agreement of adoptive parents can terminate an adoption by private arrangement.
- (c) No, because a lawful adoption completed with statutory compliance becomes final and irrevocable.
- (d) No, because even subsequent marital breakdown cannot affect the validity of a completed adoption.

**Passage:- 3** Company law relies on several interlocking doctrines that define a company's powers, responsibilities, and the protections available to insiders and outsiders who deal with it. The doctrine of separate legal entity recognizes a company as a distinct legal person, separate from its shareholders and directors, as affirmed in *Salomon v. A Salomon & Co Ltd* (1897). Because the company has its own identity, it can own assets, enter into contracts, and sue or be sued in its own name, and shareholders' liabilities are limited to their capital investment, which reduces personal financial risk and encourages investment. The doctrine of lifting or piercing the corporate veil qualifies this separateness when it is misused, allowing courts to disregard the barrier between the company and individuals to hold them personally liable for wrongful actions. This intervention is typically applied in cases of fraud, tax evasion, or misrepresentation to prevent the use of the corporate form as a façade to escape personal liability, deter illegal activities, and protect creditors. The doctrine of ultra vires restricts a company from performing acts that exceed the powers set out in its memorandum of association, the term translating to "beyond powers." By confining activities to stated objectives, this doctrine renders acts outside those objectives null and void and protects shareholders and creditors from unauthorized or risky ventures. The doctrine of constructive notice presumes that anyone dealing with a company knows its public documents, such as the memorandum and articles of association, which outline internal rules, objectives, and limitations and are available for public inspection. Under this presumption, third parties are treated as aware of these contents and cannot later claim ignorance of restrictions, because they are assumed to have reviewed the documents and understood the company's powers and limitations. To mitigate the harshness of constructive notice, the doctrine of indoor management, also known as *Turquand's Rule* and originating in *Royal British Bank v. Turquand* (1856), protects outsiders who deal with the company in good faith. It entitles them to assume that internal procedures, such as obtaining approvals, have been properly followed so that they are not disadvantaged by internal irregularities, and it permits enforcement of contracts where they acted in good faith and were unaware of the irregularity. This protection does not extend to circumstances involving fraud, dishonesty, or knowledge of irregularity, in which case the transaction may be invalidated. Together, these doctrines govern corporate capacity, constrain misuse of the corporate form, allocate risk between companies and third parties, and operate as pillars of corporate governance within the bounds of law.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from <https://www.legalbites.in/company-law/important-doctrines-of-company-law-1068592>]

64. TechCorp Ltd., a software development company, was incorporated with a stated objective in its memorandum of association to develop and sell computer software and provide related IT services. The company's board of directors, without amending the memorandum, decided to diversify its business and purchased a large agricultural farm to grow organic produce, investing substantial shareholder funds into this venture. The directors argued that this investment would generate additional revenue streams and ultimately benefit the company financially. Several minority shareholders challenged this transaction, contending that the agricultural venture was entirely outside the company's stated objectives and therefore invalid. The directors countered that modern business requires flexibility and that profitable ventures should not be restricted by outdated constitutional documents. Which of the following best determines the legal validity of TechCorp's agricultural venture?

- (a) The venture is valid because directors have inherent authority to pursue any profitable business opportunity that benefits the company financially.
- (b) The venture is valid because shareholders' primary concern is profitability, and constitutional restrictions yield to commercial benefit and revenue generation.
- (c) The venture is invalid because it exceeds the powers in the memorandum, rendering the transaction null and void under applicable doctrine.
- (d) The venture is invalid unless shareholders ratify it retrospectively, in which case the transaction becomes valid from the date of ratification.

65. GlobalTrade Inc. entered into a significant export contract with ForeignCorp, a company based overseas. Before finalizing the deal, ForeignCorp's legal team did not examine GlobalTrade's memorandum or articles of association, which were publicly filed and available for inspection at the registrar's office. The memorandum contained a specific clause prohibiting the company from entering into export contracts exceeding \$5 million without special shareholder approval, and the contract with ForeignCorp was valued at \$8 million. No such shareholder approval was obtained. When GlobalTrade later refused to perform the contract, claiming lack of proper authorization, ForeignCorp argued that it was unaware of this internal limitation and that the contract should be enforceable because the company's managing director had signed it with apparent authority. Which of the following best determines whether ForeignCorp can enforce this contract against GlobalTrade?

- (a) ForeignCorp cannot enforce the contract because public documents are deemed known to all dealing with the company, making the limitation binding.
- (b) ForeignCorp can enforce the contract because actual knowledge of restrictions should be required, and constructive knowledge is unreasonably harsh on outsiders.
- (c) ForeignCorp cannot enforce the contract unless it can prove that GlobalTrade's conduct created a reasonable belief that proper authorization existed.
- (d) ForeignCorp can enforce the contract because managing directors have inherent authority to bind companies in commercial transactions regardless of internal limits.

66. Sterling Manufacturing Ltd. decided to borrow £2 million from Riverside Bank to expand its factory operations. The company's articles of association required that loans exceeding £1 million must be approved by a special resolution passed at a general meeting of shareholders. The company's chief financial officer approached Riverside Bank, presented a board resolution authorizing the loan, and signed the loan agreement on behalf of the company. In reality, no shareholder meeting had been held, and no special resolution had been passed as required by the articles. Riverside Bank had no knowledge of this internal irregularity and acted in complete good faith, believing that all internal procedures had been properly followed. When Sterling Manufacturing defaulted on the loan, the company argued that the loan agreement was invalid because the required shareholder approval had never been obtained. Which of the following best determines whether Riverside Bank can enforce the loan agreement?

- (a) Riverside Bank cannot enforce the agreement because internal constitutional requirements must be satisfied, and external parties bear the risk of non-compliance.
- (b) Riverside Bank can enforce the agreement because good faith outsiders may assume internal procedures were followed, protecting them from internal irregularities.
- (c) Riverside Bank cannot enforce the agreement because the articles of association are public documents subject to constructive notice, including all procedural requirements.

(d) Riverside Bank can enforce the agreement because banks are entitled to special protection when lending to companies regardless of internal procedural compliance.

67. Apex Holdings Ltd. was incorporated as a property investment company by five shareholders, with Marcus owning 95% of the shares and the remaining 5% distributed among four other individuals. The company purchased several commercial properties using funds borrowed from creditors. When the property market collapsed, the company became insolvent and unable to repay its debts. Creditors discovered that Marcus had been systematically transferring company funds to his personal account, using the company as a mere shell to acquire properties that he treated as his own, and commingling company and personal finances without maintaining proper corporate records or formalities. The creditors now seek to hold Marcus personally liable for the company's debts, arguing that the corporate form was being misused as a façade for Marcus's personal dealings. Marcus argues that as a shareholder, his liability is limited to his capital investment regardless of his conduct. Which of the following best determines whether creditors can hold Marcus personally liable?

- (a) Marcus cannot be held personally liable unless creditors can prove that the company was incorporated with the specific intention to defraud them.
- (b) Marcus can be held personally liable because majority shareholders automatically assume personal liability when companies become insolvent and cannot pay creditors.
- (c) Marcus cannot be held personally liable because the separate legal entity doctrine guarantees limited liability for all shareholders in all circumstances.
- (d) Marcus can be held personally liable because misuse of corporate form allows courts to disregard separation and hold individuals accountable.

68. Zenith Enterprises Ltd. entered into a contract with BuildRight Construction to construct a new office building for £15 million. BuildRight's director met with Zenith's managing director, who presented a board resolution authorizing the construction contract and signed the agreement on behalf of Zenith. BuildRight commenced work immediately, completing approximately 40% of the construction before discovering that Zenith's managing director had forged the board resolution and had no actual authority from the board or shareholders to enter into such a large contract. BuildRight had never requested to see the original board minutes and had accepted the managing director's representation at face value. When BuildRight sought to enforce the contract, Zenith argued that the contract was invalid due to the forged authorization, and BuildRight should have verified the authenticity of the board resolution. Which of the following best determines whether BuildRight can enforce the construction contract against Zenith?

- (a) BuildRight can enforce the contract because it acted in good faith and was entitled to assume that internal approvals were properly obtained.
- (b) BuildRight cannot enforce the contract because accepting forged documents demonstrates lack of reasonable due diligence in verification of corporate authority.
- (c) BuildRight can enforce the contract because managing directors have apparent authority to bind companies in construction contracts regardless of internal authorization.
- (d) BuildRight cannot enforce the contract because forgery by company officers constitutes circumstances where the indoor management protection does not apply.

69. NovaTech Industries Ltd. was incorporated with a memorandum of association stating its objective as "to engage in software development, IT consulting, and related technology services." The company entered into a contract with a supplier to purchase advanced manufacturing equipment worth £500,000 for producing electronic components, a completely new line of business unrelated to its software and consulting operations. The supplier, after reviewing NovaTech's memorandum before entering into the contract, noticed the restriction to technology services but proceeded with the sale anyway, believing that electronic components were sufficiently related to technology. When NovaTech refused to complete the purchase, arguing the contract exceeded its memorandum powers, the supplier contended that the contract should be enforceable because the supplier had actual knowledge of the memorandum's contents, acted reasonably in interpreting the scope of permitted activities, and the

transaction involved technology-related products. Which of the following best determines whether the supplier can enforce this contract?

- (a) The supplier can enforce the contract because having actual knowledge of the memorandum satisfies the constructive notice requirement for binding contracts.
- (b) The supplier cannot enforce the contract because acts exceeding memorandum powers lack legal effect regardless of third party knowledge or interpretation.
- (c) The supplier can enforce the contract because reasonable interpretation of ambiguous constitutional terms should favor enforcement over technical invalidity.
- (d) The supplier cannot enforce the contract unless NovaTech's conduct created a representation that manufacturing activities were within its authorized business scope.

**Passage:-** 4 Part III of the Specific Relief Act, 1963 provides preventive relief through injunctions in Sections 36 to 44 across Chapters VII and VIII. An injunction is the core device by which a court restrains a threatened breach; under Section 36 the remedy is discretionary and may be temporary, perpetual, or mandatory. Under Section 37(1), a temporary injunction lasts to a time or further order, may be granted at any stage, and is regulated by the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908. It averts irreparable harm pending trial and issues only on a prima facie case, irreparable injury, a balance of convenience and public interest, and the absence of an adequate alternative remedy such as sufficient monetary damages. Section 37(2) defines a perpetual injunction as a decree after full trial that permanently restrains acts infringing legal rights; it is a right in personam, may pass with heritable and partible rights, and binds legal representatives. Section 38 authorizes this relief to prevent breach of an obligation in the plaintiff's favour, contractual obligations being governed by Chapter II, or when the defendant invades or threatens the plaintiff's property rights, where the defendant is a trustee, damage is unquantifiable, money is inadequate, or an order is needed to prevent multiple proceedings. The required elements are an existing obligation and its breach, a corresponding duty in the defendant, actual or threatened invasion, and inadequacy of monetary compensation. Section 39 states the doctrine of mandatory injunction, empowering the court to compel acts necessary to prevent breach of an enforceable obligation. Section 40 allows damages in addition to or in lieu of injunctions, forbids the court from awarding them suo motu, permits amendment of the plaint, and bars a later damages suit if a suit to prevent the breach is dismissed. Section 41 prescribes refusal grounds: courts will not restrain pending or superior-court proceedings, legislative applications, or criminal matters; they will not enjoin performance of contracts not specifically enforceable or acts not reasonably clear as a nuisance; relief is also refused for acquiescence in a continuing breach, for an equally efficacious usual remedy except in breach of trust, for impediment to infrastructure projects or related services, for disentitling conduct by the plaintiff, and for lack of personal interest. The Act also recognizes injunctions to perform a negative agreement: when a contract couples an affirmative promise with a negative covenant, inability to compel specific performance of the affirmative promise does not bar injunctive enforcement of the negative, provided the plaintiff has performed so far as binding. Taken together, these doctrines form a calibrated system of temporary, perpetual, and mandatory injunctions, supplemented by damages and refusal rules, to halt wrongful acts when money is inadequate while keeping judicial power within statutory bounds.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from <https://www.drishtijudiciary.com/to-the-point/ttp-specific-relief-act/preventive-relief-under-sra>]

70. Ramesh owns land adjacent to a construction project. The builder plans to begin work that might encroach upon Ramesh's property. Ramesh fears immediate harm and files a suit seeking a court order to prevent the alleged invasion. The court, after preliminary hearing, considers Ramesh's plea to restrain the builder until the trial concludes. Ramesh argues that monetary compensation would be inadequate if his ancestral land is damaged. The builder contends that Ramesh has not demonstrated sufficient grounds for such urgent relief. On which basis can the court decide whether to grant such a remedy to Ramesh?

- (a) The court will grant relief if the builder admits Ramesh's ownership at the outset and agrees to cease.
- (b) The remedy can be granted if there is a prima facie case, irreparable injury, and no adequate alternative remedy.
- (c) The suit will be dismissed since monetary damages can always be awarded to Ramesh after the trial concludes.



(d) Such relief requires the defendant to be a government body or public authority threatening Ramesh's property rights.

71. A chemical company is actively polluting a river, affecting local farmers' rights. After a full trial, the court finds a breach of legal duty favoring the farmers and considers a judicial order to permanently restrain the company from continuing its actions. The farmers are concerned about enforcement if the company transfers ownership or if its directors change in the future. The company argues that any order would bind only the current management and not future owners or successors. What is the nature of this remedy and whom can it bind under the law?

- (a) It is a perpetual injunction that binds only the immediate defendant and cannot affect any successors whatsoever.
- (b) The order has the effect of monetary compensation for future violations and does not restrain ongoing conduct.
- (c) The injunction, being in personam, can bind legal representatives and is transferable with heritable and partible rights.
- (d) The court can issue only an order for criminal prosecution and penalties, not any form of civil restraint.

72. A landlord discovers that his tenant has begun construction violating an express negative covenant in their lease agreement prohibiting any structural alterations. The landlord seeks the court's intervention to stop the construction, but the court finds that the positive promise in the lease requiring the tenant to undertake certain renovation duties cannot be enforced through specific performance. The tenant argues that if positive promises are unenforceable, negative ones should likewise fail. The landlord maintains he has fulfilled all his contractual obligations. Can the court still issue an injunction to uphold the negative promise in these circumstances?

- (a) Yes, if the breach of negative covenant is likely to cause monetary loss that can be calculated later.
- (b) No, unless both parties agree through written consent to allow the court to intervene and restrain construction.
- (c) No, courts cannot enforce negative promises if corresponding positive promises are not specifically enforceable under contract law.
- (d) Yes, if the landlord has performed all obligations binding upon him and the negative promise is separate.

73. A company is repeatedly infringing a patent held by an inventor. The patent holder sues for injunctive relief, but evidence shows that the infringement is relatively minor in scale and the economic harm is readily calculable and fully compensable through monetary damages without difficulty. The patent holder still insists on seeking an injunction to prevent future infringements. The company argues that since adequate monetary compensation is available, the injunction should be denied. If the plaintiff persists in demanding injunctive relief despite adequate monetary remedies, which factor must the court assess before refusing such relief under the statutory framework?

- (a) Whether usual remedies like monetary damages are equally efficacious unless the claim involves a breach of trust situation.
- (b) If the defendant company is a government agency or instrumentality subject to sovereign immunity under applicable law.
- (c) Whether the infringement conduct is continuing over time or constitutes merely a one-time isolated event in nature.
- (d) If the plaintiff patent holder is entitled to only punitive damages rather than ordinary compensatory damage awards.

74. A trust manager repeatedly fails to safeguard valuable property entrusted to him by the settlor, threatening irreversible loss to the beneficiary due to neglect and mismanagement. The beneficiary sues for specific relief and seeks an order compelling the manager to take certain affirmative actions including securing the property, maintaining proper accounts, and preventing further deterioration. The beneficiary argues that mere restraint from harmful acts is insufficient and positive action is required. The trust manager contends that courts can only issue orders preventing wrongful conduct, not compelling positive performance. Which legal remedy can the court provide in such cases to address the beneficiary's concerns?

- (a) Compensate the beneficiary monetarily for any future losses that may arise from continued neglect of trust duties.



- (b) Issue a mandatory injunction requiring the manager to take specific affirmative actions to prevent breach of obligations.
- (c) Issue a temporary injunction prohibiting all future acts by the manager during the pendency of trial proceedings.
- (d) Allow only perpetual injunctions after conducting full trial and recording complete evidence from both the parties.

**Passage:-** 5 Indian criminal law embeds safeguards to ensure that punishment reaches only the truly guilty, and the law of confessions forms the core of that evidentiary framework. A foundational doctrine classifies a confession as a species of admission, admissions being general statements that suggest an inference about a relevant fact, and confessions being admissions of guilt by an accused. Mr. Justice Stephen described a confession as an admission by a person charged that states or implies he committed the crime, and the English Police and Evidence Act of 1984 similarly treats it as any statement wholly or partly adverse to its maker.

The voluntariness doctrine governs admissibility: a confession induced by threat, promise, or coercion from a person in authority is inadmissible. The law renders such statements irrelevant, reflecting the constitutional protection against self-incrimination and the procedural safeguard that a magistrate must warn a confessing person that they are under no obligation to speak and that their statement may be used against them.

The doctrine of judicial confession applies to statements recorded by a judge or magistrate after due warning, and such statements are admissible with presumptions of regularity in their recording. Only judicial officers are empowered to take them. The doctrine of extra-judicial confession covers confessions made outside court, through letters, conversations, or overheard remarks, which are inherently weaker forms of proof. Courts receive them with caution, relying on them only when they appear credible, consistent, and sufficiently corroborated.

The doctrine of retracted confession holds that a voluntary confession, even if later withdrawn, may still be used if the court is satisfied of its truthfulness and voluntariness. As a rule of prudence, convictions based solely on retracted confessions are considered unsafe unless there is corroboration, though corroboration of the overall pattern rather than every detail is deemed adequate.

Judicial precedents elaborate these principles. *Bharat v. State of U.P.* links voluntariness to the presence or absence of inducement or threat; *Pyare Lal Bhargava* permits conviction on a retracted confession if it is true and voluntary; *Subramania Gounden* requires inquiry into the reasons for making and retracting; *Navjot Sandhu* recognises a voluntary confession as the strongest evidence against its maker, while *Shankaria v. State of Rajasthan* mandates a two-fold test of voluntariness and truth.

Recent statutory developments preserve these safeguards. The new evidentiary code excludes confessions obtained through pressure, allows later voluntary confessions to be admitted, and clarifies that intoxication or ignorance alone does not erase evidentiary value. It also regulates confessions to police officers and those involving multiple accused. Consistently, judicial practice continues to demand corroboration for retracted confessions, a proposal once recommended for codification but ultimately left to judicial discretion, ensuring that courts weigh all surrounding evidence before treating any confession as reliable.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from <https://legalvidhiya.com/what-is-the-legal-effect-of-retracted-confession/>]

75. A police officer arrests Ravi for murder and tells him that if he confesses immediately, he will be released on bail within hours, but if he refuses, he will remain in custody indefinitely. Ravi, believing this promise, makes a detailed confession admitting to the crime. Later at trial, the prosecution seeks to introduce this confession as evidence. The defense argues that the confession was induced by the officer's promise and should be excluded. The prosecution contends that since Ravi voluntarily spoke and was not physically threatened, the statement should be admissible. How should the court rule on the admissibility of this confession under the voluntariness doctrine?

- (a) The confession is inadmissible because it was induced by a promise of bail from a person in authority.
- (b) The confession is admissible because Ravi voluntarily spoke without any physical threat or force being used against him.
- (c) The confession is admissible if the prosecution can prove that the police officer's statement was truthful and accurate.

(d) The confession is inadmissible only if Ravi can prove he was under severe mental distress at the time.

76. Maya is arrested for embezzlement and brought before a Magistrate. The Magistrate properly warns her that she is under no obligation to make any statement and that anything she says may be used against her in court. Maya, after hearing this warning, voluntarily confesses to the crime in detail. The confession is duly recorded by the Magistrate following all procedural requirements. At trial, Maya's lawyer challenges the confession, arguing that it should not be admitted because Maya was in a vulnerable state when she made it. What is the legal status of this confession?

- (a) The confession is inadmissible because Maya was in custody and vulnerable when she made the statement to authorities.
- (b) The confession is admissible with presumptions of regularity because it was recorded by a judicial officer after due warning.
- (c) The confession is admissible only if the prosecution provides independent corroboration of every detail Maya mentioned in her statement.
- (d) The confession is inadmissible unless Maya confirms before the trial court that she still stands by her earlier statement.

77. During a casual conversation at a wedding, Arjun tells his friend over drinks that he was the one who set fire to a rival's warehouse last month. Unknown to Arjun, another guest overhears this conversation and reports it to the police. At trial for arson, this overheard statement is sought to be introduced as evidence. Arjun's defense counsel objects, arguing that such statements made in private conversations lack the formality and safeguards of proper confessions. How should the court treat this evidence?

- (a) The statement is inadmissible because it was made in a private setting without any judicial oversight or warning.
- (b) The statement is automatically admissible with the same evidentiary weight as a confession made before a magistrate.
- (c) The statement is admissible as an extra-judicial confession, but the court should receive it with caution and corroboration.
- (d) The statement is inadmissible because Arjun was intoxicated when making it, which the law treats as negating evidentiary value.

78. Deepak confesses to robbery before a magistrate with all proper warnings and procedures. Three days later, he files an application retracting his confession, claiming he was pressured by his co-accused and feared for his family's safety. At trial, Deepak maintains his retraction and testifies that the confession was false. The prosecution has circumstantial evidence placing Deepak near the crime scene but no direct witnesses. The trial judge must decide whether to convict based primarily on the retracted confession. What legal standard should guide the judge's decision?

- (a) The retracted confession may be used if the court is satisfied of its voluntariness and truthfulness, with corroboration being prudent.
- (b) The retracted confession cannot be used at all once withdrawn, and conviction must be based solely on other evidence.
- (c) The retracted confession is admissible only if Deepak fails to prove that his family was actually threatened by co-accused.
- (d) The confession must be treated as entirely unreliable once retracted unless every detail is independently corroborated by evidence.

79. In a terrorism case, Salim confesses to plotting an attack during police interrogation. This confession is recorded but not before a magistrate. Later, when brought before a magistrate, Salim makes a second confession repeating the same details, after receiving proper warnings about his rights. The defense argues that since the first confession was made to police and is inadmissible, the second confession should also be excluded as it merely

repeats tainted information obtained illegally. How should the court rule on the admissibility of the second confession made before the magistrate?

- (a) Both confessions are admissible because Salim voluntarily repeated the same information, showing consistency and truthfulness of his admission.
- (b) Neither confession is admissible unless the prosecution proves the police did not use any pressure during the initial interrogation.
- (c) Both confessions are inadmissible because the second confession is fruit of the poisonous tree, derived from illegal police interrogation.
- (d) Only the judicial confession before the magistrate is admissible, as later voluntary confessions are permitted despite earlier inadmissible ones.

**Passage:- 6** Under the Indian Contract Act, 1872, both contingent contracts and wagering agreements hinge on an uncertain future event, yet they differ in purpose, structure, and legal effect. A contingent contract (Section 31) is a contract to do or not to do something if an event collateral to the contract happens or does not happen; performance becomes due only on the occurrence or non-occurrence of that collateral event. Its essentials are: (i) the triggering event is uncertain at the time of agreement; (ii) the event is collateral, external to the contract's primary promise, consideration, or object; (iii) the event is not within the control of promisor or promisee; and (iv) performance is linked to that event. Where the specified contingency occurs (or fails to occur), the contract is valid and enforceable, with timing and effect governed by Sections 32–36 (e.g., enforcement when the event happens; discharge where the event becomes impossible).

A wagering agreement (Section 30) is an agreement to pay money or money's worth upon the outcome of an uncertain event, where each party stands to win or lose purely depending on that outcome. Its features are: (i) an uncertain event; (ii) a mutual chance of gain or loss; (iii) no genuine interest in the event other than the stake; (iv) the result lies outside both parties' control; (v) two distinct parties; and (vi) reciprocal promises to pay according to the result. By statute, such agreements are void and unenforceable ab initio; no suit lies to recover alleged winnings or the stake.

The core differences are clear. First, on definition and status, a contingent contract is expressly defined (s.31) and is a contract recognized and protected by law, whereas a wager, addressed by s.30, is a mere agreement declared void. Second, in a contingent contract the event is collateral, the agreement exists independently of it; in a wager the event is the sole basis of the bargain. Third, as to interest, contingent contracts typically involve a real or insurable interest in the subject (e.g., insurance, guarantee, indemnity), while wagers involve no real interest beyond winning or losing. Fourth, on enforceability, contingent contracts are enforceable when the contingency is satisfied (per ss.32–36), but wagering agreements are never enforceable. Finally, regarding public policy, contingent contracts manage risk and uncertainty and are socially useful; wagering agreements encourage gambling and speculation and are treated as against public policy.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from <https://lawbhoomi.com/difference-between-contingent-contracts-and-wagering-agreements/>]

80. Priya enters into an agreement with Raj where Priya promises to pay Raj ₹5 lakhs if a certain ship sailing from Mumbai to Singapore arrives safely at its destination within 30 days. Raj has no ownership interest in the ship, its cargo, or any financial stake in the voyage. Both parties are merely speculating on whether the ship will complete its journey on time. The ship arrives safely on the 28th day, and Raj demands payment from Priya. Priya refuses, claiming the agreement is void. Raj files a suit to recover the ₹5 lakhs, arguing that since the uncertain event has occurred as specified in their agreement, Priya is now legally obligated to pay him the promised amount. How should the court decide this case under the Indian Contract Act?

- (a) The agreement is a valid contingent contract enforceable because the uncertain event of the ship's arrival has now occurred.
- (b) The agreement is a void wagering agreement because neither party has any real interest in the ship beyond the stake.
- (c) The agreement is enforceable as Raj has performed his part by correctly predicting the ship's safe arrival within time.

(d) The agreement is a contingent contract that became void because the event occurred within the stipulated 30-day period only.

81. Amit agrees to sell his house to Bina for ₹1 crore, with the condition that the sale will be completed only if Bina's father, who is currently seriously ill in hospital, recovers from his illness within six months from the date of the agreement. Bina has a genuine interest in purchasing the house for her family's residence and is not merely speculating on her father's health. Four months later, Bina's father recovers completely and is discharged from the hospital. Bina now demands that Amit complete the sale and execute the necessary documents, but Amit refuses, arguing that the agreement was based on an uncertain event related to human health and therefore should be treated as void and unenforceable under the Contract Act. What is the legal position of this agreement?

(a) The agreement is a wagering agreement because it involves an uncertain event regarding someone's life which cannot form valid consideration.

(b) The agreement remains unenforceable because the recovery of Bina's father is not sufficiently collateral to the main contract of sale.

(c) The agreement is void as it depends on an event related to human health which is always uncertain and speculative.

(d) The agreement is a valid contingent contract that became enforceable when Bina's father recovered from his illness as specified.

82. Deepak and Eshwar enter into a written agreement where Deepak promises to pay Eshwar ₹10 lakhs if a particular political candidate wins the upcoming state legislative assembly election, and Eshwar promises to pay Deepak ₹10 lakhs if that candidate loses the election. Neither party has any financial interest in the election outcome, does not support the candidate financially, and has no business or political connections that would be affected by the result. Both are simply speculating on the election results for potential financial gain. After the election, the candidate wins by a significant margin, and Eshwar refuses to pay Deepak the agreed amount. Deepak files a suit to enforce the agreement and recover ₹10 lakhs. What is the legal nature and enforceability of this agreement under the Contract Act?

(a) It is an enforceable contingent contract because the election outcome was uncertain and has now been determined with finality.

(b) It is enforceable because political elections are matters of public interest and parties can contract based on such legitimate events.

(c) It is a void wagering agreement because both parties have reciprocal promises based solely on an uncertain event without real interest.

(d) It is a contingent contract that fails because the event of election outcome is within the control of voters and candidates.

83. Rohan contracts with Meera to sell his apartment for ₹1 crore if the city development authority approves the construction of a new metro line near the area within two years. After eighteen months, the project is permanently shelved by the government. Meera insists on enforcement, claiming that since the delay was beyond both parties' control, Rohan must still complete the sale. Rohan argues that the contract was contingent upon the metro's approval, which never occurred, rendering the contract discharged. The Court must decide whether Meera can enforce the agreement despite the event's failure.

Should the Court enforce the contract in this case?

(a) No, because performance is conditional on the contingency, which failed to occur.

(b) Yes, because external events should not affect the obligation once the promise is made.

(c) Yes, because partial progress toward the event satisfies the requirement of occurrence.

(d) No, because the impossibility of the event automatically discharges the contract from effect.

84. Kunal enters into an agreement with Aditi stating that he will pay her ₹5 lakhs if her newly designed electric scooter prototype successfully passes government safety certification within twelve months. The certification is granted in the tenth month, and Aditi demands the payment. Kunal refuses, arguing that the event's success was beyond both parties' control and hence the contract was merely speculative. Aditi contends that the agreement

was a conditional contract tied to a definite event, not a wager, and since the contingency occurred, performance is now due. The Court must decide whether the agreement is legally enforceable.

Should the Court enforce the agreement between Kunal and Aditi?

- (a) Yes, because the contract depends on an uncertain event that has already been satisfied by occurrence.
- (b) No, because uncertainty in outcome makes the contract void as a speculative arrangement.
- (c) Yes, because contingent contracts are enforceable when the contingency is satisfied under the law.
- (d) No, because wagering agreements are never enforceable, even if the event ultimately occurs.

## Section - D : Logical Reasoning

**Passage:-** 1 Perfect pitch, or absolute pitch (AP), describes a person's ability to identify a music note without any reference tone. It needn't be just identifying the note from a musical instrument, one can just hear an Android alarm and say, "That's an F sharp." It can be very useful for learning music, tuning instruments, and even transcribing songs. Is it genetics? Or is it musical training? Or is it both? Science is stuck between these two themes in researching perfect pitch. According to this theory, there is a very crucial period for acquiring a period, usually childhood. Several studies point to musical training at a young age aiding in the development of AP.

Nature, on the other hand, states that AP is a genetic trait which you either inherit, or you don't. Studies have found that nearly half of AP possessors have a first-degree relative who also has AP, compared to a much smaller percentage of non-AP possessors. Studies conducted on twins also show a high concordance rate (the percentage of twins that share a specific trait, given that at least one individual in the pair has it) in identical twins as compared to fraternal twins. Chances are, it could also be a combination of both. While the genetic trait may exist, early musical training is almost essential for proper acquisition. Some don't even acquire AP in spite of early musical training, suggesting that the genetic component is rather complex. It might sound weird, but if you can speak languages like Punjabi, Chinese, or Korean, you are likely to have perfect pitch. That's because these are tonal languages. Tonal languages are languages where the pitch of a syllable changes its meaning.

In 1999, a study was conducted on 88 music students from the Eastman School of Music, Rochester, New York. The purpose was to find if learning a tonal language aided absolute pitch in students. Native Chinese and Vietnamese speakers were more likely to have absolute pitch as opposed to English speakers. This was because they were tonal languages. People speaking a tonal language, absolute pitch was like a second language to them. For students who speak a non-tonal language such as English, however, absolute pitch is more like a first language.

Relative pitch is not to be confused with absolute pitch. The former means to identify a note in relation with other notes. For example, if you can identify middle C just by hearing it, you can identify the other notes by tracing the other notes from there. While science explains part of it, researchers are still studying why only some people develop perfect pitch. Even with all the studies conducted, it remains one of the most fascinating intersections of biology and art.

Extracted with edits and revisions from: <https://www.thehindu.com/incoming/why-do-some-people-have-perfect-pitch/article70252270.ece>

85. Which inference best follows from the author's treatment of genetics, training, and tonal language exposure in acquiring absolute pitch?

- (a) Early structured lessons amplify a latent pitch trait, but cannot guarantee outcomes across heterogeneous learners.
- (b) Genetic loading ensures superior pitch labeling, yet its effect fades without constant ear training in adolescence.
- (c) Tonal language speakers simulate conservatory practice, which fully replaces heredity in producing absolute pitch.
- (d) Non-tonal speakers can match native tonal speakers if they memorize reference tones, regardless of childhood input.

86. Which option presents reasoning most parallel to the author's explanation of why tonal language experience helps absolute pitch acquisition?

- (a) Athletes gain sprint speed from altitude camps since oxygen debt alone builds lifelong fast-twitch dominance.
- (b) Children raised with two phoneme sets later distinguish subtle accents because early categorization tunes perception.
- (c) Memorizing color codes in adulthood yields painterly intuition because labels fully create perceptual sensitivity.
- (d) Daily metronome drills produce rhythmic grace since repetition guarantees neural timing that generalizes to melody.



87. Which educational recommendation would the author most likely support, given the interaction of genetics and early training in developing absolute pitch?
- (a) Waiting until adolescence to introduce intensive ear training so that students who show lasting interest can be prioritized for training resources.
  - (b) Teaching tonal language phonology in music classrooms to ensure that tonal familiarity alone is sufficient for developing AP in all students.
  - (c) Introducing guided pitch exposure in early childhood to increase the probability of AP development even when hereditary predisposition varies among learners.
  - (d) Restricting early pitch training to students who spontaneously show tonal labeling ability, since others likely lack necessary biological capacity.
88. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the claim that tonal-language background increases the likelihood of developing absolute pitch?
- (a) Tonal-language speakers showed strong AP performance only when trained with instructors who emphasized repeated tone-matching routines.
  - (b) When tonal-language and non-tonal-language speakers were matched for early training and home musical exposure, differences in AP prevalence disappeared completely.
  - (c) Some tonal-language speakers exhibited difficulty identifying tones accurately when listening in harmonically complex musical environments.
  - (d) Non-tonal-language speakers experienced significant AP improvement after undergoing targeted structured ear training programs focused on sustained tone memory.
89. Which flawed reasoning pattern matches the type of misinterpretation warned against in the passage when discussing genetic evidence for absolute pitch?
- (a) Observing siblings with similar artistic style and concluding that artistic expression is inherited genetically, disregarding shared household influences.
  - (b) Claiming that a region's high success in mathematics results solely from climate since many top performers live there.
  - (c) Believing that beginning chess training early guarantees mastery for all learners, regardless of cognitive variation across individuals.
  - (d) Identifying these conclusions as flawed because each reduces a complex multi-causal development to a single decisive causal explanation.
90. Which assumption is necessary for the author's distinction between absolute pitch and relative pitch to support the argument as presented?
- (a) The pitch of a musical note remains recognizable as the same frequency across different sound sources commonly encountered.
  - (b) All listeners begin with identical auditory sensitivity prior to learning or training experiences related to music.
  - (c) Musical pitch perception operates independently of rhythm and timbre, which do not influence recognition of tonal identity.
  - (d) Training in relative pitch prevents or interferes with the development of absolute pitch because both depend on conflicting auditory encoding strategies.

**Passage:-** 2 Scientists believe that we are currently entering or living in the midst of an extinction event. The earth since its birth has experienced five major extinction events driven largely by natural causes. The current one, termed the sixth mass extinction, is considered by many to be human driven. According to a 2024 report from the UN, nearly one million species are in danger of going extinct. Insects hardly figure in this information though: it is largely dominated by vertebrates. But the entomologist community knows that a large number of insects are no longer to be seen. Are insect communities at a crossroads of their existence? One of the first alerts came from what is now famous as the "windshield phenomenon". Fewer and fewer insects were getting splattered on the

windshields of vehicles at night. Alerted, two institutions that have been monitoring insects for a long period of time, analysed their data, and the results were a rude awakening for many.

The Entomological Society Krefeld had been deploying malaise traps for over 27 years in 63 nature reserves in Germany with 96 unique location-year combinations to study insects. Analysis of this data revealed a seasonal decline of 76 per cent and a mid-summer decline of 82 per cent in flying insect biomass. The report, published in 2017, was the first of the alarm bells to be sounded. People reading the report started recalling personal experiences of not seeing as many insects as before. Situated in Harpenden in Hertfordshire county, England, Rothamsted Research, founded in 1843, is the oldest agricultural research institution in the world running agricultural field experiments. The Rothamsted Insect Survey (RIS) started its national programme to monitor migrating insects, mostly moths and aphids, in 1964. James Bell, Head of the RIS, said: "...the Rothamsted Insect Survey has deployed a series of standardised, light and suction traps across the country since the late 1960s. The data is systematically collected on a daily basis, allowing us to investigate this question of insect decline in incredible detail." The research body's network of volunteers and 80+ light traps provide the most extensive long-term quantitative datasets on insect populations, seen nowhere else in the world.

More than 24 million individual moths were collected from 112 light traps and 25 12.2 metre-tall suction traps. Based on annual totals recorded every year between 1969 and 2016, the collections were analysed to estimate the long-term trends of moth abundance. The results were worrying. Despite short periods of recovery and loss, overall, the moths had declined significantly by 31 per cent over a period of 47 years. The drop in moth numbers varied in different habitats, with the highest decline recorded from coastal, urban, and woodland habitats, while agricultural, parkland, and scrubland habitats did not show this trend.

Extracted with edits and revisions from: [https://frontline.thehindu.com/environment/insect-decline-sixth-mass-extinction-habitat-threats-biodiversity-conservation/article70084296.ece?cx\\_testId=34&cx\\_testVariant=cx\\_1&cx\\_artPos=2#cxrecs\\_s](https://frontline.thehindu.com/environment/insect-decline-sixth-mass-extinction-habitat-threats-biodiversity-conservation/article70084296.ece?cx_testId=34&cx_testVariant=cx_1&cx_artPos=2#cxrecs_s)

91. Which of the following most effectively counters the author's implication that insect decline is underreported in mainstream biodiversity assessments?

- (a) The UN has recently updated its extinction monitoring framework to include invertebrates and microfauna.
- (b) Scientific data on vertebrate decline is generally more accurate and thus prioritized in global biodiversity reports.
- (c) Insects are harder to monitor due to their vast numbers, justifying their omission from high-level reports.
- (d) The decline of vertebrates has more immediate ecological consequences than insect decline, warranting their focus.

92. The author would most likely agree with which of the following statements about anecdotal observations in environmental science?

- (a) Anecdotal evidence such as the "windshield phenomenon" is often misleading and should be avoided in ecological reporting.
- (b) Personal observations can serve as useful early indicators for deeper scientific investigations.
- (c) Long-term datasets are more reliable than anecdotal experiences, which rarely align with broader scientific trends.
- (d) Public engagement with environmental issues must rely solely on peer-reviewed studies and not anecdotal experiences.

93. Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the author's claim that insect populations are experiencing an alarming decline?

- (a) The population of flying insects in some agricultural zones has increased due to the widespread use of pollinator-attracting crops.
- (b) Advances in insect monitoring technology have led to over-reporting of insect absence in recent studies.
- (c) Localised changes in insect biomass may not indicate a global trend, especially in under-monitored regions like Africa and Asia.
- (d) Some insect species are migrating to cooler climates, which may explain their absence in certain locations.

94. Which of the following most closely supports the fact that insect monitoring by institutions like Rothamsted Insect Survey is globally significant?
- (a) Their survey methodology is regularly replicated by other research institutions across Europe.
  - (b) The daily collection and standardized method provide consistent, long-term insect population data.
  - (c) The survey includes various kinds of insects, including rare and endangered species.
  - (d) The Rothamsted team includes entomologists from multiple international organizations.
95. Which of the following reflects a flaw in the author's reasoning regarding the ecological implications of insect decline?
- (a) Presuming that a change in insect visibility equates to an actual drop in insect population density across all ecosystems.
  - (b) Accepting that long-term data alone suffices to explain the causes behind shifting insect trends in various habitats.
  - (c) Concluding that insect disappearance must be due to anthropogenic activity without disaggregating natural and artificial causes.
  - (d) Inferring that multiple habitats reflect the same trajectory of decline despite differing ecological dynamics.
96. Which of the following is an assumption in the author's presentation of the Krefeld and Rothamsted datasets as indicators of a broader ecological crisis?
- (a) The areas under observation are representative of larger biogeographical regions with similar insect population dynamics.
  - (b) Species composition within insect communities has remained sufficiently stable for biomass data to reflect true abundance changes.
  - (c) Data gathered using fixed-location traps accurately captures the mobility patterns of diverse insect populations over time.
  - (d) Fluctuations in insect numbers do not significantly alter the consistency of long-term trend analysis using automated traps.

**Passage:- 3** In 2015, this reporter filed RTI applications in every police station in Hyderabad within the limits of the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, asking for the FIRs registered after the death of any conservancy worker forced into a manhole. Over the next year, after a scrutiny of the FIRs, numbering in the hundreds, these were my findings: one, the majority of the workers were Madiga (a Scheduled Caste); two, and more importantly, every FIR was registered as a Section 174 case, which is done when a death is seen as “suspicious”. And three, most of the FIRs ended with the police filing a B (closure) report and closing the case. Usually, nobody was booked for the deaths. Enquiries with the surviving wives revealed that the women had taken on their husbands’ roles and were now conservancy workers themselves. They had not been rehabilitated as per the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013, which mandates that the kin of the deceased receive the state’s support to move away from the caste-imposed occupation.

Historically, Dalits have been forced into the work of disposing of waste and night soil, a practice outlawed only as recently as the 1990s. While B.R. Ambedkar famously called upon Dalits to give up this occupation, it has not been in their control to quit or walk away from it. During Partition, Dalits in Pakistan were not allowed to migrate like the other non-Muslims as their work was considered “essential services”, forcing them to continue in conservancy work. The modern Indian state has worked in various ways to institutionalise this work and keep it caste-based, as we see today in almost every municipal corporation in the country, rather than professionalise it and open it up to all castes. The apathy that society displays towards the experience of conservancy workers, even when the news of their deaths in manholes are splashed across the media and despite significant literature and visuals of their working conditions, is deeply troubling, affirming that their status quo is probably by design.

According to experts in the field, a rough estimate puts the number of conservancy workers in Tamil Nadu (considering those employed by municipalities, hospitals, the Railways, and so on) at over 5,00,000. If this data are extrapolated to a national scale, the number of Indians working in this sector would easily surpass one crore. The

sheer scale of the numbers makes the reality starker as no government to date has formulated a policy to provide hazard pay or safeguards to these workers despite the risky nature of their work. Moreover, conservancy workers are embroiled in a system that is so corrupt that even when every cog in the machine is making money, their struggle remains stuck at demanding minimum wages.

Extracted with edits and revisions from: [https://frontline.thehindu.com/social-issues/social-justice/conservancy-workers-caste-corruption-privatisation-india/article70007413.ece?cx\\_testId=32&cx\\_testVariant=cx\\_1&cx\\_artPos=3#cxrecs\\_s](https://frontline.thehindu.com/social-issues/social-justice/conservancy-workers-caste-corruption-privatisation-india/article70007413.ece?cx_testId=32&cx_testVariant=cx_1&cx_artPos=3#cxrecs_s)

97. Which of the following can be most reasonably inferred from the passage about the treatment of conservancy workers by the criminal justice system?

- (a) Police tend to treat fatal incidents involving sanitation workers as vague occurrences that do not merit formal investigation.
- (b) Legal authorities often overlook caste discrimination while processing cases of sanitation-related deaths.
- (c) Criminal charges are rarely brought against officials responsible for maintaining hazardous public infrastructure.
- (d) Investigative agencies classify occupational deaths in sanitation work under sections designed for natural fatalities.

98. Which of the following statements would necessarily contradict the claims made in the passage?

- (a) The vast majority of families affected by sanitation deaths receive prompt compensation and alternate jobs.
- (b) Public advocacy groups have effectively reduced caste dependence in sanitation employment over time.
- (c) Municipal hiring policies are now uniformly merit-based and blind to the applicant's caste identity.
- (d) Government authorities regularly file charges and prosecute individuals responsible for sanitation deaths.

99. Which of the following, if established, would most significantly bolster the author's claim that conservancy work is maintained as a caste-bound occupation?

- (a) Rehabilitation schemes require that applicants prove prior involvement in sanitation work within their caste group.
- (b) Municipal job advertisements for sanitation workers include mention of traditional social classifications.
- (c) Welfare benefits are distributed selectively based on community roles and their continuity over generations.
- (d) Sanitation workers must provide community verification to access skill development initiatives offered by the state.

100. Which of the following presents a paradox that reflects the contradiction embedded in the author's observations about conservancy workers?

- (a) Legal frameworks criminalise manual scavenging while social norms continue to sustain its demand.
- (b) Those who perform society's most dangerous tasks receive minimal institutional protection and recognition.
- (c) Public outrage erupts after sanitation deaths, yet systemic change remains absent from policy decisions.
- (d) Municipal workers claim to follow safety protocols while fatalities among sanitation workers continue to rise.

101. Which of the following is an outcome that would most likely occur if the mandate of the 2013 Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act were rigorously enforced at the municipal level?

- (a) Cities would need to recruit new personnel through open application systems not based on caste identity.
- (b) Families of deceased workers would receive state-sponsored incentives to continue the same occupation.
- (c) Municipal contracts would be renegotiated to favour informal hiring of unregistered sanitation workers.
- (d) Private cleaning companies would increase recruitment from traditional caste-based occupational groups.

102. Which of the following conclusions is most consistent with the overarching message of the passage?

- (a) Institutional structures have preserved caste-linked labour systems under the appearance of neutrality.
- (b) Employment in sanitation has become more inclusive but continues to lack fair compensation models.
- (c) Civil society efforts have outpaced legal reforms in ensuring dignity for sanitation workers.

(d) Social exclusion in sanitation employment stems more from community stigma than state failure.

**Passage:-** 4 Ten friends – Amit, Bhavna, Charan, Deepak, Ekta, Farhan, Gauri, Harish, Isha and Jatin – are sitting around a circular table facing the centre. Their seating satisfies the following conditions:

Deepak sits third to the left of Amit.

Bhavna sits immediately to the left of Amit.

Farhan sits second to the left of Deepak.

Gauri sits immediately to the left of Farhan.

Charan sits immediately to the right of Deepak.

Only two persons sit between Gauri and Jatin when counted from the left of Gauri.

Isha sits immediately to the left of Harish.

103. Who sits second to the left of Gauri?

- (a) Harish                      (b) Isha                      (c) Jatin                      (d) Bhavna

104. How many persons sit between Amit and Ekta, when counted from the left of Amit?

- (a) 1                      (b) 2                      (c) 3                      (d) 4

105. Who sits directly opposite to Deepak?

- (a) Jatin                      (b) Bhavna                      (c) Isha                      (d) Amit

106. Which of the following pairs are immediate neighbours?

- (a) Ekta and Harish      (b) Farhan and Gauri      (c) Amit and Charan      (d) Charan and Ekta

107. How many persons sit between Charan and Jatin, when counted from the right of Charan?

- (a) 1                      (b) 2                      (c) 3                      (d) 4

108. Bhavna sits exactly between which of the following pairs?

- (a) Amit and Charan      (b) Amit and Jatin      (c) Charan and Deepak      (d) Jatin and Charan

## Section - E : Quantitative Techniques

**[Directions for Q. 109 - Q. 114]:** Raghav (Indigo blend): He has Indigo A @ ₹900/kg and Indigo B @ ₹600/kg. He wants 40 kg of an indigo mix priced at ₹720/kg. Due to scarce cakes, he cannot use more than 12 kg of A in any batch. Meera (Alum mordant): A storage drum holds 60 L of 30% alum solution. For delicate cotton, she needs a 15% bath. She'll dilute with water only. Midway through the day, she draws 12 L for dyeing and instantly refills 12 L with water (one replacement).

Zoya (Turmeric dye): She must supply 50 L of dye at 8% curcumin using a 25% turmeric extract and plain water. Later, a stricter rule lowers the required strength to 6% by adding only water to the prepared 50 L. Arjun (Eco-ink resin): He mixes soy resin @ ₹200/L and pine resin @ ₹120/L to make 100 L of binder averaging ₹156/L. A viscosity check then forces him to add 10 L of solvent @ ₹80/L to the blend.

Kabir (Natural detergent): A saponin concentrate at 40% must be turned into 10 L of detergent at 8% (using water). Later, he adds 1 L of a 20% booster to this 10 L; no liquid is removed. Leela (Rose attar cut): Premium attar costs ₹2,000/L and base oil ₹500/L. For a festival sampler she targets 12 L at an average cost of ₹950/L. After a feedback round, she plans a second 12 L batch where the attar share is 25% higher than in the first, while keeping the same target average.

109. Zoya needs 50 L dye at 8% curcumin using 25% extract and water. How many litres of extract does she need?

- (a) 14 L                      (b) 15 L                      (c) 16 L                      (d) 18 L

110. Meera has 60 L of 30% alum solution. To make it 15% (by adding only water), how much water must be added?

- (a) 40 L                      (b) 45 L                      (c) 50 L                      (d) 60 L

111. Raghav wants 40 kg at ₹720/kg from Indigo A (₹900) and B (₹600) but can use at most 12 kg of A. What is the highest average price per kg he can achieve under this cap?

- (a) ₹690                      (b) ₹705                      (c) ₹720                      (d) ₹735

112. Meera first dilutes to 120 L at 15%. Midway she draws 12 L and refills 12 L water (one replacement). What is the new percentage of alum concentration?

- (a) 14.0%                      (b) 13.5%                      (c) 12.75%                      (d) 13.0%

113. Arjun blends 100 L at ₹156/L from soy (₹200/L) and pine (₹120/L), then adds 10 L solvent at ₹80/L. What is the new average cost per litre (Appx)?

- (a) ₹149.09                      (b) ₹148.50                      (c) ₹150.40                      (d) ₹151.00

114. Leela's first 12 L sampler at ₹950/L uses only attar (₹2,000/L) and base (₹500/L). If the second 12 L batch has the attar share 25% higher than the first (with the same two ingredients), what will be the resulting average price per litre?

- (a) ₹1,055.50                      (b) ₹1,062.50                      (c) ₹950.00                      (d) ₹1,111.50

**[Directions for Q. 115 – Q. 120]:** At the Guwahati Eco-Boats Startup, five friends join forces to fund solar canoes and a riverside kiosk. Nidhi, who manages the workshop, borrows ₹1,20,000 at 10% p.a. simple interest for 18 months, planning to prepay ₹40,000 after 8 months, with simple interest calculated separately for each segment of the loan. Rohan invests ₹80,000 at 7% p.a. compounded quarterly for 2 years to fund battery packs, while Jiya opens a step-up savings plan of ₹60,000, earning 5% p.a. simple interest for the first 10 months and 8% p.a. for the next 14 months, without compounding between the two periods.

Meanwhile, Kabir needs ₹1,50,000 for a 3D printer and must choose between two offers: Offer X: 9% p.a. compounded half-yearly for 1.5 years or Offer Y: 10% p.a. simple interest for the same period to determine which gives the cheaper repayment. Sana, focused on maintenance, invests ₹50,000 at 6% p.a. compounded monthly for



1 year. The team's vendor presents two payment choices for a ₹70,000 solar-sheet invoice: either 2% cash discount for immediate payment or 1% per month simple interest if paid after 45 days. By launch day, they plan to calculate: Nidhi's total simple interest with and without prepayment, Rohan's and Sana's maturity amounts, Jiya's total interest across both phases, Kabir's better financing option and savings, and which vendor payment choice proves more economical.

115. Jiya deposits ₹60,000: 5% p.a. SI for 10 months, then 8% p.a. SI for 14 months (no compounding across phases). What is her total interest?

- (a) ₹7,400                      (b) ₹7,800                      (c) ₹8,100                      (d) ₹8,400

116. Vendor invoice ₹70,000. Option A: 2% cash discount now. Option B: pay after 45 days with 1%/month simple charge. Which is cheaper and by how much?

- (a) Option A cheaper by ₹2,450                      (b) Option B cheaper by ₹2,450  
(c) Option A cheaper by ₹1,400                      (d) Option B cheaper by ₹1,400

117. Nidhi borrows ₹1,20,000 at 10% p.a. SI for 18 months, prepays ₹40,000 after 8 months (SI segment-wise). What total interest does she pay?

- (a) ₹14,500.00                      (b) ₹14,755.55                      (c) ₹14,703.33                      (d) ₹14,666.67

118. Rohan invests ₹80,000 at 7% p.a., compounded quarterly for 2 years. What is the maturity amount (nearest rupee)?

- (a) ₹91,300                      (b) ₹92,240                      (c) ₹91,750                      (d) ₹91,911

119. Kabir needs ₹1,50,000 for a 3D printer. Offer X: 9% p.a. compounded half-yearly for 1.5 years. Offer Y: 10% p.a. simple interest for 1.5 years. Which is cheaper and by approximately how much?

- (a) Offer Y cheaper by ₹1,175                      (b) Offer X cheaper by ₹1,175  
(c) Offer X cheaper by ₹1,325                      (d) Offer Y cheaper by ₹1,325

120. Sana invests ₹50,000 at 6% p.a., compounded monthly for 1 year. What is the maturity amount (nearest rupee)?

- (a) ₹53,084                      (b) ₹53,666                      (c) ₹53,000                      (d) ₹52,955

## Rough Work

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