

UG 2027

ADMIT CARD NUMBER

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QUESTION BOOKLET NO: 2027UG16



**NISHANT PRAKASH
LAW CLASSES**

Gurukul for CLAT & AILET

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Duration of Test: 2 Hours (120 minutes)

Maximum Marks : 150

1. This Question Booklet (QB) contains 150 (One hundred and Fifty) Multiple Choice Questions across 28 (Twenty-Eight) 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 150 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

I. Read the passage given below and answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate response.

Passage: Were “horrible living conditions” a result of industrialization? To be sure, industrial-era living conditions did not meet modern standards — but neither did the living conditions that preceded them. As historian Kirstin Olsen put it in her book *Daily Life in 18th-Century England*, “The rural poor ... crowded together, often in a single room of little more than 100 square feet, sometimes in a single bed, or sometimes in a simple pile of shavings or straw or matted wool on the floor. In the country, the livestock might be brought indoors at night for additional warmth.” In 18th-century Wales, one observer claimed that in the homes of the common people, “every edifice” was practically a miniature “Noah’s Ark” filled with a great variety of animals. One shudders to think of the barnlike smell that bedchambers took on, in addition to the chorus of barnyard sounds that likely filled every night. Our forebears put up with the stench and noise and cuddled up with their livestock, if only to stave off hypothermia.

Homes were often so poorly constructed that they were unstable. The din of collapsing buildings was such a common sound that in 1688, Randle Holme defined a crash as “a noise proceeding from a breach of a house or wall.” The poet Dr. Samuel Johnson wrote that in 1730s London, “falling houses thunder on your head.” In the 1740s, “props to houses” keeping them from collapsing were listed among the most common obstacles that blocked free passage along London’s walkways. From liberal flower children to the “Make America Healthy Again” crowd, fetishizing the supposedly chemical-free, wholesome diets of yore is bipartisan. The truth, however, is stomach-churning. Our ancestors not only failed to eat well, but they sometimes didn’t eat at all. Historian William Manchester noted that in preindustrial Europe, famines occurred every four years on average. In the lean years, “cannibalism was not unknown. Strangers and travelers were waylaid and killed to be eaten.” Historian Fernand Braudel recorded a 1662 account from Burgundy, France, that lamented that “famine this year has put an end to over ten thousand families ... and forced a third of the inhabitants, even in the good towns, to eat wild plants. ... Some people ate human flesh.” A third of Finland’s population is estimated to have died of starvation during a famine in the 1690s. Even when food was available, it was often far from appetizing. Our forebears lived in a world where adulterated bread and milk, spoiled meat, and vegetables tainted with human waste were everyday occurrences. London bread was described in a 1771 novel as “a deleterious paste, mixed up with chalk, alum and bone ashes, insipid to the taste and destructive to the constitution.”

Extracted with edits and revisions from: <https://bigthink.com/the-past/debunking-preindustrial-life/>

1. Which of the following best captures the central contention of the passage?

- (a) Regulation caused preindustrial poverty.
- (b) Rural misery exceeded urban misery.
- (c) Industrialisation inherited earlier hardships.
- (d) Industrialisation solved sanitation problems.

2. Which evidence best supports the claim that unsafe housing existed before industrialisation?

- (a) Rural households kept animals indoors for warmth.
- (b) London houses commonly required props against collapse.
- (c) European famines periodically caused extreme food scarcity.
- (d) London bread frequently contained harmful foreign substances.

3. Why does the author mention livestock being brought indoors at night?

- (a) To establish dependence upon animals for subsistence.
- (b) To explain differences between rich and poor households.

- (c) To connect livestock ownership with structural insecurity.
- (d) To illustrate survival under inadequate domestic conditions.

4. What may reasonably be inferred from the references to Holme and Johnson?

- (a) Structural collapse had become a familiar experience.
- (b) Urban authorities neglected known residential hazards repeatedly.
- (c) Writers exaggerated housing dangers for political criticism.
- (d) Crowded streets caused most eighteenth-century house collapses.

5. In the passage, “fetishizing” most nearly means:

- (a) Regulating
- (b) Investigating
- (c) Romanticising
- (d) Reconstructing

6. Which finding would provide the strongest additional evidence for the author’s causal argument?

- (a) Several industrial cities introduced sanitation reforms after repeated epidemics.
- (b) Preindustrial towns displayed similar overcrowding, housing failure and food contamination.
- (c) Factory wages attracted workers from rural communities with uncertain harvests.
- (d) Mortality declined unevenly as industrial regions expanded during the nineteenth century.

7. An 1840 factory town suffers overcrowding, unsafe housing and contaminated food. Which conclusion is most justified by the passage?

- (a) Industrial growth likely caused the observed urban hardships.
- (b) Rural deprivation was more severe than factory-town poverty.
- (c) Such hardships become significant only when mortality increases.
- (d) Preindustrial conditions must be compared before assigning causation.

8. Which finding would most weaken the author’s challenge to blaming industrialisation?

- (a) Comparable towns worsened sharply after industrialisation began.
- (b) Preindustrial households frequently endured serious overcrowding already.
- (c) Agricultural regions experienced recurring eighteenth-century food shortages.
- (d) Industrial families retained several traditional dietary practices.

II. Read the passage given below and answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate response.

Passage: The Fifteenth Amendment of the US Constitution was the last of three amendments made after the end of the Civil War as part of the Southern Reconstruction. The thirteenth and fourteenth amendments, adopted in 1865 and 1868 respectively, abolished slavery as well as involuntary servitude (with an exception for punishment of convicted prisoners) and established birthright citizenship and reiterated the rights to due process and equal protection for all.

Ratified in 1870, the Fifteenth Amendment is short, a mere fifty words including the section headings, but with a large intended effect. It prohibited the federal as well as states’ governments from barring their citizens from voting based on “race, color or previous condition of servitude.” In other words, the newly freed men in the South were to be allowed to vote (women, regardless of their race or other characteristics, would be waiting another fifty years) without interference. The southern states were resistant to all three amendments. The methods that were used to prevent Black formerly enslaved men from voting were diverse: “grandfather clauses” that allowed only those with relatives who were eligible voters prior to 1865 to cast ballots; poll taxes that were unaffordable to many; literacy tests that were deliberately obtuse and graded arbitrarily; and voter intimidation by members of white supremacists groups including the Ku Klux Klan, the Red Shirts, and the White League. While cases were brought to the US Supreme Court seeking to enforce the Fifteenth Amendment, most decisions found these state laws legal, as they didn’t discuss or impose racial requirements on their face (despite their selective application and enforcement). The suppression of Black voters well into the twentieth century was only ended (for the most part) with the passage of the 1965 Voting

Rights Act (VRA), after a long and dangerous fight that saw multiple incidents of deadly violence against those advocating for equal access to the ballot. However, the VRA itself has seen accelerating challenges over the past sixty years that have left it as a diminishing shadow of itself. The *Shelby v. Holder* County decision struck down the provisions of Section 5, which required states with a history of discrimination to present changes to their voting law for clearance by the federal government. Subsequent decisions have continued to narrow the scope of the VRA's impact, leaving Section 2, which concerns the federally mandated redistricting process, the last portion standing in full.

On October 15, 2025, the Supreme Court heard the re-argument of *Louisiana v. Callais*, which challenges Section 2 on the grounds of voter discrimination, in this case against self-declared “non-African-American voters.” The brief submitted by those voters alleges that Section 2 violates both the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments, as it discriminates against white people by requiring districts to be drawn in such a way as to remedy discrimination against Black citizens—even as the preamble of the Voting Rights Act itself claims it was designed “to enforce” the Fifteenth Amendment.

Extracted with edits and revisions from: <https://daily.jstor.org/the-fifteenth-amendment-annotated/>

9. In the passage, what does “on their face” most nearly mean?

- (a) The laws openly stated racial distinctions in their wording.
- (b) The laws appeared racially neutral in their formal wording.
- (c) The laws applied identically regardless of voters’ racial identity.
- (d) The laws lacked any substantial effect on electoral participation.

10. Which mechanism was designed to prevent discriminatory voting changes before they took effect?

- (a) The Fifteenth Amendment’s prohibition against race-based voting exclusions.
- (b) Section 2 requirements governing federally mandated electoral redistricting.
- (c) Supreme Court review after discriminatory state laws were challenged.
- (d) Section 5 federal clearance of proposed state voting changes.

11. Why were grandfather clauses and literacy tests effective tools of voter suppression?

- (a) They could exclude Black voters without expressly naming race.
- (b) They transferred election administration from states to federal officials.
- (c) They restricted voting principally according to prior criminal convictions.
- (d) They prevented women from obtaining constitutional voting rights earlier.

12. Which conclusion best synthesizes the passage’s account of voting-rights protections?

- (a) Constitutional amendments became sufficient once explicit racial wording disappeared.
- (b) Federal voting protections expanded steadily despite occasional judicial disagreement.
- (c) Formal guarantees required enforcement because discrimination adapted to legal constraints.
- (d) Judicial intervention consistently strengthened protections enacted by the federal government.

13. Which of the following was NOT identified as a method used to obstruct Black voting?

- (a) Arbitrarily administered literacy tests.
- (b) Financially prohibitive poll taxes.
- (c) Ancestry-based grandfather clauses.
- (d) Property-based eligibility restrictions.

14. What does the phrase “a diminishing shadow of itself” suggest about the Voting Rights Act?

- (a) The Act remains unchanged but receives increasingly inconsistent enforcement.
- (b) The Act survives legally but possesses substantially reduced protective force.

- (c) The Act has narrowed while receiving stronger federal institutional support.
- (d) The Act has disappeared legally but survives largely in public memory.

15. Which principle best reflects the passage's discussion of facially neutral voting laws?

- (a) Unequal outcomes are sufficient to establish discriminatory legal purposes.
- (b) Formal neutrality outweighs evidence of selective implementation in practice.
- (c) Discrimination may persist through enforcement despite neutral statutory wording.
- (d) Constitutional scrutiny depends primarily upon explicit racial classifications.

16. What constitutional concern most plausibly motivates the challengers in *Louisiana v. Callais*?

- (a) Race-conscious remedies may themselves create constitutionally suspect racial distinctions.
- (b) Federal supervision improperly replaces every form of state electoral authority.
- (c) Voting protections should extend beyond constitutionally recognised racial classifications.
- (d) Redistricting should remain entirely insulated from federal and judicial scrutiny.

17. Which tension most centrally shapes the passage's account of American voting rights?

- (a) State authority versus federal citizenship requirements.
- (b) Judicial restraint versus congressional legislative authority.
- (c) Racial representation versus universal adult suffrage.
- (d) Formal voting equality versus practical electoral access.

18. What function does *Louisiana v. Callais* serve in the passage?

- (a) It demonstrates that Section 2 has already been declared unconstitutional.
- (b) It illustrates continued challenges to the VRA's remaining protections.
- (c) It marks restoration of protections previously removed under *Shelby County*.
- (d) It shifts voting-rights disputes away from constitutional questions of race.

III. Read the book descriptions for three different books and answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate response.

The Innovators by Walter Isaacson	The Age of AI by Henry Kissinger, Eric Schmidt, and Daniel Huttenlocher	The Shallows by Nicholas Carr
In <i>The Innovators</i> , Walter Isaacson traces the long, restless journey that led from early mechanical ideas to the digital world we now inhabit. Rather than presenting technology as the work of isolated geniuses, he reveals it as a story of collaboration, rivalry, curiosity, and repeated failure. Figures such as Ada Lovelace, Alan Turing, Bill Gates, and Steve Jobs appear not merely as inventors, but as people shaped by the ideas and partnerships around them. The book moves through computing, programming, the internet, and personal technology while asking what truly drives innovation. At its heart, it is a study of how imagination becomes invention when individual vision meets collective effort.	In <i>The Age of AI</i> , Henry Kissinger, Eric Schmidt, and Daniel Huttenlocher examine a world in which machines no longer simply obey instructions but increasingly learn, predict, and influence human decisions. The book considers how artificial intelligence may reshape science, medicine, warfare, politics, communication, and even the way people understand knowledge itself. Rather than treating AI as only a technical achievement, the authors explore its philosophical and social consequences. They ask what happens when machines identify patterns that humans cannot fully explain, or when important choices are shared with systems that do not think as people do. The result is a thoughtful reflection on intelligence, power, responsibility,	In <i>The Shallows</i> , Nicholas Carr turns his attention not to what technology allows us to do, but to what it may be quietly doing to us. He explores how the internet, constant connectivity, and rapid flows of information influence concentration, memory, reading, and thought. Moving between neuroscience, cultural history, and personal reflection, Carr suggests that technologies do more than provide tools; they gradually shape the habits of the mind that uses them. The book does not reject the digital world, but questions what may be lost when speed replaces patience and browsing replaces sustained attention. It is ultimately a meditation on the uneasy relationship between convenience,

	and an uncertain technological future.	knowledge, and the deeper forms of thought that require time.
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19. Which statement best reflects Isaacson's account of technological innovation?

- (a) Innovation advances when rivalry ultimately displaces collaborative experimentation.
- (b) Digital progress depends mainly on rare individuals resisting surrounding influences.
- (c) Technological breakthroughs emerge when individual creativity interacts with collective effort.
- (d) Innovation succeeds once repeated failure is replaced by technical certainty.

20. Which claim would the authors of the second work most likely endorse?

- (a) AI matters because machine reasoning may alter human decisions and knowledge.
- (b) AI matters chiefly because machines complete familiar human tasks more efficiently.
- (c) AI becomes socially harmless once predictions outperform ordinary human judgment.
- (d) AI should be assessed mainly through the inventors who first developed it.

21. What does "speed replaces patience and browsing replaces sustained attention" most nearly suggest?

- (a) Digital access eliminates the need for deliberate forms of reading.
- (b) Faster information retrieval necessarily weakens factual human understanding.
- (c) Online abundance makes traditional forms of knowledge increasingly obsolete.
- (d) Digital habits may privilege immediacy over sustained cognitive engagement.

22. Consider the following Assertion and Reason:

Assertion (A): Carr's argument is not a wholesale rejection of digital technology.

Reason (R): Carr combines neuroscience, cultural history, and personal reflection in his analysis.

- (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (c) A is true, but R is false.
- (d) A is false, but R is true.

23. Which conclusion is most consistent with all three descriptions?

- (a) Technological change is best explained through exceptional individual genius.
- (b) Human agency steadily declines as technologies become increasingly sophisticated.
- (c) Technical progress should be judged mainly by the efficiency it produces.

(d) Technology remains inseparable from human practices, choices, and consequences.

24. How would Carr most likely respond to Isaacson's emphasis on collaborative innovation?

- (a) Collaboration matters only when inventions reduce dependence upon digital systems.
- (b) Collective invention proves that technology cannot substantially alter human cognition.
- (c) Innovation's origins matter, but its effects on thought also require scrutiny.
- (d) Failed inventions matter more than cognitive consequences of successful technologies.

25. Which comparison most accurately distinguishes the central concerns of the three works?

- (a) Isaacson studies innovation's origins; the second studies AI's authority; Carr studies cognition.
- (b) Isaacson critiques connectivity; the second traces invention; Carr examines political authority.
- (c) Isaacson studies machine autonomy; the second defends collaboration; Carr rejects digital knowledge.
- (d) Isaacson questions cognition; the second explains programming; Carr celebrates technological convenience.

26. Which perspective most strongly supports the claim that tools can reshape their users?

- (a) Isaacson's account of collaborative invention and repeated experimentation.
- (b) Carr's account of technologies reshaping habits of human thought.
- (c) The second work's account of machine-assisted scientific discovery.
- (d) All three accounts place essentially equal emphasis on this claim.

27. Which finding would most strongly support Carr's argument while leaving Isaacson's central thesis largely unaffected?

- (a) Diverse technical teams routinely outperform inventors working independently.
- (b) Frequent online task-switching reduces performance on sustained reading tasks.
- (c) AI systems increasingly generate predictions experts cannot fully explain.
- (d) Successful inventions often emerge after repeated failed prototypes.

IV. Read the passage given below and answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate response.

Passage: The last thing we should want to do with accounts of mystical or transcendent or contemplative experiences is send them to the taxidermist and mount them for inspection. First we should watch them fly and roam, try to see what they see, and see what's interesting about them. We may need different binoculars than we're used to.

That's what explorers of those perspectives tell us, anyway. Here is Simon Critchley in his recent study *Mysticism*: "Reading Meister Eckhart is a question of allowing the movement of his thinking to have an effect on you, an effect which is not reducible to an act of understanding." Stanley Cavell struck a similar note in older reflections on Thoreau: "What is the sense that something escapes the conditions of knowledge? It is, I think, the sense, or fact, that our primary relation to the world is not one of knowing it." In his recent book, *Make Your Home in This Luminous Dark: Mysticism, Art, and the Path of Unknowing*, James K.A. Smith quotes Teresa of Ávila: "These are the souls who apply the discursive mind to their meditations. This is all they have."

It is table stakes for the religious believer or the artist (or the person in love) to agree that the discursive mind is not all we have and that our most important experiences are not reducible to understanding. But Critchley, Cavell and Smith are philosophers, and they join thinkers in other fields (Michael Pollan's recent *A World Appears* comes to mind) who want to extend the range of our accounts of our relationship to the world. To do so as philosophers using the tools and language that have limited the account in the first place is a paradox worth naming. Christian mystics were forever saying what they didn't mean by their reports. Those reports were provocations, not portraits, catalysts, not claims. Which is another way of saying that they wrote, as Critchley notes, to have an effect on their hearers, not to settle arguments.

Like Critchley and Smith in their recent books, Clare Carlisle wants to push the boundaries of philosophical inquiry in order to account for more of our sense of life. Having written studies of Kierkegaard, Spinoza and George Eliot, Carlisle,

a professor of philosophy at King's College London, has gathered her 2024 Gifford Lectures into a slim but dense and compelling new book, *Transcendence for Beginners*. As the book's subtitle, "Life Writing and Philosophy," suggests, her understanding of transcendence will draw on the ways a biographer sees as well as the ways a philosopher reflects. Joining life writing to philosophy might seem like a quest to humanize and complicate abstract thinking, to introduce irreducible human mystery to reflection, but Carlisle in fact uses life writing for a philosophical purpose: to advance an argument for Spinoza's panentheism. For Carlisle, the realm of the transcendent is imaginative and philosophical, not mystical and esoteric, and her mentor is Spinoza, not Meister Eckhart. "My question now is, what does a life reveal?" she writes. "Does it just express itself—or something beyond itself?" Elaborating on that "beyond itself" using Spinoza's lens is the challenging task of the book.

Extracted with edits and revisions from:

<https://thepointmag.com/criticism/the-stretch-of-a-soul/>

28. According to the passage, why does Carlisle combine life writing with philosophy?

- (a) To replace abstract reasoning with biographical interpretation.
- (b) To recover mystical experience through personal narrative.
- (c) To support a philosophical case for Spinoza's panentheism.
- (d) To reconcile Spinoza's thought with Christian mysticism.

29. In the passage, "discursive" most nearly refers to thinking that is:

- (a) Analytical and conceptually ordered.
- (b) Intuitive and emotionally receptive.
- (c) Mystical and experientially immersive.
- (d) Imaginative and symbolically suggestive.

30. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: Critchley and Cavell both question whether understanding exhausts our relation to experience.

Statement II: Carlisle treats mystical experience as the primary basis of Spinoza's philosophy.

- (a) Both Statement I and Statement II are true.
- (b) Both Statement I and Statement II are false.
- (c) Statement I is false, but Statement II is true.
- (d) Statement I is true, but Statement II is false.

31. In describing mystical reports as "provocations, not portraits," the author suggests they are meant to:

- (a) reproduce transcendent experiences with descriptive precision.
- (b) stimulate transformation rather than provide literal representation.
- (c) conceal doctrinal commitments beneath metaphorical language.
- (d) resolve philosophical disagreement through experiential testimony.

32. Which of the following is NOT presented as a limitation of conventional philosophical inquiry?

- (a) Its concepts may narrow what experience can express.
- (b) Its language may restrict accounts of human experience.
- (c) Its biographical method may obscure abstract philosophical claims.
- (d) Its emphasis on understanding may exclude other relations.

33. Why does the author describe the philosophers' project as paradoxical?

- (a) They use restrictive philosophical tools to exceed philosophy's limits.
- (b) They reject rational inquiry while continuing to publish philosophy.
- (c) They defend mysticism while denying transcendent experience exists.
- (d) They privilege biography despite rejecting individual human experience.

34. Which expression in the passage contains a perfect participial phrase?

- (a) “using the tools and language”
- (b) “what does a life reveal?”
- (c) “Having written studies of Kierkegaard”
- (d) “to introduce irreducible human mystery”

35. What is the primary function of the opening “taxidermist” metaphor?

- (a) To dismiss mystical reports as unsuitable objects of philosophical inquiry.
- (b) To suggest mystical claims require verification before experiential engagement.
- (c) To contrast scientific observation with commitment to religious belief.
- (d) To warn against reducing living experiences to static objects of analysis.

36. Which view of philosophical inquiry would the author most likely endorse?

- (a) Philosophy should abandon argument when confronting transcendent experiences.
- (b) Philosophy should translate mystical reports into verifiable factual propositions.
- (c) Philosophy should broaden its methods without surrendering reflective rigor.
- (d) Philosophy should separate biography from serious metaphysical investigation.

V. Read the passage given below and answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate response.

Passage: The net result of this contracted and safe study of Africana philosophy is that Black thinkers are always portrayed as serving the universalisation project of post-Enlightenment European philosophy. This is how Black thinkers become enslaved to the white academy and get presented as unthreatening to the domination of the European philosophical tradition. Even at its best, this way of approaching non-Western philosophy involves a failure to understand Africana thinkers as emerging from their own highly specific historical, cultural and linguistic contexts.

This insight is certainly relevant to other colonial contexts too, including Asian philosophies. The Indian philosopher Vrinda Dalmiya, for instance, has described this colonial tendency of Anglo-European philosophy as the “‘we have it too’ approach”. The Anglo-Europeans delight in uncovering Indian thinkers who independently arrived at conclusions very similar to their own. But this delight hardly ever arrives at the fundamental critique of their own way of doing philosophy or acknowledging the possibility that contemporary Indian intellectuals had a better way of understanding their world and place within it. This simply comes from the self-referential model of Western thinking, which abstracts a culturally particular perspective of Europe as the universal model. Here, we assume that every possible particular cultural framework of thinking is reducible to this universal model, and that it makes sense for us to project our frameworks for thinking on to the traditions we find in other cultures.

For instance, Asian histories exist like a massive multiverse vis-à-vis the Judaeo-Christian conception of history. When intellectuals in Asia look back on their intellectual traditions, they do not conceive of just a single chronological line of history that is divided by BC/AD, or BCE/CE, (namely, a previously religious imagination of human history), within which every other Asian intellectual tradition exists; instead, each of them has their own conception of history that does not look like the Western counterpart. This is the reason why it’s very important for an Asian philosophy specialist to know the complex genealogy of ‘dynasties’ and their conceptions of history.

It is quite natural for those of us in Asia to think about how multiple religious traditions, and their various conceptions of histories, always belong to a specific place and time. In Japan, alone, we have to think about the histories of Shintoism, Confucianism and Buddhism along with geopolitical history when we consider any of the long list of philosophers who belong to the Japanese intellectual tradition. If we focus on one intellectual tradition, that of Buddhism, to make sense of philosophical thought within Buddhism, we must at least study a complex range of historical periods that belong to India, China, Korea and Japan, and the various Buddhist schools of thought that emerged within these different regions.

Extracted with edits and revisions from:

<https://aeon.co/essays/epistemic-convergence-in-the-study-of-world-philosophies>

37. In the passage, “self-referential” most nearly describes a framework that:

- (a) judges traditions through their internal historical development.
- (b) treats its own categories as universally applicable standards.
- (c) compares cultures without privileging any philosophical vocabulary.
- (d) reconstructs ideas through their original linguistic settings.

38. What is the chief limitation of the “we have it too” approach?

- (a) It denies that Indian thinkers reached independently developed conclusions.
- (b) It treats philosophical similarity as evidence of cultural borrowing.
- (c) It rejects comparison between European and Asian intellectual traditions.
- (d) It values Indian thought chiefly when it resembles European philosophy.

39. Which attitude does the author display toward the universalisation of European philosophy?

- (a) Critical of its concealed cultural particularity.
- (b) Skeptical of its insufficient chronological precision.
- (c) Supportive of its comparative explanatory usefulness.
- (d) Ambivalent about its relevance beyond Europe.

40. What does the metaphor “a massive multiverse” suggest about Asian histories?

- (a) They ultimately converge within one chronological historical structure.
- (b) They remain disconnected from broader geopolitical historical developments.
- (c) They comprise multiple distinct frameworks of historical understanding.
- (d) They resist historical study because their timelines constantly overlap.

41. Which inference regarding cross-cultural philosophical comparison follows most strongly from the author’s argument?

- (a) Comparison is useful when traditions independently reach conclusions resembling European thought.
- (b) Comparison requires regional histories to be organised within a common chronological framework.
- (c) Comparison should exclude European categories because they remain culturally particular.
- (d) Comparison must preserve contextual differences rather than treating resemblance as equivalence.

42. Which feature best characterises the philosophical method criticised by the author?

- (a) It rejects universal claims in favour of local intellectual histories.
- (b) It isolates philosophy entirely from cultural and linguistic circumstances.
- (c) It privileges historical context over conceptual philosophical comparison.
- (d) It mistakes one cultural framework for a universal philosophical measure.

43. What does the discussion of Buddhism across India, China, Korea and Japan ultimately illustrate?

- (a) Philosophical traditions acquire meaning through layered regional histories.
- (b) Religious ideas remain essentially unchanged across geographical migration.
- (c) Asian philosophy is unified by a common Buddhist historical chronology.
- (d) Intellectual exchange makes national philosophical traditions conceptually indistinguishable.

VI. Read the passage given below and answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate response.

Passage: Long before photography became the visual language of the empire, one Englishwoman was sketching the people she encountered across India with unusual curiosity and precision. Emily Eden, a gifted artist and writer, belonged to one of Britain's most influential political families. She travelled across northern India in the 1830s while accompanying her brother, George Eden, first Earl of Auckland, the governor-general of India. Alongside princes, generals and courtiers, she drew servants, attendants, travellers, fakirs, Afghan and Sikh nobles, Akali warriors, hill communities and even the animals that accompanied imperial journeys. Her remarkably broad gaze set her apart from many contemporaries. More than two dozen of her sketches were published in 1844 as *Portraits of the Princes and People of India*. They now form the heart of *Princes & People*, an exhibition at DAG in Delhi curated by art historian Mary Ann Prior, bringing together the complete published series of hand-coloured lithographs made from Eden's original sketches. Eden arrived in Calcutta (now Kolkata) in March 1836 to a whirlwind of official engagements and an unfamiliar world. Homesick and struggling to adjust, she did not sketch for three weeks or complete a painting for two months. But her spirits were buoyed by her travelling party, which included her nephew William, sister Fanny, maids, an ayah, a cook, a valet, a physician and an assortment of pets. Even before reaching India, the voyage had begun to broaden her outlook as she encountered new people, cultures and ways of life, notes art historian and author Mary Ann Prior.

"The diversity of people and places motivated and improved Emily's artistic output, and her natural curiosity sought out the unusual. She meticulously documented her observations through her sketches and paintings." Instead of castles, churches and English landscapes, Eden increasingly turned her attention to the strangers, costumes, architecture and unfamiliar landscapes she encountered. Between 1836 and 1842, that curiosity took her across a region on the cusp of profound political change. Her sketches offer a rare glimpse of the court of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, whose Punjab kingdom was one of the subcontinent's most powerful states, capturing it at the twilight of his reign and the dawn of the Victorian era. Eden was as engaging a writer as she was an artist. Her lively journals brim with humour and observation, with names and places often spelled exactly as they sounded to her. On arriving in the holy city of Benares (now Varanasi), the Eden party sailed along the Ganges before continuing to nearby Ramnagar, where the king had a country house. The scene so captivated Emily that she wrote: "We mean to keep our steamer here and to go out sketching in it."

Extracted with edits and revisions from: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cm2drrv6q54o>

44. What most clearly distinguished Eden's artistic approach from that of many contemporaries?

- (a) She preferred political portraiture over unfamiliar regional landscapes.
- (b) She concentrated principally on rulers whose courts hosted British officials.
- (c) She documented socially varied subjects beyond elite political circles.
- (d) She treated imperial journeys mainly as occasions for architectural study.

45. Which explanation for Eden's expanding artistic outlook is NOT supported by the passage?

- (a) Formal guidance from established artists redirected her choice of Indian subjects.
- (b) Encounters during the voyage exposed her to unfamiliar people and cultures.
- (c) Diverse people and places stimulated and improved her artistic production.
- (d) Curiosity drew her toward unfamiliar costumes, architecture and landscapes.

46. What does the phrase "twilight of his reign and the dawn of the Victorian era" chiefly convey?

- (a) A declining court already absorbed into Victorian political institutions.
- (b) A cultural order deliberately resisting all forms of British influence.
- (c) A royal administration replaced immediately after Eden's recorded visit.
- (d) A political world preserved at a moment of transition.

47. Which statement best captures the central idea of the passage?

- (a) Eden's political connections chiefly enabled access to India's ruling courts.
- (b) Eden's curiosity transformed imperial travel into unusually expansive visual documentation.
- (c) Eden's journals offer more reliable historical evidence than her published portraits.
- (d) Eden's artistic development depended primarily upon overcoming prolonged homesickness abroad.

48. Consider the following Assertion and Reason:

Assertion (A): Eden's sketches possess historical value beyond their artistic merit.

Reason (R): They record people and political settings during a period of significant change.

- (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (c) A is true, but R is false.
- (d) A is false, but R is true.

49. Which approach would best preserve the interpretive value the passage attributes to Eden's work?

- (a) Separating her visual work from the circumstances of imperial travel.
- (b) Treating her portraits primarily as neutral records of appearance.
- (c) Reading her images alongside the historical contexts she encountered.
- (d) Evaluating her sketches solely through contemporary standards of realism.

50. What may reasonably be inferred from the remark that Eden often spelled names and places as they sounded to her?

- (a) Her journals sought administrative precision despite unfamiliar place names.
- (b) Her records attempted to standardise Indian names for British readers.
- (c) Her phonetic spelling made the journals less useful than her sketches.
- (d) Her journals preserve the immediacy of encounters with unfamiliar surroundings.

Section B – General Knowledge and Current Affairs

51. In the I-2SEA submarine cable project, which company has been appointed as the system supplier?

- (a) NEC Corporation (b) Ericsson
(c) Nokia (d) Fujitsu

52. The Ancient Buddhist Site of Sarnath, inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in July 2026, became India's:

- (a) 43rd World Heritage Site (b) 44th World Heritage Site
(c) 45th World Heritage Site (d) 46th World Heritage Site

53. Which of the following most accurately describes the legal status of an Overseas Citizen of India cardholder?

- (a) An OCI cardholder enjoys full dual citizenship of India.
(b) An OCI cardholder has voting rights but cannot contest elections.
(c) An OCI cardholder is not an Indian citizen and does not enjoy political rights such as voting.
(d) An OCI cardholder automatically acquires Indian citizenship after continuous residence.

54. Arrange the following events associated with Sucheta Kripalani in chronological order:

1. Became Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh
2. Became a founding member of the All India Mahila Congress
3. Became a member of the Constituent Assembly
4. Participated prominently in the Quit India Movement

Select the correct sequence:

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

55. Match the following Governor-Generals/Viceroy with the policies or events associated with them:

S. No.	List-I (Governor-General/Viceroy)	S. No.	List-II (Policy/Event)
A.	Lord Wellesley	i.	Partition of Bengal
B.	Lord William Bentinck	ii.	Ilbert Bill controversy
C.	Lord Ripon	iii.	Subsidiary Alliance
D.	Lord Curzon	iv.	Abolition of Sati

Select the correct option:

- (a) A-iii, B-iv, C-ii, D-I (b) A-i, B-ii, C-iii, D-iv
(c) A-iv, B-iii, C-i, D-ii (d) A-ii, B-i, C-iv, D-iii

56. Which of the following tribe-State pairs is NOT correctly matched?

- (a) Reang — Tripura (b) Gaddi — Himachal Pradesh
(c) Sora — Odisha (d) Damor — Nagaland

57. Who served as India's Special Representative at the 25th round of India-China talks on the boundary question held in August 2026?

- (a) S. Jaishankar (b) Ajit Doval
(c) Vikram Misri (d) Rajnath Singh

58. Vikram-1, highlighted as India's privately developed orbital launch vehicle, was developed by:

- (a) Agnikul Cosmos (b) Bellatrix Aerospace
(c) Skyroot Aerospace (d) Dhruva Space

59. Consider the following statements regarding NASA's OSIRIS-REx mission:

- I. The spacecraft collected its sample from a site on Bennu known as Nightingale.
II. The sampling device used by the mission was called TAGSAM.
III. After delivering the Bennu sample to Earth, the spacecraft was redesignated OSIRIS-APEX for an extended mission to asteroid Apophis.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only I and II
(c) Only II and III
- (b) Only I and III
(d) All I, II and III
60. What does SOLVE, the ISRO test vehicle associated with the Gaganyaan programme, stand for?
(a) Space-Oriented Launch Vehicle Experiment
(b) Satellite Orbital Launch and Validation Equipment
(c) System for Orbital Launch Vehicle Evaluation
(d) Sub-Orbital Launch Vehicle for Experiments
61. Which of the following is correct about an INTERPOL Red Notice?
(a) It is an international arrest warrant binding on all member countries.
(b) It authorises INTERPOL officers to arrest suspects anywhere in the world.
(c) It is a request to locate and provisionally arrest a person pending legal proceedings.
(d) It automatically results in extradition to the requesting country.
62. Unjha, associated with GI-tagged cumin and fennel, is located in which State?
(a) Gujarat
(b) Rajasthan
(c) Madhya Pradesh
(d) Maharashtra
63. What position did India occupy in the 2026 Environmental Performance Index?
(a) 174th
(b) 176th
(c) 175th
(d) 177th
64. The International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage recognised Parichha Weir as a heritage irrigation structure. Parichha Weir is built across which river?
(a) Chambal
(b) Ken
(c) Son
(d) Betwa
65. Consider the following statements regarding the Delimitation Commission in India:
I. Its orders have the force of law.
II. Its final orders cannot ordinarily be called into question before a court.
III. Parliament or the concerned State Legislature may modify its final orders after they are laid before them.
IV. Its orders come into force on a date specified by the President.
Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) Only I and II
(b) Only I, II and IV
(c) Only II, III and IV
(d) All I, II, III and IV
66. Which Singaporean diplomat was named among the recipients of the 2026 Ramon Magsaysay Award?
(a) Bilahari Kausikan
(b) Tommy Koh
(c) Kishore Mahbubani
(d) Chan Heng Chee
67. The scientific name of the Indian peafowl, India's national bird, is:
(a) Grus Antigone
(b) Pavo muticus
(c) Gallus sonneratii
(d) Pavo cristatus
68. According to the latest status of India's Electronics Components Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS) announced in August 2026, which of the following combinations is correct?
(a) 106 approved projects — about ₹69,548 crore investment — around 75,000 direct jobs
(b) 75 approved projects — about ₹61,671 crore investment — around 1.5 lakh direct jobs
(c) 106 approved projects — about ₹6,844 crore investment — around 38,000 direct jobs
(d) 31 approved projects — about ₹69,548 crore investment — around 75,000 direct jobs
69. The Five Eyes intelligence alliance historically developed from which intelligence-sharing agreement?
(a) NORAD Agreement
(b) UKUSA Agreement
(c) ANZUS Treaty
(d) Washington Treaty
70. At the 72nd National Film Awards, which film received the Best Direction award in the feature-film category?

(a) Swatantrya Veer Savarkar
(c) Amaran

(b) Article 370
(d) Bramayugam

71. The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) was adopted in 1979 in which city?

(a) Bonn, Germany
(c) Nairobi, Kenya

(b) Geneva, Switzerland
(d) Vienna, Austria

72. MANAS, the National Narcotics Helpline, functions primarily under which agency?

(a) Central Bureau of Investigation
(c) National Investigation Agency

(b) Narcotics Control Bureau
(d) Directorate of Revenue Intelligence

73. According to Elephant Corridors of India 2023, which State had the highest number of ground-validated elephant corridors?

(a) Assam
(c) West Bengal

(b) Odisha
(d) Karnataka

74. Who was the first recipient of the Jnanpith Award?

(a) G. Sankara Kurup
(c) K. V. Puttappa

(b) Tarashankar Bandyopadhyay
(d) Umashankar Joshi

75. The Prambanan Temple Compounds are located on which Indonesian island?

(a) Bali
(c) Java

(b) Sumatra
(d) Sulawesi

76. Which protected area has been described as an emerging second home for Asiatic lions within Gujarat?

(a) Blackbuck National Park
(c) Marine National Park

(b) Barda Wildlife Sanctuary
(d) Vansda National Park

77. Which of the following represents the correct north-to-south geographical sequence in the Andaman and Nicobar archipelago?

(a) Little Andaman — Ten Degree Channel — Car Nicobar
(b) Car Nicobar — Ten Degree Channel — Little Andaman
(c) South Andaman — Ten Degree Channel — Little Andaman
(d) Car Nicobar — Ten Degree Channel — Great Nicobar

78. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code and the Prevention of Money Laundering Act differ fundamentally because the PMLA principally deals with:

(a) Identification, attachment and confiscation of property linked to money laundering
(b) Corporate restructuring and revival of viable businesses
(c) Resolution of disputes between shareholders and company directors
(d) Regulation of competition among commercial enterprises

79. The Artemis Accords, which India has joined, are based fundamentally on the principles of which international treaty?

(a) Antarctic Treaty
(c) Moon Agreement

(b) Outer Space Treaty
(d) Partial Test Ban Treaty

80. The first regional office of the New Development Bank (NDB), known as the Africa Regional Centre, is located in which city?

(a) Cape Town
(c) Nairobi

(b) Pretoria
(d) Johannesburg

Section C – Logical Reasoning

81. Consider the following statements:

Only a few constitutional scholars are originalists.

All originalists are textualists.

No textualist is a pragmatist.

Some pragmatists are constitutional scholars.

Conclusions:

I. Some constitutional scholars are not pragmatists.

II. Some constitutional scholars are not originalists.

III. Some pragmatists are not originalists.

IV. Some textualists are not constitutional scholars.

(a) Only I and II follow

(b) Only I, II and III follow

(c) Only II, III and IV follow

(d) All I, II, III and IV follow

82. At the first instant after 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, 29 February 2024, when the hands of a correct clock are at right angles, a signal is sent. A response is received exactly 400 days, 5 hours and 30 minutes later. When is the response received?

(a) Thursday, 3 April 2025 at 9:35 5/11 p.m.

(b) Friday, 4 April 2025 at 9:24 6/11 p.m.

(c) Saturday, 5 April 2025 at 9:35 5/11 p.m.

(d) Friday, 4 April 2025 at 9:35 5/11 p.m.

83. P and Q are siblings, and P is male. S is their father. T is S's only sister, and U is T's only son. Q is the mother of R. Spatially, Q is 6 metres east of U, R is 8 metres north of Q, and P is 10 metres west of R. Which option correctly states P's relation to U and P's direction from U?

(a) Paternal cousin; North-West

(b) Maternal cousin; North-West

(c) Maternal uncle; South-West

(d) Paternal cousin; North-East

84. In a certain code language, PLANET is written as OVKGZM and CIPHER is written as RVXIKS. How will GARDEN be written in the same code language?

(a) WIMTVZ

(b) ZVTMJW

(c) ZVTMIW

(d) AVGNIR

85. Complete the following series:

B2Y, F6V, L24Q, T120J, _____

(a) D720A

(b) D600B

(c) C720A

(d) E720Z

86. Consider the following statements:

All appealable orders are reasoned orders.

Every judgment is an appealable order.

No confidential order is reasoned.

Some sealed orders are confidential.

Some sealed orders are judgments.

Conclusions:

I. Some sealed orders are reasoned.

II. Some sealed orders are not appealable.

III. No judgment is confidential.

IV. Some reasoned orders are not judgments.

(a) Only I and II follow

(b) Only II and III follow

(c) Only I and III follow

(d) Only I, II and III follow

87. Seven books J, K, L, M, N, O and P are arranged from left to right. Exactly three books are placed between J and K, with J to the left of K. M is immediately to the left of O. N is positioned between J and K but is adjacent to neither. P is somewhere to the right of L. Exactly one book is placed between L and O, and L is not at either end. Which book is third to the left of P?

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| (a) M | (b) N |
| (c) J | (d) O |

88. A year Y contains 53 Tuesdays and 53 Wednesdays, while each of the other five weekdays occurs exactly 52 times. Which option correctly identifies the nature of Y, the weekday on 1 March of Y, and the weekday on 1 January of the following year?

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| (a) Ordinary year; Friday; Wednesday | (b) Leap year; Saturday; Thursday |
| (c) Leap year; Friday; Wednesday | (d) Ordinary year; Saturday; Thursday |

89. In a certain code language:

“careful judges examine ancient records” is written as “mi to ka ne po”

“ancient lawyers examine disputed claims” is written as “ru po xo ka se”

“judges debate disputed evidence” is written as “ve ne li ru”

“careful lawyers preserve evidence” is written as “ga ve se to”

“records preserve ancient claims” is written as “xo mi ga ka”

The order of code words does not necessarily correspond to the order of ordinary words. Which set of codes represents “judges preserve disputed records”?

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| (a) ne, ga, ru, mi | (b) ne, ga, po, mi |
| (c) to, ga, ru, mi | (d) ne, ve, ru, xo |

90. Consider the following statements:

All catalogued items are archived.

Some catalogued items are indexed.

All encrypted files are digital records.

No digital record is handwritten.

Some archived items are handwritten.

Conclusions:

I. Some archived items are not encrypted.

II. No catalogued item is handwritten.

III. Some indexed items are archived.

IV. Some catalogued items being encrypted is a possibility.

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

91. Consider the following statements:

All arbitrators are neutral.

No neutral person is partisan.

All lawyers are partisan.

Some lawyers are mediators.

Some mediators are arbitrators.

Conclusions:

I. Some mediators are not partisan.

II. Some lawyers are not arbitrators.

III. No mediator is partisan.

IV. Some arbitrators are not lawyers.

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

92. During the evening, the mirror image of an analogue clock appears to show 3:18. The clock is running exactly 12 minutes slow. What is the correct time, and what is the smaller angle between the hands of the slow clock at that instant?

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| (a) 8:42 p.m.; 9° | (b) 8:54 p.m.; 9° |
| (c) 8:54 p.m.; 57° | (d) 9:06 p.m.; 63° |

93. Rhea points towards Arnav and says, "The only sister of his father is the mother of the only son of my maternal grandmother." Rhea's maternal grandmother has exactly two children—Rhea's mother and one son. Arnav's father has exactly one sister. How is Arnav related to Rhea?

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| (a) Maternal uncle | (b) Second cousin |
| (c) Paternal first cousin | (d) Mother's first cousin |

94. Vihaan starts from Point P facing North-West. He walks $8\sqrt{2}$ metres, turns 135° clockwise and walks 11 metres. He then turns 225° anticlockwise and walks $6\sqrt{2}$ metres, turns 90° clockwise and walks $5\sqrt{2}$ metres, and finally turns 135° anticlockwise and walks 4 metres. Which option correctly gives his shortest distance and direction from Point P and the direction in which he is finally facing?

- | | |
|---|---|
| (a) $\sqrt{73}$ metres, North-West; South | (b) $\sqrt{73}$ metres, South-West; North |
| (c) 11 metres, North-West; South | (d) $\sqrt{65}$ metres, North-East; West |

95. In a certain coding system:

MANGO is coded as 28-02-08-06-196

BRICK is coded as 13-09-21-15-81

How will COURT be coded in the same system?

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| (a) 17-23-33-03-441 | (b) 23-17-30-03-441 |
| (c) 23-17-33-03-421 | (d) 23-17-33-03-441 |

96. Complete the following series:

D5W, I11R, P23K, Y47B, _____

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| (a) I95R | (b) J94Q |
| (c) J95Q | (d) K95P |

97. Consider the following statements:

All expert opinions are provisional.

No signed document is provisional.

All forensic reports are signed.

Some admissible documents are expert opinions.

Some admissible documents are forensic reports.

Conclusions:

I. Some admissible documents are not signed.

II. Some admissible documents are not provisional.

III. No expert opinion is a forensic report.

IV. All admissible documents are either expert opinions or forensic reports.

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

98. Seven candidates—A, B, C, D, E, F and G—are ranked from first to seventh. Exactly five candidates are ranked between B and E. D is immediately ahead of C. Exactly two candidates are ranked between F and D. A is ranked between F and D but is not adjacent to D. G is ranked after C, while F is ranked before B. If C and G exchange their ranks, who will be ranked immediately before A?

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| (a) C | (b) G |
|-------|-------|

(c) D

(d) F

99. Under the Gregorian calendar, 2096 is a leap year. What is the earliest subsequent year whose calendar will be identical to that of 2096?

(a) 2104

(b) 2124

(c) 2128

(d) 2108

100. Consider the following statements:

All jurors are citizens.

Some citizens are teachers.

No teacher is silent.

Some jurors are silent.

Conclusions:

I. Some citizens are not teachers.

II. Some jurors are not teachers.

III. Some teachers are jurors.

IV. No teacher is a juror.

(a) Only I and II follow

(b) Only I and either III or IV follow

(c) I, II and either III or IV follow

(d) Only II and either III or IV follow

101. Consider the following statements:

All decrees are binding instruments.

No advisory document is binding.

Some circulars are advisory documents.

Only circulars are notifications.

Some notifications are decrees.

Conclusions:

I. Some circulars are not advisory documents.

II. Some circulars are not decrees.

III. No notification is an advisory document.

IV. Some advisory documents are not notifications.

(a) Only I and II follow

(b) Only II and III follow

(c) Only I, II and III follow

(d) Only I and IV follow

102. Clock A gains exactly 5 minutes for every actual hour, while Clock B loses exactly 3 minutes for every actual hour. Both clocks are set correctly at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday. At the first instant when Clock A has accumulated a lead of exactly three hours over Clock B, what are the actual time and the reading shown by Clock A?

(a) Thursday, 5:30 p.m.; 7:22:30 p.m.

(b) Thursday, 6:00 p.m.; 7:50:00 p.m.

(c) Thursday, 6:30 p.m.; 8:22:30 p.m.

(d) Friday, 6:30 p.m.; 8:22:30 p.m.

103. Six family members—P, Q, R, S, T and U—stand in a row facing North. Q is married to S, and R and T are their only daughters. P is the only child of R, while U is the only son of T. U stands at one end of the row. Q sits exactly midway between U and S. P stands immediately to the right of S, while R stands immediately to the left of T. How is the person standing immediately to the right of P related to U?

(a) Maternal grandmother

(b) Maternal aunt

(c) Elder sister

(d) Maternal cousin

104. In a navigation code, every actual cardinal direction is recorded as the direction 90° clockwise from it, whereas every actual diagonal direction is recorded as its opposite. A coded route instructs a traveller to move:

East for 8 kilometres,

North-East for $5\sqrt{2}$ kilometres,

South for 6 kilometres, and

South-West for $3\sqrt{2}$ kilometres.

After decoding the directions, where is the traveller from the starting point?

- | | |
|---|---|
| (a) $2\sqrt{13}$ kilometres, North-West | (b) $\sqrt{52}$ kilometres, South-East |
| (c) 10 kilometres, North-East | (d) $2\sqrt{13}$ kilometres, North-East |

105. In a certain code language, JUSTICE is written as GHRFXQV and VERDICT is written as WIRVXEG. How will TRIBUNE be written in the same code language?

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| (a) YRFJMGV | (b) VGMIFRY |
| (c) YRFIMGV | (d) YQFIMHV |

106. Complete the following series:

A2Z, D6W, H15S, M28N, S55H, _____

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| (a) Z65A | (b) Y78B |
| (c) Z78A | (d) A78Z |

107. A particular month has exactly five Fridays, five Saturdays and five Sundays, while every other weekday occurs four times. The immediately preceding month had 30 days. On which weekday did the 17th day of the preceding month fall?

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| (a) Wednesday | (b) Thursday |
| (c) Sunday | (d) Friday |

108. A panel of exactly four members is to be selected from A, B, C, D, E, F, G and H, subject to the following conditions:

Exactly one of A and B must be selected.

Exactly one of C and D must be selected.

Exactly two among C, D and G must be selected.

G can be selected only if B is selected.

E can be selected only if both A and F are selected.

H and F cannot be selected together.

C is selected if and only if F is selected.

D and H cannot be selected together.

Which of the following is the complete panel?

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| (a) A, C, E and F | (b) B, C, F and G |
| (c) B, D, G and H | (d) B, C, G and H |

109. In the word JURISPRUDENCE, how many pairs of letters have the same number of letters between them in the word as in the English alphabet, considering both forward and backward alphabetical order?

- | | |
|-----------|----------|
| (a) Three | (b) Five |
| (c) Four | (d) Six |

110. Consider the following statements:

All binding precedents are reported cases.

No reported case is obsolete.

Some obsolete materials are precedents.

All precedents are authorities.

Some precedents are binding.

Conclusions:

I. Some authorities are not obsolete.

II. Some authorities are not binding.

III. Some obsolete materials are not reported cases.

IV. Some reported cases are not authorities.

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

111. Consider the following statements:

Only a few petitions are maintainable.

All maintainable petitions are registered matters.

No registered matter is frivolous.

Some frivolous matters are petitions.

All petitions are filings.

Conclusions:

I. Some filings are not frivolous.

II. Some filings are not maintainable.

III. Some frivolous matters are not registered.

IV. Some registered matters are not filings.

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

112. In a family code:

A % B means A is the son of B.

A # B means A is the sister of B.

A @ B means A is the father of B.

A & B means A is the mother of B.

The expression P % Q # R @ S & T is given. Spatially, Q is 6 metres west of R, S is 8 metres north of Q, P is 10 metres east of S, and T is 4 metres south of R. Which option correctly states P's relationship to T and P's position from T?

- (a) Maternal uncle; $4\sqrt{10}$ metres North-East
- (b) Mother's paternal cousin; $4\sqrt{10}$ metres North-East
- (c) Father's maternal cousin; $8\sqrt{2}$ metres North-West
- (d) Paternal uncle; 12 metres South-East

113. Five suspects—A, B, C, D and E—are questioned regarding an offence committed by exactly one of them. They make the following statements:

A: "Either B or D committed the offence."

B: "E committed the offence."

C: "A did not commit the offence."

D: "B's statement is false."

E: "C committed the offence."

Exactly two of these five statements are true. Who committed the offence?

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| (a) A | (b) C |
| (c) D | (d) E |

114. Complete the following letter series, treating the alphabet as cyclic after Z:

A, DEF, IJKLM, PQRSTUV, _____

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| (a) XYZABCDE | (b) YZABCDEFG |
| (c) ZABCDEFGH | (d) YABCDEFGH |

115. Issue: Should universities require students submitting research dissertations to disclose whether generative artificial intelligence tools were used during drafting?

Arguments:

- I. Yes. Disclosure helps examiners judge whether AI assistance remained within permitted authorship standards.
- II. Yes. Any use of generative AI makes independent academic assessment inherently impossible.

III. No. Separate disclosure may duplicate existing authorship safeguards without adding reliable evidence of misconduct.

IV. No. Only factual accuracy matters because the process of producing academic work is irrelevant.

Which of the following correctly identifies the strong arguments?

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| (a) I and III only | (b) I and II only |
| (c) II and IV only | (d) III and IV only |

116. Assertion (A): A city may experience a decline in average commuting time after expanding its metro network even if the number of private cars on its roads does not decrease.

Reason (R): Improved metro connectivity can alter where and when people travel, reducing congestion on particular high-delay routes without necessarily reducing the total number of cars in use.

Choose the correct answer:

- (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (c) A is true, but R is false.
- (d) A is false, but R is true.

117. Statement I: Over six months, a regional hospital network reduced the average waiting time for specialist consultations by nearly 25%.

Statement II: During the same period, the network introduced a centralised triage system that redirected routine cases to trained general practitioners while reserving specialist appointments for patients requiring advanced care.

Which of the following best describes the relationship between the two statements?

- (a) Statement I is the cause and Statement II is its effect.
- (b) Statement II is a probable cause of Statement I.
- (c) Both statements are independent effects of an unstated cause.
- (d) The two statements are related, but neither can reasonably affect the other.

118. A port introduced mandatory time-slot bookings for trucks entering its cargo terminals. Average gate queues fell by 28%, although daily truck volume remained almost unchanged. The authority concludes that the booking system reduced queues specifically by dispersing truck arrivals across the day. Which assumption is necessary?

- (a) Average unloading time per truck remained broadly stable throughout the study.
- (b) Drivers generally complied with slots even when terminal congestion remained low.
- (c) Bookings altered arrival concentration rather than merely recording existing arrival patterns.
- (d) Cargo composition remained similar across trucks entering the different terminal gates.

119. A national archive digitised several collections, but only some were made full-text searchable. Historians later cited a wider variety of documents, and archivists argue that searchability broadened source use. Which fact most strengthens their argument?

- (a) Researchers reported that digitised collections were easier to consult from distant locations.
- (b) Citation totals also rose in subjects that continued relying mainly on printed collections.
- (c) Several newly cited collections had already been frequently used before digitisation began.
- (d) Citation diversity rose mainly where scans became searchable, not where they were merely viewable.

120. Seasonal no-take zones were established around coastal spawning grounds. Two breeding seasons later, juvenile fish density rose both inside the zones and in adjoining waters. Regulators conclude that the zones increased local recruitment from the protected spawning stock. Which assumption is necessary?

- (a) Juveniles originating outside the zones had similar survival rates after entering protected waters.

- (b) At least some additional juveniles were produced by adults spawning within protected grounds.
- (c) Fishing pressure outside the zones did not decline substantially during either breeding season.
- (d) Juvenile movement between protected and adjoining waters remained broadly stable across surveys.

121. Courts introduced AI-generated summaries of reported judgments. An audit found that lawyers located relevant precedents faster while citation-error rates remained unchanged. Administrators conclude that the summaries improved research efficiency without sacrificing reliability. Which assumption is necessary?

- (a) Lawyers relied primarily on summaries rather than reading the underlying judgments themselves.
- (b) Courts did not publish a substantially larger number of precedents during the pilot period.
- (c) Verification and correction work did not erase the time saved while locating precedents.
- (d) Lawyers generally preferred AI summaries to conventional headnotes prepared by legal editors.

122. A school district delayed the start of classes by one hour. Student absences declined significantly, yet average examination scores fell during the same year. Which fact best explains both findings?

- (a) Students reported sleeping longer and feeling less fatigued during their morning classes.
- (b) The district kept dismissal unchanged, reducing daily instructional time by nearly one hour.
- (c) Teachers shifted several demanding subjects from morning periods to late-afternoon periods.
- (d) Neighbouring districts retained their earlier start times throughout the same academic year.

Passage for Questions 123-124: A city designated several historic shopping streets as conservation zones, restricting façade alterations and large chain-store signage. Five years later, independent shops survived at higher rates on protected streets than on matched unprotected streets, despite faster rent increases in the protected areas. However, most protected streets also received pedestrian upgrades that increased foot traffic. Researchers therefore argue that conservation status may have helped preserve independent retail, although its precise contribution cannot yet be isolated.

123. Based on the passage, which inference follows most defensibly from the researchers' difficulty in isolating the effect of conservation status?

- (a) Faster rent growth means zoning's true effect must exceed the observed survival advantage.
- (b) Matched controls eliminate upgrade confounding whenever protected streets face higher rents.
- (c) Attributing the full survival gap to zoning would overstate it if upgrades aid survival.
- (d) Signage restrictions cannot affect shop survival unless they also reduce commercial rents.

124. Which finding would most strengthen the claim that conservation status itself aided independent retailers?

- (a) Protected streets without pedestrian upgrades still showed higher survival than matched unprotected streets.
- (b) Rents increased at similar rates on upgraded and non-upgraded streets within protected districts.
- (c) Shoppers rated pedestrianised historic streets as more attractive than nearby commercial districts.
- (d) Large chain retailers increasingly preferred suburban centres rather than central shopping streets.

125. A government plans to impose import charges based on the carbon emitted throughout a product's production process. Analysts argue that the policy can curb carbon leakage rather than merely redirect trade through intermediary countries. Which assumption is necessary?

- (a) Consumers normally prefer domestic products whenever imported alternatives become moderately more expensive.
- (b) Exporting countries apply identical accounting methods when reporting industrial carbon emissions.
- (c) Embedded emissions can be credibly traced through goods passing across multiple national supply chains.
- (d) Producers cannot pass any portion of carbon-related import charges to their final consumers.

126. University students voluntarily used a distraction-blocking application for eight weeks. Students activating it daily improved more on sustained-attention tests than students using it infrequently. Researchers conclude that the application itself improved attention. Which fact most weakens the conclusion?

- (a) Frequent users consistently rated the application as easier and more convenient to operate.
- (b) Infrequent users began the study with slightly higher average sustained-attention test scores.

- (c) Application usage was recorded automatically rather than through students' retrospective self-reports.
- (d) Frequent users also attended compulsory distraction-free study sessions throughout the same period.

127. An electricity utility introduced substantially higher tariffs during peak-demand periods. Household peak-hour consumption subsequently fell by 8%. The utility concludes that most of this decline reflected consumers voluntarily shifting usage in response to higher prices. Which assumption is required?

- (a) High-usage households faced the same tariff schedule as low-usage households.
- (b) Consumers received bills soon after each peak-demand pricing period ended.
- (c) Appliance ownership changed little across households during the comparison period.
- (d) Peak-period supply constraints did not account for most of the measured decline.

128. A technology firm allowed half its research teams to work remotely two days each week, while other teams retained their previous schedule. Innovation scores rose more among remote teams, although staffing and research budgets also changed unevenly. Which evidence most strengthens the firm's claim that remote work improved innovation?

- (a) After adjusting for staffing and research spending, remote teams still showed larger innovation gains.
- (b) Employees assigned remote days reported considerably greater satisfaction with their commuting arrangements.
- (c) Patent filings increased across the company during a broader period of technological investment.
- (d) Managers initially selected several technically stronger research teams for the remote-work programme.

129. A lender replaced conventional collateral requirements with cash-flow-based credit scoring. One-year default rates among newly eligible borrowers matched those of secured borrowers. The lender claims that the method can broaden credit access without materially increasing default risk. Which assumption is necessary?

- (a) One-year performance covers a period in which material risk gaps would normally emerge.
- (b) Newly eligible borrowers received loans similar in purpose to secured borrowers.
- (c) Cash-flow scores used equally long transaction histories for borrowers in both groups.
- (d) Secured borrowers faced repayment schedules comparable in frequency to new borrowers.

130. A public library abolished overdue fines, after which the number of overdue items fell sharply. Administrators conclude that removing fines reduced patrons' reluctance to return already-late books. Which fact most weakens this conclusion?

- (a) Patrons previously owing fines disproportionately borrowed titles that had long reservation lists.
- (b) The library also extended the opening hours of several physical return counters that year.
- (c) Automatic renewals began simultaneously, so many loans no longer became classified as overdue.
- (d) Overall borrowing increased during the year following the abolition of overdue financial penalties.

131. A museum eliminated admission charges. Visits from postal codes classified as economically disadvantaged subsequently increased by 30%. The director concludes that free admission improved socioeconomic access to the museum. Which assumption is necessary?

- (a) Postal-code classification reasonably reflects the socioeconomic circumstances of visitors from those areas.
- (b) Total museum attendance increased by at least thirty percent after admission charges were eliminated.
- (c) Visitor numbers from wealthier neighbourhoods remained unchanged throughout the same exhibition season.
- (d) The museum introduced no major exhibitions during the period following removal of admission charges.

Passage for Questions 132-133:

Three towns opened primary schools in which an endangered language was used for half the teaching day. Two years later, children in those towns used the language at home more frequently than children in comparable towns without such schools. Yet the school towns also introduced community radio programmes and parent workshops during the same period. Researchers therefore believe that the schools probably contributed to increased language use, while acknowledging that the size of the school's independent effect is uncertain.

132. Based on the passage, what does the comparison between the school towns and the other towns most defensibly identify?
- (a) It isolates schooling because only school towns changed their formal instructional language.
 - (b) It isolates radio because home language use was measured outside formal classrooms.
 - (c) It estimates no intervention effect because several treatments occurred simultaneously.
 - (d) It estimates the intervention bundle, not schooling's separate causal contribution.
133. Which evidence would most strengthen the claim that the schools independently contributed to increased home use?
- (a) Parents in school towns expressed stronger cultural attachment before the schools were established.
 - (b) Radio-listening frequency varied considerably among households within all three participating school towns.
 - (c) Home use increased after school openings even where radio programmes and workshops began later.
 - (d) Teachers reported that most children enjoyed receiving lessons in the endangered local language.
134. Supermarkets introduced traffic-light nutrition labels, after which sales recorded in the high-salt category fell by 18%, while prices remained broadly stable. Researchers conclude that the labels caused consumers to substitute toward lower-salt products. Which assumption is necessary?
- (a) Lower-salt products remained continuously available throughout the observation period in participating stores.
 - (b) High-salt products retained broadly comparable shelf visibility after the labels were introduced.
 - (c) Product reformulation did not fully explain the recorded decline in high-salt category sales.
 - (d) Consumers purchasing lower-salt products had previously bought high-salt products at similar frequencies.
135. A revenue agency sent filing reminders only to taxpayers who had filed late at least twice during the preceding three years. Their on-time filing rate rose substantially, while historically punctual taxpayers received no reminder and showed little change. What is the safest inference?
- (a) Reminder effectiveness is established because only historically late taxpayers improved substantially.
 - (b) Improvement fits a reminder effect, but the untreated group is not a valid counterfactual.
 - (c) Stable punctual filing excludes common shocks as an explanation for late-filer improvement.
 - (d) Selection by prior lateness makes reminders ineffective outside repeatedly late taxpayers.
136. Two fragmented mammal populations were connected by a newly constructed wildlife corridor. Four years later, genetic differentiation between them declined. Conservationists claim that the corridor restored gene flow. Which evidence most strengthens the claim?
- (a) Population growth occurred on both sides after food availability improved throughout the region.
 - (b) Animals appeared near corridor entrances at similar rates before and after construction.
 - (c) Genomic assignment linked new cross-population offspring to migrants documented using the corridor.
 - (d) Open-landscape movement remained common in areas geographically distant from the new corridor.
137. Civil courts introduced mandatory mediation before trial. Median disposition time and judicial hours per disposed case both fell. The ministry concludes that mediation improved judicial efficiency by diverting disputes from adjudication. Which assumption is necessary?
- (a) Mediated disputes were not systematically less complex than cases proceeding toward adjudication.
 - (b) Settlement agreements reached through mediation were usually complied with without later litigation.
 - (c) At least some mediated cases would otherwise have consumed additional judicial adjudication time.
 - (d) Lawyers spent no more preparation time on mediated disputes than on comparable tried cases.
138. A city abolished minimum parking requirements for new apartment buildings. Housing permits rose by 20%, proposed unit size fell, and rents changed little during the first year. Which conclusion is most reasonable?
- (a) Permit growth suggests a relaxed supply constraint, while rent effects remain temporally unresolved.
 - (b) Stable first-year rents show the reform had no meaningful effect on housing supply.
 - (c) Smaller proposed units establish that developers offset parking savings by lowering housing quality.
 - (d) Higher permitting proves parking mandates were the principal constraint on apartment construction.

Passage for Questions 139-140:

A company introduced blind résumé screening that concealed applicants' names and gender indicators. The proportion of women reaching interviews increased from 34% to 45%, but the proportion ultimately hired changed little. Applicants' identities became visible during interviews. Analysts argue that blinding may have reduced early-stage bias, while later stages offset part of that benefit.

139. Which finding would most strengthen the analysts' interpretation?

- (a) Among similarly qualified applicants, the gender gap narrowed specifically at the blind-screening stage.
- (b) The number of female applicants rose sharply following a major recruitment campaign that year.
- (c) Interviewers reported greater confidence in their judgments after applicants' identities became visible.
- (d) Overall hiring volume declined despite the increased proportion of women receiving interviews.

140. Based on the passage, which finding would most weaken the claim that blind résumé screening reduced early-stage gender bias?

- (a) Interview-stage gender gaps widened after applicants' identities became visible to interviewers.
- (b) Adjusting for résumé quality removes the rise in women's interview progression.
- (c) The anonymised stage used the same scoring rubric applied before the reform.
- (d) Final hiring rates remained stable despite more women reaching the interview stage.

141. Soil-moisture controllers reduced irrigation use by 22% on arid farms without lowering yields. On humid farms, water use differed little from conventional irrigation schedules. Which conclusion is most reasonably inferred?

- (a) Controllers reduce irrigation whenever crop yields remain constant across different farm types.
- (b) Humid farms contain no remaining irrigation inefficiency under conventional scheduling methods.
- (c) Arid farms benefit because moisture sensors increase crops' biological tolerance to drought.
- (d) The treatment effect is heterogeneous, with larger savings under drier baseline conditions.

142. An organisation randomly installed acoustic ceiling baffles on selected open-plan office floors. Noise complaints fell on treated floors but remained stable on untreated floors, while staffing density changed little. Which inference is best supported?

- (a) Baffles reduced objective sound intensity for every worker on treated office floors.
- (b) Random assignment supports a causal reduction in complaints under the study conditions.
- (c) Stable staffing proves density was unrelated to complaints before the intervention.
- (d) Lower complaints imply improved productivity among workers assigned to treated floors.

143. A phone manufacturer introduced trade-in credits for old devices. Returned phones doubled, and the company claims that the programme diverted electronic waste away from informal disposal channels. Which assumption is necessary?

- (a) Returned devices contained similar recoverable material before and after the programme.
- (b) Formal recyclers could process the additional devices collected through trade-in credits.
- (c) Trade-in participants replaced devices at roughly normal replacement-cycle intervals.
- (d) Incremental returns included devices otherwise likely to enter informal disposal channels.

144. A province replaced voluntary donor registration with presumed consent. The share of residents recorded as non-objectors rose sharply, although transplant numbers remained unchanged during the first year. Officials argue that the reform nevertheless increased effective donor availability, with operational delays postponing transplantation effects. Which evidence most strengthens the claim?

- (a) Public awareness of transplantation increased after a separate province-wide information campaign.
- (b) Hospital transplant capacity remained approximately unchanged during the first year after reform.
- (c) Eligible deaths generated more usable donor consents despite unchanged transplantation capacity.

(d) Most residents understood that they could formally opt out without suffering any legal penalty.

Directions for Questions 145–148: Read the following principles and then answer the questions that follow:

Principle 1: A proposal is made when one person signifies to another a willingness to do or abstain from doing something, intending to obtain the other person's assent. A proposal becomes a promise when it is accepted.

Principle 2: Communication of a proposal is complete when it comes to the knowledge of the person to whom it is made.

Principle 3: Communication of acceptance is complete:

- against the proposer, when the acceptance is placed in transmission and goes beyond the acceptor's control; and
- against the acceptor, when the acceptance comes to the proposer's knowledge.

Principle 4: A proposal may be revoked before the communication of its acceptance becomes complete against the proposer. An acceptance may be revoked before the communication of acceptance becomes complete against the acceptor.

Principle 5: To convert a proposal into a promise, the acceptance must be absolute and unqualified. A response that introduces or alters a condition is a counter-proposal rather than an acceptance.

Principle 6: When a proposal prescribes a particular manner of acceptance, the proposer may insist upon that manner. However, if an acceptance is communicated differently and the proposer does not object within a reasonable time, the proposer is deemed to have accepted that mode.

145. On 1 June, Aarav posts a proposal to sell his antique clock to Bela. Bela receives the proposal on 3 June. At 10 a.m. on 4 June, Bela posts an unconditional acceptance. Aarav had posted a letter revoking the proposal on 2 June, but that letter reaches Bela at 2 p.m. on 4 June. Bela's acceptance reaches Aarav on 7 June. Has a contract been formed?

- (a) No, because Aarav posted the revocation before Bela posted her acceptance.
- (b) No, because Aarav received Bela's acceptance only after sending the revocation.
- (c) Yes, because Bela dispatched the acceptance before receiving the revocation.
- (d) Yes, because a proposal sent by post cannot subsequently be revoked.

146. Charu receives Dev's proposal by post and posts an unconditional acceptance on 4 July. On 5 July, Charu changes her mind and emails a withdrawal of the acceptance. Dev reads the email at 9 a.m. on 6 July. The posted acceptance reaches him at noon on the same day. Has Charu validly revoked her acceptance?

- (a) No, because Dev became bound when Charu posted the acceptance.
- (b) Yes, because the withdrawal reached Dev before the acceptance reached him.
- (c) No, because an acceptance cannot be withdrawn after it has been posted.
- (d) Yes, because acceptance communicated by post is necessarily provisional.

147. Farhan offers to supply 100 chairs to Gauri at ₹1,200 per chair, with delivery on 30 September. Gauri replies, "I accept your proposal provided that the chairs are delivered by 15 September." Farhan does not respond. Gauri subsequently claims that a contract was formed through her reply. Is she correct?

- (a) No, because her response was not an absolute and unqualified acceptance.
- (b) No, because Farhan's silence amounted to an express rejection of her acceptance.
- (c) Yes, because she agreed to the quantity and price specified by Farhan.
- (d) Yes, because changing the delivery date did not affect the proposed transaction.

148. Ishaan proposes to sell machinery to Jaya and states that acceptance must be sent by registered post. Jaya instead sends a signed acceptance through a private courier. Ishaan receives it, raises no objection and sends Jaya the proposed delivery schedule. Several days later, he claims that there is no contract because the acceptance was not sent by registered post. Is Ishaan correct?

- (a) Yes, because any deviation from the prescribed manner invalidates acceptance.
- (b) Yes, because a private courier cannot communicate contractual acceptance.
- (c) No, because every written method of communicating acceptance is equivalent.
- (d) No, because Ishaan did not timely insist upon the prescribed manner.

149. Principle: A negligent person is liable only for a reasonably foreseeable kind of damage. Once that kind of damage is foreseeable, the person remains liable for its full extent even if the victim's unusual physical condition makes the consequences exceptionally severe. Subsequent medical negligence breaks the chain of causation only when it is so independent and extraordinary that it could not reasonably have been anticipated.

Facts: A restaurant negligently leaves cooking oil on an unlit staircase. Naman slips on the oil and sustains a fracture that would ordinarily heal within six weeks. At the hospital, a doctor negligently misreads a routine X-ray and delays treatment for two days. Such diagnostic errors are an occasional but recognised risk of medical treatment. Because Naman has an extremely rare and previously undiagnosed clotting disorder, the delay causes irreversible damage, requiring the amputation of his leg. To what extent is the restaurant liable?

- (a) Only for the fracture, because the doctor's negligence necessarily broke the causal chain.
- (b) For the fracture and delayed recovery, but not for the unforeseeable amputation of the leg.
- (c) For the entire injury, because physical harm was foreseeable and the later error was not extraordinary.
- (d) Only for the initial fall, because Naman voluntarily entrusted his treatment to the hospital.

150. Principle: A defamatory communication is protected by qualified privilege when the maker has a legal, social or moral duty to communicate it and the recipient has a corresponding interest in receiving it. The privilege applies separately to each publication and is defeated if the statement is published to persons without a corresponding interest or is made predominantly from an improper motive. Mere falsity or inadequate investigation does not, by itself, establish such an improper motive.

Facts: Ananya, a bank's compliance officer, examines incomplete transaction records and honestly, though mistakenly, suspects that a cashier, Bhavesh, has diverted customer funds. Without first seeking Bhavesh's explanation, she prepares a confidential report. She sends it to the bank's internal fraud committee, which is responsible for investigating such allegations. She also copies the report to the heads of every branch in the State, although most of them exercise no supervisory authority over Bhavesh and have no role in the investigation. The allegation is later proved false. Which conclusion is most appropriate?

- (a) Every publication is privileged because Ananya honestly believed the allegation to be true.
- (b) No publication is privileged because Ananya failed to obtain Bhavesh's explanation beforehand.
- (c) Publication to the committee is privileged, but circulation to unrelated branch heads is not.
- (d) No publication is privileged because the subsequent investigation established the allegation's falsity.

