

--Question Starting--

3. Which of the following statements best characterizes the impact of internet shutdowns and throttling as digital authoritarian practices?

I. Such measures primarily aim at suppressing dissent by limiting access to information and communication channels.

II. Internet shutdowns are always legally justified in democratic societies under national security concerns.

III. Throttling can be used as a subtle tool to influence public opinion by controlling the quality and speed of information dissemination.

IV. The global community unanimously condemns all forms of internet shutdowns, considering them violations of human rights.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(1) I and III only

(2) II and IV only

(3) I, II, and III only

(4) All of the above

Answer Key: 3

Solution:

? Statement I(Correct): Internet shutdowns and throttling are often employed by authoritarian regimes to suppress dissent, limit free expression, and control the flow of information, thereby weakening opposition and controlling narratives.

? Statement II(Incorrect): Democratic societies may invoke national security as a justification, but such measures are subject to legal scrutiny and are not always justified or accepted universally; hence, the statement overstates their legality.

? Statement III(Correct): Throttling, by degrading service quality, can serve as a covert method to influence and manipulate public discourse without outright bans, subtly shaping opinions.

? Statement IV(Incorrect): While many organizations condemn internet shutdowns, there is no global unanimity; some governments justify such actions, and international consensus remains divided.

Hence, Option (3) is the correct answer.

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4. In the context of platform or gig work, which of the following statements accurately analyze the dynamics of collective action and algorithmic bargaining?

I. Platform workers often face challenges in collective bargaining due to the fragmented and individualistic nature of gig work.

II. Algorithmic management systems enable platforms to unilaterally set terms of work, thus reducing the scope for collective bargaining.

III. Collective actions such as strikes or protests are rendered ineffective because algorithms can be dynamically reprogrammed to bypass such actions.

IV. The emergence of digital labor unions represents a shift towards more formalized and institutionalized collective bargaining mechanisms in gig work.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(1) I and II only

(2) III and IV only

(3) I, II, and IV only

(4) All of the above

Answer Key: 4

Solution:

? Statement I(Correct): Gig workers are often classified as independent contractors, making traditional collective bargaining difficult; their dispersed, individualistic nature hampers unionization.

? Statement II(Correct): Algorithmic management allows platforms to set work parameters, monitor productivity, and adjust policies in real-time, often unilaterally, limiting workers' bargaining power.

? Statement III(Correct): Algorithms can be reprogrammed or modified to circumvent collective actions, such as adjusting thresholds, deploying new management protocols, or anonymizing worker data, making protests

less effective.

? Statement IV(Correct): Digital labor unions and worker collectives are increasingly adopting formal structures to negotiate with platforms, signaling a shift towards institutionalized bargaining.

Hence, Option (4) is the correct answer.

--Question Starting--

5. Which of the following statements most accurately reflect the complexities involved in platform governance and content moderation as a political process?

I. Content moderation policies are inherently biased, reflecting the political and cultural values of platform owners.

II. Transparent content moderation processes can mitigate accusations of censorship and bias.

III. Algorithmic content filtering can both combat harmful content and inadvertently suppress legitimate expression, illustrating the nuanced challenge of moderation.

IV. Platform governance is solely a technical matter, unaffected by political or societal considerations.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(1) I, II, and III only

(2) II and III only

(3) I and IV only

(4) All of the above

Answer Key: 4

Solution:

? Statement I(Correct): Content moderation decisions are influenced by the platform's policies, which are shaped by cultural, political, and economic considerations, often leading to perceived bias.

? Statement II(Correct): Transparency in moderation policies, clear guidelines, and appeal mechanisms can help address concerns regarding bias and censorship, fostering trust.

? Statement III(Correct): Algorithmic filtering aims to detect harmful content but can also inadvertently suppress legitimate speech due to false positives or biased training data.

? Statement IV(Incorrect): Platform governance is deeply political and societal, involving debates over free speech, censorship, jurisdiction, and corporate responsibility, thus not purely technical.

Hence, Option (4) is the correct answer.