

# Prime Mock 04 (CLAT) 2025

## English Language

**Directions for questions 1 to 24:** Read the passages given below and answer the questions that follow.

### Passage – 1

There is a sense of freedom when we are genuinely happy. We are free from conflicting or negative emotions. There is no sense of hunger, fear, lust, incompleteness, desires or complaints. Normally our minds do not feel free with negative emotions. They create a storm inside us, and we easily become their victims. Ego is an incredibly powerful negative emotion, capable of inducing lust, greed, envy, and hatred.

The sound evolutionary reason for our experience of ego is that it helped keep us alive with superiority complex - by repelling the sensation associated with sociality. So, when your psyche smells wrong, upon inspection, you can find that the culprit is ego that has inflated and made your life hell. It has made your mind boggle with expectations. Over time, ego blown beyond limit includes not only just your mental phenomena but also behavioral actions, such as seeing someone do something you find objectionable or detrimental to your freedom. Deep down we have always been free and happy, but we get consumed by our ego. Carrying that ego is like holding a hot coal; the more we hold on to it, the more it burns our palms. Shouldn't we, instead, put it down and be free?

When we minimize our ego, our humility develops in a stable manner. With humility as our chief source of gratitude and compassion, we discover a profound acceptance and camaraderie. Minimizing ego releases 'happiness hormones', a sense of freedom, and contentment. Renowned psychologist Carl Jung once noted, "Your visions will become clear only when you can look into your own heart. Who looks outside, dreams; who looks inside, awakes." This awakening Jung refers to can be seen as the moment we realize the weight of our ego and decide to let it go. The practice of mindfulness, encouraging present-moment awareness without judgment, aligns with this perspective, guiding us to a state where the ego no longer governs our actions but serves as a bridge to deeper understanding and peace.

When ego is minimized, we no longer perceive life through a lens of scarcity but of abundance. This shift in perspective fosters an environment where sharing, kindness, and support flourish. We begin to celebrate the success of others as our own, understanding deeply that joy is not a zero-sum game. In this liberation from ego, we find a profound sense of connection to the world around us. This connection, grounded in humility and compassion, enables us to act with genuine care and concern

for the wellbeing of others. It's in these moments that we experience true freedom, not as an abstract concept, but as a lived reality.

**Q 1.** "We begin to celebrate the success of others as our own, understanding deeply that joy is not a zero-sum game." Which of the following can be inferred from the line?

- a) Happiness thrives in communal success and shared achievements.
- b) Joy is enhanced by minimizing one's sense of self.
- c) Contentment comes from overcoming ego-driven desires.
- d) Celebrating others' success boosts personal happiness levels.

**Q 2.** What does the word "mindfulness" mean as mentioned in the paragraph-3?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| a) Continuous self-awareness practice. | b) Present-focused Inner-Peace awareness.  |
| c) Awareness without self-critique.    | d) Present-moment nonjudgmental awareness. |

**Q 3.** The passage describes the ego as having the ability to "smell" wrong and inflate, causing turmoil. This use of personification suggests what about the nature of ego?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| a)<br>The ego has sensory perceptions and can physically inflate. | b)<br>The ego is a living entity with its own consciousness.  |
| c)<br>The ego can affect one's perspective in a dynamic way.      | d)<br>The ego requires physical space to expand and contract. |

**Q 4.** In the passage, what does the phrase "carrying that ego is like holding a hot coal" symbolize?

- a) The physical consequences of harboring ego within oneself.
- b) The intrinsic value of ego when carefully managed.
- c) The immediate sense of relief that comes from releasing ego, akin to dropping a hot coal.
- d) The harm caused by holding onto ego, necessitating its release for personal wellbeing.

**Directions for questions 1 to 24:** Read the passages given below and answer the questions that follow.

## Passage – 2

Scientific exploration involves exploring the unknown, but it also involves facing ethical issues. The reason is that the quest for knowledge, driven by a desire to understand, has to deal with the moral implications of its findings. For example, genetic engineering is an area that has a huge impact on the future of humanity. Scientists who work with DNA have to consider the effects of their actions: whether

they are improving health care or interfering with the natural order of life. The laboratory is not only a place to conduct experiments; it is also a place to make ethical judgments.

Space exploration is another scientific frontier, but it also has ethical challenges. The reason is that as humans explore beyond Earth, they have to think about how to use the resources and environments of other planets and stars. The cosmos, with its amazing sights and mysteries, is not only a place for science; it is also a place where ethics have to be part of the space mission.

This connection between science and ethics is not new. It has been there since the old times, when scientists made discoveries that changed medicine and health. For example, when Alexander Fleming found antibiotics, he also had to deal with the ethics of using them to save or end lives. The laboratory, with its experiments and instruments, becomes a place where science has to be responsible for its inventions. As we learn more about the world, the balance between science and ethics becomes a story that matters, shaping how we grow as humans and how we act as a moral community.

**Q 5.** In the given passage, how is the relationship between scientific exploration and ethical considerations described?

- a) Seeking truth for one and all, science is independent of ethics.
- b) Following moral rules, science is subordinate to ethics.
- c) Creating new moral opportunities and challenges, science is complementary to ethics.
- d) Violating natural order and harmony, science is contradictory to ethics.

**Q 6.** What does the word "laboratory" symbolize in the context of the passage?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| a) An ideal area to explore the unknown.        | b)<br>A sacred place for conducting experiments only. |
| c) A place where science must deal with ethics. | d) A source to unleash moral dilemmas.                |

**Q 7.** Why does the author use Alexander Fleming reference in the passage?

- a) To highlight the historical connection between science and ethics.
- b) To highlight the presence of moral implications in scientific discoveries.
- c) To show that even the greatest scientists had to deal with the ethics
- d) To emphasize the role of ethics in genetic engineering.

**Q 8.** What does the term "balance" , as used in the last line of the passage, refer to in the context of the passage?

- a) The equilibrium between the benefits and risks of scientific discoveries.
- b) The alignment of science and ethics with the natural order of life.
- c) The trade-off between the scientific and social goals of research.

- d)** The integration of science and ethics in decision-making processes.

**Directions for questions 1 to 24:** Read the passages given below and answer the questions that follow.

### Passage – 3

Embarking on an exploration of the vast world of music takes us on a journey through the rich tapestry of melodies and rhythms that have echoed through time and cultures. From the classical compositions of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Ludwig van Beethoven to the revolutionary sounds of 20th-century jazz and rock, music serves as a universal language that transcends boundaries and speaks to the human soul. The classical era, which spanned the 18th century, was characterized by the excellence and sophistication of composers like Mozart and Beethoven. Their works, such as symphonies, operas, and piano sonatas, demonstrated the artistic potential and complexity of orchestrated music.

As we moved into the 20th century, the world of music experienced a seismic shift with the birth of jazz. Innovators like Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington ushered in a new era of improvisation, syncopation, and vibrant expressiveness, transforming the musical landscape. The blues, born from the African American experience, became a cornerstone of various genres, influencing everything from rock 'n' roll to hip-hop. The 20th century also saw the rise of iconic figures in popular music, such as Elvis Presley and The Beatles, who revolutionized the way we perceive and consume music. Rock and roll became a cultural phenomenon, reflecting the spirit of rebellion and individualism that defined the era.

Contemporary music embraces a diverse range of genres, from electronic dance music (EDM) to hip-hop and beyond. Artists like Beyoncé and Kendrick Lamar not only dominate the charts but also use their platform to address social issues, showcasing the power of music as a form of cultural commentary. Today, technology has democratized music production, allowing artists to create and share their work globally. Streaming platforms offer unprecedented access to a vast catalogue of musical genres, fostering a global exchange of sounds and influences. To sum up, the journey through the history of music is a mesmerizing exploration of human creativity and expression. From the classical symphonies of Mozart to the improvisational brilliance of jazz and the electrifying beats of contemporary genres, music continues to evolve, shaping our cultural landscapes and resonating with the emotions and experiences of people across the world.

**Q 9.** How are the new age artists using their music platform as per the author?

- a)** By emphasizing improvisation and syncopation in music.
- b)** By transforming our perception and consumption of music.
- c)** By increasing their reach to diverse range of audiences.
- d)** By engaging with social concerns and offering cultural analysis.

**Q 10.** Which of the following words best describe the impact of "Technology" on music?

- a) Liberated      b) Emaciated      c) Monopolized      d) Standardized

**Q 11.** Why does the author mention that the world of music experienced a "seismic" shift in the 20th century

- a) Because jazz made the classical era music obsolete.  
 b) Because jazz and blues introduced new elements and influences to music.  
 c) Because rock and roll caused a political and social upheaval.  
 d) Because technology enabled mass production and distribution of music.

**Q 12.** "The blues became a cornerstone of various genres". In the given phrase, what does the word "cornerstone" signify?

- a) A basic element      b) A musical style      c) A historical event      d)  
 A cultural group or identity

**Directions for questions 1 to 24:** Read the passages given below and answer the questions that follow.

#### Passage – 4

The environmental crisis facing our world today is not merely a crisis of climate change or pollution, but rather a crisis of environmental sustainability for future generations. The primary distinction between developed nations and developing countries is the level of sustainable practices and technologies implemented. Developed nations, having progressed through industrial revolutions, have begun adopting greener technologies and policies, but developing countries often lack the resources or infrastructure to follow suit.

A growing environmental consciousness has taken root globally since the turn of the century. People are increasingly demanding sustainable and eco-friendly practices. This demand has led to significant advancements in renewable energy, waste management, and sustainable agriculture. However, the challenge of ensuring environmental sustainability for the economically disadvantaged is far more complex.

In many parts of the world, impoverished communities are the most affected by environmental degradation. They often live in areas with high pollution, limited access to clean water, and are more vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Additionally, these communities usually lack the financial resources to implement green technologies or adapt to changing environmental conditions. In many developing nations, poor communities are disproportionately affected by industrial pollution and have limited means to seek legal or governmental intervention.

The perspective on environmental issues varies greatly between social strata. For instance, a farmer in a developing country might view climate change as an immediate threat to their livelihood due to unpredictable weather patterns and crop failures. In contrast, an urban dweller in a developed country might see climate change as a more abstract, long-term issue. These differing viewpoints often lead to conflicting priorities and approaches in addressing environmental challenges.

Thus, while considerable progress has been made in certain areas such as renewable energy adoption, electric vehicle proliferation, and increased recycling efforts, the challenge remains to make these advancements accessible and beneficial for all segments of society, especially the poor. Bridging this gap requires not only technological innovation but also policy initiatives that prioritize environmental justice and ensure that the benefits of a greener world are shared equitably.

**Q 13.** The author of the passage is most likely to agree with which of the following statements?

- a) Climate change is a long-term issue, not an immediate threat for human beings.
- b) Developed nations have completely solved their environmental sustainability issues.
- c) Underprivileged populations face the greatest challenges from environmental decay.
- d) Economic disadvantage does not complicate environmental sustainability.

**Q 14.** Which of the following words best describes the perspective on environmental issues of the urban dweller in a developed country as described in the fourth paragraph?

- a) Pressing
- b) Theoretical
- c) Risky
- d) Threatening

**Q 15.** Which factor is most likely to influence the perspective of a farmer in a developing country on environmental issues, based on the information given in the fourth paragraph?

- a) How much the farmer knows and cares about the environment.
- b) How easy and cheap it is for the farmer to use green technologies.
- c) How badly the farmer's land is affected by natural disasters.
- d) How the farmer's country is governed and regulated on environmental issues.

**Q 16.** Which statement best captures the essential requirements for achieving widespread environmental sustainability?

- a) Green policies and technologies for both rich and poor nations.
- b) Demanding sustainable practices from governments and corporations globally.
- c) Fair and just environmental outcomes and benefits for all people.
- d) Green solutions and adaptation for low-income communities.

**Directions for questions 1 to 24:** Read the passages given below and answer the questions that follow.

### Passage – 5

It was a throbbing ache from the lower right molar that vexed me, attended by the dentist whose scandalous escapades were the silent buzz of our small town. With a cluck of his tongue and a murmur of "decay," he brandished the drill, his bare hands unsettling my nerves for lack of gloves or mask. His assistant, a fresh face with curls dark as midnight, fitted me with a lavender-hued mask, releasing laughing gas into my system as she arranged her array of sharp, gleaming tools. The nitrous oxide, rather than clouding my mind, seemed to seep into my limbs, rendering them heavy, detached, as if I were adrift.

The drill's whir came next, a prelude to my dentist's invasive dance with decay. Anticipation of pain sparked a reflexive shudder, but each inhale lulled me deeper into a tranquil void. Again, and again, I surrendered to the breath's embrace, each time sinking further into serenity. Yet, something was amiss. The drill's song persisted, yet my world spun with it, trapped in a singular, drawn-out "Whee!" as the assistant's words morphed into garbled echoes. I was sliding, not into peace, but towards something primal, a sound - the universe's undying hum, a backdrop we seldom perceive.

This hum, it dawned on me amidst the gas-induced haze, was the whisper of my own mortality, a constant companion veiled by life's cacophony, now unveiled as I inhaled death's nearing shadow. This realization painted death as a persistent, dark hound in pursuit across time, its inevitable embrace a forgotten certainty. The persistent drone, I soon understood, was the flatline's static cry; a herald of oblivion where concerns dissolve into endless nothingness. Amidst this void, the assistant's repeated inquiry, "Are you all right?" bounced around me, a tether back to reality.

A surge of will propelled me from the chair, disrupting the procedure in a desperate bid to escape the nitrous embrace. Reality stuttered, replaying moments like a jammed film reel until clarity began to seep back, dispelling the fog of near oblivion. Standing beside the dental chair, gripping the light's stand for support, I was met with the dentist's reassurance, his hand extended in a gesture of calm. "Everything is okay," he affirmed. "Everything is all right." In this brush with the infinite, where the mundane met the profound, I was reminded of the delicate balance between being and nothingness, each breath a temporary stay against the quiet wait of our ever-loyal shadow.

**Q 17.** What does the "invasive dance with decay" most likely refer to in the passage?

- a) The gradual deterioration of the patient's dental health over time.
- b) The dentist's methodical approach to addressing the dental issue.
- c) The patient's feeling of vulnerability and exposure during the procedure.
- d) The precision and focus required by dental procedures.

**Q 18.** What can be inferred about the patient's very first reaction to the nitrous oxide based on the details in the passage?

- a) The patient experienced the expected psychological effects of nitrous oxide.
- b) The patient found the nitrous oxide to be an ineffective method of distraction from the procedure.
- c) The nitrous oxide had a primarily physical rather than psychological effect on the patient.
- d) The patient was resistant to the effects of nitrous oxide, maintaining clarity of thought.

**Q 19.** Which of the following words can replace the words "veiled by life's cacophony" mentioned in the third paragraph?

- |                                    |                                    |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| a) obscured by the life's harmony. | b) overshadowed by routine bustle. |
| c) masked by daily discord.        | d) hidden beneath usual noise.     |

**Q 20.** Which of the following accurately captures the essence of the author's realization, as indicated by the passage's concluding line?

- a) Life's simplicity is overshadowed by the complexity of existence.
- b) The inevitability of death underscores every moment of life.
- c) Every breath is a victory in the face of oblivion.
- d) Existence and nonexistence are balanced in a delicate dance.

**Directions for questions 1 to 24:** Read the passages given below and answer the questions that follow.

#### Passage – 6

High school student Gracie Cunningham posted a harmless TikTok video. The adolescent asked if arithmetic is "real" while applying makeup to the camera. She said, "I know it's real, because we all learn it in school... but who came up with this concept?" She says Pythagoras "didn't even have plumbing-and he was like, 'Let me worry about  $y = mx + b$ '"-the equation for a straight line on a two-dimensional plane. She pondered its origins. "I get addition," she responded, "but how would you come up with algebra? For what?"

Cunningham had unwittingly re-ignited a very ancient and unresolved debate in the philosophy of science. What, exactly, is math? Is it invented, or discovered? And are the things that mathematicians work with-numbers, algebraic equations, geometry, theorems, and so on-real?

Platonism holds that mathematical truths await discovery. Plato, an ancient Greek philosopher, believed mathematical truths lived in a non-physical realm of unchanging perfection outside of space and time. British mathematician Roger Penrose is a Platonist. "To be some profound reality about these mathematical concepts, going quite beyond the mental deliberations of any particular

mathematician," he wrote in *The Emperor's New Mind*. Instead, human cognition is led toward some external truth-a truth with its own reality..."

Many mathematicians seem to support this view. The things they've discovered over the centuries—that there is no highest prime number; that the square root of two is an irrational number; that the number pi, when expressed as a decimal, goes on forever—seem to be eternal truths, independent of the minds that found them.

"I believe that the only way to make sense of mathematics is to believe that there are objective mathematical facts, and that they are discovered by mathematicians," says James Robert Brown. "Working mathematicians overwhelmingly are Platonists."

Scholars in different fields are skeptical of Platonism. Scientists are empiricists, believing the cosmos is formed of things we can touch, taste, and learn about through observation and experiment. Empiricists are uncomfortable with the idea of something "outside of space and time" since it sounds like religious believers talking about God, which was long exiled from scientific discourse.

**Q 21.** Which of the following best summarizes the passage?

a)

This passage investigates the debate between empiricism and Platonic ideas on the beginnings of mathematics and the question of whether or not mathematics is discovered or invented.

b)

Mathematics exists only in human cognition. This approach denies mathematical facts exist independently of the human mind.

c)

Platonism challenges universally accepted mathematical truths by proposing that mathematical notions are open to interpretation and can differ depending on who is doing the interpreting.

d)

Mathematicians reject Platonism and support empiricism, which matches scientific inquiry's tangible and observable nature. Philosophers also reject Platonism in favor of empiricism

**Q 22.** Which of the following best captures the style of writing of the passage?

- a) Factual                  b) Argumentative                  c) Narrative                  d) Analytical

**Q 23.** A suitable title for the passage would be

- a) The Philosophical Puzzle of Mathematics: Invention or Discovery?  
 b) The Epic Battle: Platonism versus Empirical Views on the Invention of Mathematics  
 c) Unraveling the Mysteries: The Eternal Debate of Math's Origin and Existence  
 d) Mathematics: A Figment of Imagination or a Universal Truth?

**Q 24.** Which of the following can be inferred based on the passage?

**a)**

There is a prominent shift among mathematicians in favor of empiricism, highlighting the palpable nature of scientific inquiry and dismissing abstract theories.

**b)**

In the context of the debate, the philosophical questions arising are limited to the realm of mathematics and do not extend to fundamental inquiries into knowledge, reality, and the connection between concrete ideas and the material world.

**c)**

The concept of mathematical notions being open to interpretation and varying depending on the interpreter is a proposition put forth within the context of the debate.

**d)**

Discordant opinions persist regarding the objectivity or subjectivity of mathematical truths, raising concerns about the impact of varying interpretations on mathematical concepts.

## Current Affairs Including General Knowledge

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### Passage – 1

In a significant ruling on February 15, the Supreme Court scrapped the Electoral Bonds scheme. A five-judge bench comprising Chief Justice of India, DY Chandrachud, Justices Sanjiv Khanna, BR Gavai, JB Pardiwala, and Manoj Misra delivered a unanimous verdict. Introduced in 2017, Electoral Bonds allowed individuals and corporate entities to donate unlimited sums of money to political parties anonymously through financial instruments.

Electoral bonds issued by individuals or entities were eligible for tax exemptions under Section 80GG and Section 80GGB of the Income Tax Act, 1961. Following the Supreme Court's ruling, a question arises regarding whether firms and individuals can still avail of income tax benefits

"Political parties could accept donations through these bonds as per the provisions of Section 13A of the Income Tax Act. Following the judgment and the Supreme Court's directive to the [1] to cease issuing electoral bonds, there is uncertainty regarding whether firms and individuals can still avail tax benefits for donations made during the fiscal year FY 23-24," The apex court instructed the [1] to cease issuance immediately. Additionally, the bank was required to provide the Election Commission (EC) with the names of bond purchasers, purchase dates, and donation amounts by March 6.

**Q 25.** Which of the following banks has been redacted with [1] in the passage above?

**a)** State Bank of India    **b)** Canara Bank

**c)** Union Bank of India- **d)**

Punjab National Bank

**Q 26.** The sale of the first batch of electoral bonds started on \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) March 1-10, 2016    b) March 1-10, 2017    c) March 1-10, 2018    d) March 1-10, 2019

**Q 27.** Registered political parties that have secured not less than \_\_\_\_\_ % of the votes polled in the last Lok Sabha or Legislative Assembly election are eligible to receive funding through electoral bonds.

- a) 1%                          b) 5%                          c) 10%                          d) 15%

**Q 28.** What is the minimum denomination of Electoral Bonds sold by the [1] bank?

- a) Rs 1,000                          b) Rs 10,000                          c) Rs 1 crore                          d) Rs 1 lakh

**Q 29.** Which of the following statements is/are true regarding the Electoral Bonds?

- a) These bonds shall be valid for fifteen calendar days from the date of issue.

b)

No payment shall be made to any payee Political Party if the Electoral Bond is deposited after expiry of the validity period.

c)

These bonds are deposited by an eligible Political Party in its account shall be credited on the same day.

- d) All of the above

**Q 30.** The Supreme Court of India has long held that the "right to know", especially in the context of elections, is an integral part of the \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) freedom of expression                          b) freedom of assembly                          c) freedom of movement                          d) All of the above

## Passage – 2

Hollywood's biggest stars celebrated the best films from the past year at the 2024 Oscars on 11 March 2024 night. "[1]" won the biggest awards of the night, with the film's director, [2], taking home the best director Oscar, actor [3] winning the best actor award, and the film earning the coveted best picture among its seven overall wins.

The film, which was the most-nominated film at the 2024 Oscars with 13 nominations, also won the Oscar for best supporting actor for Robert Downey Jr., best film editing, best cinematography and best original score. Emma Stone took home the best actress prize for her performance as Bella Baxter in Yorgos Lanthimos' "Poor Things." "Poor Things" also won awards in several design-focused categories, including best costume design, best production design and best makeup and hairstyling. Da'Vine Joy Randolph won best supporting actress for her role in "The Holdovers." Jimmy Kimmel hosted the 96th Academy Awards live on from the Dolby Theatre at Ovation Hollywood.

**Q 31.** Which of the following films won the most awards at the 2024 Oscars which has been redacted with [1] in the passage above?

- a) Rustin
- b) Maestro
- c) Oppenheimer
- d) Killers of the Flower Moon

**Q 32.** Who among the following won the Oscar for Best Director at the 2024 Oscars whose name has been redacted with [2] in the passage above?

- a) Yorgos Lanthimos
- b) Christopher Nolan
- c) Justine Triet.
- d) Jonathan Glazer

**Q 33.** Who among the following won the Oscar for Best Actor at the 2024 Oscars whose name has been redacted with [3] in the passage above?

- a) Bradley Cooper
- b) Cillian Murphy
- c) Colman Domingo
- d) Paul Giamatti

**Q 34.** Which of the following films won the Oscar for Best Picture at the 2024 Oscars which has been redacted with [1] in the passage above?

- a) Maestro
- b) Past Lives
- c) Oppenheimer
- d) The Zone of Interest

**Q 35.** Which of the following presents the Academy Awards (Oscars) annually?

- a) Hollywood Foreign Press Association (HFPA)
- b) Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS)
- c) Directors Academy of Oscars
- d) American Academy of Screen Motion Picture Arts

**Q 36.** Which of the following films had a significant presence in the Oscar race last year from India?

- a) To Kill a Tiger
- b) The Indrani Mukerjea Story: Buried Truth
- c) RRR
- d) Beyond All Boundaries

### Passage – 3

Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Labour and Employment Shri Bhupender Yadav said on the eve of World Wetlands Day 2024, India has increased its tally of Ramsar sites (Wetlands of International Importance) to 80 from existing 75 by designating five more wetlands as Ramsar sites. In a post Shri Yadav said he met Dr Musonda Mumba, the Secretary General of Ramsar Convention who handed over the certificates of the aforesaid five sites.

Shri Yadav said the emphasis Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji has put on environmental protection and conservation has led to a paradigm shift in how India treats its wetlands. He said this

reflects in the Amrit Dharohar initiative envisioned by PM Modi. Three of these sites, Ankasamudra Bird Conservation Reserve, Aghanashini Estuary and Magadi Kere Conservation Reserve are located in [1] whereas two, Karaivetti Bird Sanctuary and Longwood Shola Reserve Forest are in [2]. With the addition of these five wetlands to List of Wetlands of International Importance, the total area covered under Ramsar sites is now 1.33 million ha which is an increase of 5,523.87 ha from existing area (of 1.327 million ha).

**Q 37.** India has increased its tally of Ramsar sites (Wetlands of International Importance) to 80 from existing 75 by designating five more wetlands as Ramsar sites. Three of these 5 sites, Ankasamudra Bird Conservation Reserve, Aghanashini Estuary and Magadi Kere Conservation Reserve are located in [1]. Which of the following states has been redacted with [1] in the passage above?

- a) Kerala
- b) Karnataka
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Telangana

**Q 38.** India has increased its tally of Ramsar sites (Wetlands of International Importance) to 80 from existing 75 by designating five more wetlands as Ramsar sites. Two of these 5 sites, Karaivetti Bird Sanctuary and Longwood Shola Reserve Forest are located in [2]. Which of the following states has been redacted with [2] in the passage above?

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Kerala
- c) Karnataka
- d) Andhra Pradesh

**Q 39.** When did India ratify the Ramsar Convention?

- a) 2nd February 1982
- b) 1st February 1982
- c) 2nd February 1971
- d) 1st February 1971

**Q 40.** What is the theme of World Wetlands Day (WWD) 2024?

- a) Wetlands Conservation and Restoration
- b) Wetlands and Human Wellbeing
- c) Wetlands and Biodiversity
- d) Wetlands and Climate Change

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Shri Yadav said the emphasis Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji has put on environmental protection and conservation has led to a paradigm shift in how India treats its wetlands. He said this reflects in the Amrit Dharohar initiative envisioned by PM Modi. Three of these sites, Ankasamudra Bird Conservation Reserve, Aghanashini Estuary and Magadi Kere Conservation Reserve are located in [1] whereas two, Karaivetti Bird Sanctuary and Longwood Shola Reserve Forest are in [2]. With the addition of these five wetlands to List of Wetlands of International Importance, the total area covered

under Ramsar sites is now 1.33 million ha which is an increase of 5,523.87 ha from existing area (of 1.327 million ha).

**Q 41.** Where is the national World Wetlands Day event being organized in India in 2024?

- a) Mumbai
- b) New Delhi
- c) Indore
- d) Chennai

**Q 42.** Which of the following states has maximum number of Ramsar Sites as on March20, 2024?

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Kerala
- c) Uttar Pradesh
- d) Maharashtra

#### Passage – 4

Sweden formally joined NATO as the 32nd member of the transatlantic military alliance, ending decades of post-World War II neutrality as concerns about Russian aggression in Europe have spiked following Russia's 2022 invasion of Ukraine. Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson and Secretary of State Antony Blinken presided at a ceremony in which Sweden's "instrument of accession" to the alliance was officially deposited at the State Department.

"This is a historic moment for Sweden. It's historic for the alliance. It's history for the transatlantic relationship," Blinken said. "Our NATO alliance is now stronger, larger than it's ever been." Kristersson wrote in a social media post that "we are therefore a safer country". Kristersson visited the White House and then be a guest of honor at President Joe Biden's State of the Union address to Congress. The White House said that having Sweden as a NATO ally "will make the United States and our allies even safer." "NATO is the most powerful defensive alliance in the history of the world, and it is as critical today to ensuring the security of our citizens as it was 75 years ago when our alliance was founded out of the wreckage of World War II," it said in a statement.

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg described it as "a historic day." "Sweden will now take its rightful place at NATO's table, with an equal say in shaping NATO policies and decisions," he said in a statement. The Swedish flag will be raised outside the military organization's headquarters in Brussels on Monday. Stoltenberg underscored that the Nordic country "now enjoys the protection granted under Article 5, the ultimate guarantee of allies' freedom and security." Article 5 of NATO's treaty obliges all members to come to the aid of an ally whose territory or security is under threat. It has only been activated once - by the U.S. after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks - and is the collective security guarantee that Sweden has sought since Russia invaded Ukraine.

**Q 43.** What was the primary reason cited for Sweden's decision to join NATO?

- a) Concerns about Russian aggression in Europe
- b)

Desire for stronger economic ties with NATO countries

- c) Pressure from other NATO members

**d)**

Long-standing military partnership with the United States

**Q 44.** What guarantee does Article 5 of NATO's treaty provide?

- a)** Economic support for member countries
- b)** Cultural and Political exchange programs
- c)** Military aid in case of an attack on a member's territory or security
- d)** Environmental protection measures

**Q 45.** Where did the Swedish flag be raised to mark its official membership in NATO?

- a)** London
- b)** Brussels
- c)** Stockholm
- d)** Washington, D. C.

**Q 46.** How many times has Article 5 of NATO's treaty been activated?

- a)** Once
- b)** Twice
- c)** Thrice
- d)** Never

**Q 47.** Which event did Ulf Kristersson attend as a guest of honor after the ceremony?

- a)** United Nations General Assembly
- b)** European Union Summit
- c)** State of the Union address to Congress
- d)** G7 Summit

**Q 48.** What did the USA say about Sweden's membership in NATO?

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>a)</b>  | <b>b)</b>   |
| It will make the United States and its allies less safe. | It will not affect the security dynamics in Europe.       |
| <b>c)</b>  | It will make the United States and its allies even safer. |
| <b>d)</b>  | It will strain relations between NATO members.            |

### Passage – 5

India ranked 7th in this year's Climate Change Performance Index, up one spot from the previous one, and also remained among the highest performers, according to the report released in Dubai during the global climate talks COP28. Monitoring Climate Mitigation Efforts of 63 Countries plus the EU - covering more than 90 per cent of the Global Greenhouse Gas Emissions, India has received a high ranking in the greenhouse gas Emissions and Energy Use categories, but a medium in Climate Policy and Renewable Energy, as in the previous year. While India is the world's most populous country, it has relatively low per capita emissions, the index said. "Our data shows that in the per capita GHG category, the country is on track to meet a benchmark of well below 2 degrees Celsius. While it shows

a slightly positive trend in the share of renewable energy, this trend is advancing too slowly," the report based on the index said.

The Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) country experts reported that India is trying to meet its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), with clear long-term policies in place that focus on promoting renewable energy and providing financial support for domestic manufacturing of renewable energy components. Despite that, India's growing energy needs are still being met by its heavy reliance on coal, along with oil and gas, the report pointed out. "This dependence is a major source of greenhouse gas emissions and causes severe air pollution, especially in the cities," it said. India has relatively high taxes on petrol and diesel, which are intended to act as carbon taxes. The impact of these taxes on consumption remains disputed. "While some experts describe them as an effective tool to reduce the consumption of petrol and diesel, others point to the high dependence of the government on these tax revenues," the report said.

**Q 49.** What is India's rank in the Green House Gases (GHG) Emissions category in CCPI2024?

- a)** 5th
- b)** 7th
- c)** 9th
- d)** 10th

**Q 50.** Which of the following organizations publishes the Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) annually?

- a)** United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and UNEP
- b)** Germanwatch, the NewClimate Institute, and Climate Action Network International
- c)** United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and World Bank
- d)** United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and International Monetary Fund

**Q 51.** Which of the following countries showcased poorer performances compared to CCPI2023?

- a)** Developing countries
- b)** Developed countries including the United Kingdom, the United States, and Italy
- c)** Emerging economies
- d)** Low-income countries

**Q 52.** How many countries secured an overall "very high" rating in CCPI 2024?

- a)** 0
- b)** 1
- c)** 2
- d)** 3

## Legal Reasoning

**Directions for questions 53 to 84:** You have been given some passages followed by questions based on each passage. You are required to choose the most appropriate option which follows from

the passage.

### **Passage – 1**

Acceptance is a pivotal element in forming a contract, transforming an offer into a binding promise and establishing reciprocal obligations among the parties involved. Under the Indian Contract Act of 1872, acceptance is the unconditional assent to a proposal, as stated in Section 2(h). For acceptance to be considered valid, it must be absolute, unqualified, and aligned with the conditions set forth by the offer.

Section 7 of the Act emphasizes that acceptance must not alter the terms of the offer; any variation would amount to a counter-proposal, thus negating the original contract unless the counter-proposal is subsequently accepted. Moreover, the act of acceptance must originate from the offeror or an authorized agent. Otherwise, it lacks legal standing.

The same section further specifies that the mode of acceptance should adhere to the offer's stipulated method or, in the absence of such instructions, should be executed in a customary and reasonable manner. Should the acceptance deviate from the prescribed manner, the proposer is entitled to demand compliance within a reasonable timeframe; failure to do so results in a void acceptance.

Timing is also crucial, as the acceptance must be communicated within a reasonable period to be effective. Responses to inquiries alone do not constitute an offer or acceptance, as there needs to be a clear intent to establish legal obligations. Lastly, the Act acknowledges two forms of acceptance: express and implied. Express acceptance is clearly stated, whether in writing or verbally, whereas implied acceptance is deduced from the actions or conduct of the parties, suggesting an intention to uphold the offer's terms.

**Q 53.** D wanted to sell his car to X for 5 lakh rupees. He made the offer to X by a registered letter. X agreed to buy the car but quoted 4 lakh rupees in his letter of acceptance to D. Is there a valid acceptance in the given case?

- a) Yes, there is a valid acceptance in the given case.
- b) No, there is no valid acceptance in the given case.
- c) No, there is no valid acceptance in the given case as D has quoted an unreasonable amount.
- d)

Yes, there is a valid acceptance as X has intention to buy the car. Intention alone constitutes validity of an acceptance.

**Q 54.** D wanted to sell his car to X for 5 lakh rupees. D sent a letter offering to sell his car. After 6 months Y accepts the offer. By then, D had already sold the car to somebody else. Is there a valid acceptance in the given case?

- a) Yes, there is a valid acceptance in the given case and D has breached the contract.

**b)** No, there is no valid acceptance in the given case as X did not follow the mode of acceptance.

**c)** No, there is no valid acceptance in the given case.

**d)**

Yes, there is valid acceptance in the given case as all the requirements of an acceptance have been fulfilled.

**Q 55.** D wanted to sell his car to X for 5 lakh rupees. D sent a letter offering to sell his car. D also specified that the acceptance must be communicated only via letter. X sent an email accepting the offer of D. Is there a valid acceptance in the given case?

**a)** No, there is no valid acceptance in the given case.

**b)** Yes, there is valid acceptance in the given case as letter and mail or almost the same.

**c)** Yes, there is a valid acceptance as D cannot specify the mode of acceptance under contract laws.

**d)** Both (b) and (c)

**Q 56.** Which of the following statements is true with respect to the above given passage?

**a)** Acceptance has to be absolute and qualified in order to become a valid acceptance.

**b)** It is to be noted that it is not the acceptance alone that converts the offer into a promise.

**c)** A mere answer to a question will not constitute either an offer or acceptance.

**d)** Definition of acceptance has been given in the section 2(e) of the Indian contract act.

**Directions for questions 53 to 84:** You have been given some passages followed by questions based on each passage. You are required to choose the most appropriate option which follows from the passage.

## Passage – 2

The right to free speech and expression is not an absolute right and is subject to reasonable restrictions.

As per Article 19(2), restrictions can be imposed upon the freedom of speech and expression in the interests of:

- (1) sovereignty and integrity of India,
- (2) the security of the state,
- (3) friendly relations with foreign states,
- (4) public order, decency or morality, or
- (5) in relation to contempt of court,
- (6) defamation, or
- (7) incitement to an offense.

Article 19 also covers freedom of holding assembly. The object of holding an assembly or a meeting is

the propagation of ideas and to educate the public. Hence, the right to assemble is a necessary corollary of the right to free speech and expression. Article 19(1)(b) provides for the right to assemble peaceably and without arms. This includes the right to hold public meetings, hunger strikes, and the right to take out processions. However, the assembly must be peaceful and without arms. It is pertinent to note that there is no right to hold an assembly on government premises or private property belonging to others.

According to Clause 3 of Article 19, the right to freedom of assembly could be restricted on the following grounds:

- (1) In the interests of the sovereignty and integrity of India, or
- (2) In the interests of public order. societies [Article 19(1)(c) and 19(4)]

Article 19(1)(c) provides for the right to form associations, unions or cooperative societies. An association refers to a group of persons who have come together to achieve a certain objective which may be for the benefit of the members of the welfare of the general public or a scientific, charitable or any other purpose. The right to form associations is considered as the lifeblood of democracy, as without such a right, the political parties critical to the functioning of a democracy cannot be formed. The right to form associations and unions includes the right to form companies, societies, trade unions, partnership firms and clubs, etc. The right is not confined to the mere formation of an association but includes its establishment, administration and functioning as well.

**Q 57.** X was a singer. Once X wrote a rap song after being inspired by one of his ideals Tupac. The rap contained explicit words and phrases which objectified and sexualised women. The song was soon restricted by the concerned authority. X claims that his fundamental right to speech and expression are being violated. Decide.

**a)**

Yes, the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression of X is being violated in the given case.

**b)**

No, the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression is subject to public order, decency and morality.

**c)**

No, the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression is subject to friendly relations with the foreign states.

**d)**

No, the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression is subject to the security of the nation.

**Q 58.** X was a singer. Once X wrote a rap song after being inspired by one of his ideals, Tukaram. The rap contained an idea of how India would look if ruled by a communist government. The song was restricted by the authorities. Has the right of X been violated in the given case?

**a)**

Yes, the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression of X is being violated in the given case.

**b)**

No, the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression is subject to incitement of an offense.

**c)**

No, the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression is subject to friendly relations with the foreign states.

**d)**

No, the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression is subject to the security of the nation.

**Q 59.** X was a singer. Once X wrote a rap song after being inspired by one of his ideals Mohammed Bin Gori. The rap contained an idea of how India would be better off occupied by Pakistan. The song was restricted by the authorities. Has the right of X been violated in the given case?

**a)**

No, the song falls under reasonable restriction of freedom of speech and expression under article 19(2).

**b)** Yes, the right of X under article 19(1)(a) has been violated in the given case.

**c)** Yes, the right of X under article 19(1)(b) has been violated in the given case.

**d)** Yes, the right of X under article 19(1)(c) has been violated in the given case.

**Q 60.** Which of the following statements is incorrect in the light of the above given passage?

**a)** Article 19(1)(c) provides the right to form associations.

**b)**

The right to free speech and expression is not an absolute right and is subject to reasonable restrictions

**c)**

An association refers to a group of persons who have come together to achieve a certain objective which may be for the benefit of the members of the welfare of the general public.

**d)** None of the above

**Directions for questions 53 to 84:** You have been given some passages followed by questions based on each passage. You are required to choose the most appropriate option which follows from the passage.

**Passage – 3**

SEBI was established as an autonomous regulator on 12th Apr 1992 with two main purposes - regulating the capital markets and protecting the interests of investors. Today, SEBI has emerged as a multifaceted entity that not only performs these two duties but also strives to promote the capital markets as a safe place by actively engaging in the creation of regulations and guidelines for the participants in the capital markets. SEBI has been established as a corporate entity that has a board of members with a designated chairman heading it. There are a total of 9 representatives on the SEBI board of members. They are as follows: A chairman who is appointed by the government, 2 members who are officers belonging to the Ministry of Finance, 1 member who is appointed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), and 5 members as chosen by the government. The SEBI is held responsible for three groups of market participants:

1. The issuer: Create a level playing field for the companies where they can efficiently and fairly raise funds.
2. The investor: Protect and supply accurate and timely information, and ensure companies make appropriate declarations to the investors so that investors may make informed choices.
3. The market intermediaries: Provide a professional and competitive market to brokers, dealers, and other intermediaries.

Over the years, SEBI has expanded its reach to cover various aspects of the investing process itself that impact the capital markets. The primary objectives of SEBI include the following:

1. Investor protection: SEBI aims to protect investors' interests and rights. It provides guidance and conducts awareness programs so that investors may make informed decisions.
2. Regulating capital markets and prevention of unethical practices: SEBI continuously issues rules and guidelines and keeps a close watch on market players to ensure that they do not engage in unethical practices.
3. Development of the market: SEBI constantly strives to develop and promote market participation by undertaking research and development and providing training to the participants. The functions of SEBI include creation of educational and awareness programs for investors, prohibition of insider trading and other fraudulent trading practices, checking price rigging of stocks and unnatural price movements in the market, keeping a check on price manipulation by unethical traders and investors etc.,

**Q 61.** SEBI is an autonomous body to regulate the securities market in India. Raju was the chairman of SEBI. Shyam was a member belonging to the ministry of Finance. Sam was appointed by SIDBI. Roger and four others were chosen by the government. Out of the constituted committee whose appointment does not fulfil the required criteria? The laws of India are in pari materia with the laws of India.

- a) In the given case, the appointment of Raju is not in compliance with the SEBI Act.
- b) In the given case, the appointment of Sam is not in compliance with the SEBI Act.
- c) In the given case, the appointment of Roger is not in compliance with the SEBI Act.

**d)** In the given case, the appointment of Shyam and Gopu are not in compliance with the SEBI Act.

**Q 62.** X was an investor. X invested in multiple companies and had garnered much profits. X had a stock broker who looked after the investment of X. The stock broker D was a seasoned broker with experience of handling stocks and investment. Once D duped X by acting against the norms of SEBI. Can SEBI interfere and protect the interests of X in the given case?

- a)** No, SEBI cannot interfere as the dealing is between X and D only.
- b)** Yes, SEBI can interfere and protect the interest of X in the given case.
- c)** No, SEBI cannot interfere and protect the interest as it is not covered under SEBI act 1992.
- d)** Yes, SEBI can interfere. However, the interference should only be in the advisory manner.

**Q 63.** X was elected as the chairman of SEBI. X was dedicated to the development of the securities market and was determined to bring in many changes to the industry. X wanted to start with an education and awareness program to ensure that his ideals reached the masses. He proposed the idea and went ahead with implementation. However, certain of his colleagues were ambiguous as to whether the function of SEBI included launching awareness programs. Decide.

- a)** Yes, the function of SEBI includes launching awareness programs and campaigns.
- b)** No, the function of SEBI does not include launching awareness programs and campaigns.
- c)**  
The passage does not explain whether the function of SEBI includes launching awareness programs
- d)** No, the SEBI cannot start an awareness program which is built on the ideal of one individual.

**Q 64.** Which of the following statements is incorrect in the light of the above given passage?

- a)**  
SEBI has been established as a corporate entity that has a board of members with a designated chairman heading it.
- b)**  
Two major purposes of introduction of SEBI are regulating the capital markets and protecting the interests of investors.
- c)**  
SEBI has a responsibility to create a level playing field for the companies where they can efficiently and fairly raise funds.
- d)** None of the above

**Directions for questions 53 to 84:** You have been given some passages followed by questions based on each passage. You are required to choose the most appropriate option which follows from the passage.

## Passage – 4

Abetment, as defined under Section 107 of the Indian Penal Code, involves aiding an offence through one of three distinct acts: instigating, conspiring, or intentionally aiding. Instigation goes beyond mere advice, requiring a deliberate action to incite the commission of a crime, whether through words, gestures, or implications, regardless of whether the instigator harbors a guilty intention. Conspiracy, on the other hand, demands an agreement among parties to commit an offence, paired with a joint preparation for its execution. The final facet, aiding, necessitates an intentional act that facilitates the crime, highlighting the abettor's purposeful intention to assist in the offence. Words spoken in anger or omissions lacking intent do not constitute abetment, as the law necessitates a clear intention to support the wrongdoing. Active participation and a shared unlawful intent underscore the seriousness of conspiring, setting it apart from mere intention. These three components together frame the legal threshold for abetment, mandating an active contribution to the offence, either through influence, collaboration, or direct assistance.

**Q 65.** C and B were classmates. Both were in love with one D. C got to know that D loves B and they were dating. C was in agony hearing this news and was mentally upset and wanted to thrash B. One X gives a machete to C and tells him to take his revenge against B. C kills B with that machete. Has X committed an abetment in the given case?

- a) Yes, X has committed an abetment in the given case.
- b) No, X has not committed an abetment in the given case.
- c) Yes, X has committed an abetment by intentional aid in the given case.
- d) Yes, X has committed an abetment by engaging in a conspiracy to commit crime.

**Q 66.** C and B were classmates. Both were in love with one D. C got to know that D loves B and they were dating. C was in agony hearing this news and was mentally upset and wanted to thrash B. One X tells C that B would go swimming along and B could drown him in the pool and kill him. C kills B in the pool. Has X committed abetment in the given case?

- a) Yes, X has committed abetment by instigation in the given case.
- b) No, X has not committed abetment in the given case.
- c) No, X has not committed abetment as there was no intention to abet C in the given case.
- d)

Yes, X has committed abetment as C borrowed the idea that was given by X and applied the same.

**Directions for questions 53 to 84:** You have been given some passages followed by questions based on each passage. You are required to choose the most appropriate option which follows from the passage.

## Passage – 4

Abetment, as defined under Section 107 of the Indian Penal Code, involves aiding an offence through one of three distinct acts: instigating, conspiring, or intentionally aiding. Instigation goes beyond mere advice, requiring a deliberate action to incite the commission of a crime, whether through words, gestures, or implications, regardless of whether the instigator harbors a guilty intention. Conspiracy, on the other hand, demands an agreement among parties to commit an offence, paired with a joint preparation for its execution. The final facet, aiding, necessitates an intentional act that facilitates the crime, highlighting the abettor's purposeful intention to assist in the offence. Words spoken in anger or omissions lacking intent do not constitute abetment, as the law necessitates a clear intention to support the wrongdoing. Active participation and a shared unlawful intent underscore the seriousness of conspiring, setting it apart from mere intention. These three components together frame the legal threshold for abetment, mandating an active contribution to the offence, either through influence, collaboration, or direct assistance.

**Q 67.** C and B were classmates. Both were in love with one D. C got to know that D loves B and they were dating. C was in agony hearing this news and was mentally upset and wanted to thrash B. One X talking to C mentioned that the route towards the city pool would always be deserted at night time and is a safe haven for criminal activities. Next day, C murdered B on the said route. Is X guilty for abetment in the given case?

- a) Yes, X is guilty of abetment by instigation in the given case.
- b) Yes, X is guilty of abetment by intentional aid in the given case.
- c) Yes, X is guilty of abetment by engaging in a conspiracy.
- d) No, X is not guilty for abetment in the given case.

**Q 68.** Which of the following statements is incorrect in the light of the above given passage?

- a) In common parlance, the word 'abet' signifies help, co-activity and support.
- b) Abetment by intentional aid is given under section 107 of the IC.

c)

Conspiracy basically means an agreement between two or more persons to commit an unlawful act.

d)

The words articulated in an angry state or omission without any intention can also be sometimes termed as instigation.

**Directions for questions 53 to 84:** You have been given some passages followed by questions based on each passage. You are required to choose the most appropriate option which follows from the passage.

### Passage – 5

The Anti-Defection Law, enshrined in the Tenth Schedule of the Indian Constitution, was brought into force by the 52nd Amendment Act of 1985. Its primary purpose is to prevent political defections which may be prompted by the lure of office or other similar considerations. The law applies to both Parliament and state assemblies.

Under this law, a member of a political party may be disqualified from the legislature if they either voluntarily relinquish their party membership or defy the directives of the party leadership on a vote. This is designed to bring stability to the structures of government by discouraging the frequent changes of allegiance by elected members. Notably, the law allows a party to merge with or into another party without subjecting its lawmakers to disqualification, provided that at least two-thirds of its legislators are in favor of the merger.

Moreover, the law specifies the authority of the Speaker or Chairman to rule on questions of disqualification. The law has been a topic of much debate over its potential to curtail dissent within political parties, possibly infringing upon an individual legislator's freedom of speech and expression.

**Q 69.** In a situation where a member of the legislative assembly (MLA) of Party X disagrees with the party's stance on a crucial land reform bill and votes against the party directive, which of the following consequences is most likely to follow according to the Anti-Defection Law?

- a) The MLA will be promoted for showcasing independent thinking.
- b) The MLA will be disqualified from the legislature.
- c) The MLA will be asked to apologize to the party but retain the seat.
- d) The MLA will face no consequences as the right to vote is personal.

**Q 70.** If 60% of the legislative members of Party Y decide to merge with Party Z, according to the Anti-Defection Law, what is the legal status of their membership in the legislature?

- a) They retain their membership as they constitute a majority.
- b) They will be disqualified as they did not meet the required two-thirds majority.
- c) They will be exempt from disqualification since more than half agree to the merger.
- d) They will be subjected to a special review by the Supreme Court of India.

**Q 71.** Rahul, a Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) from Party A, was vocal about his dissatisfaction with the party's decision to support a bill that he believed would negatively impact farmers. Despite his vocal opposition, the party's leadership instructed all members to vote in favor of the bill. On the day of the vote, Rahul abstained from voting. Following the vote, Party A's leadership petitioned the Speaker for Rahul's disqualification based on the ground of defection.

Based on the Anti-Defection Law, what would be the most probable decision of the Speaker regarding Rahul's legislative status?

- a) The Speaker will disqualify Rahul for not following the party's whip.

**b)** The Speaker will not disqualify Rahul as he did not vote against the party, he only abstained.

**c)**

The Speaker will caution Rahul but allow him to retain his seat as he did not vote for the opposition.

**d)** The Speaker will leave the decision to the discretion of the party's leadership.

**Q 72.** Anita, an MLA from Party B, expressed her intention to resign from her party due to ideological differences and join Party C. Before submitting her resignation, she voted in favor of several bills with Party C, going against Party B's stance. Party B sought her disqualification even before her resignation was formally accepted. Considering Anita's actions and the provisions of the Anti-Defection Law, is she at risk of disqualification?

**a)** Yes, because she has voted with another party, signaling her defection from Party B.

**b)** No, because she has not yet formally resigned and joined another party.

**c)**

No, because she is allowed to vote according to her conscience as long as she is not formally a member of another party.

**d)** Yes, but only after her resignation is formally accepted by the Speaker.

**Directions for questions 53 to 84:** You have been given some passages followed by questions based on each passage. You are required to choose the most appropriate option which follows from the passage.

### Passage – 6

Under Indian law, the concept of family maintenance is a fundamental aspect that seeks to ensure that no individual is left destitute due to the inability to maintain themselves. The provisions for maintenance are found in various laws catering to different religions due to India's diverse religious tapestry, as well as in secular laws like the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC), 1973. Section 125 of the CrPC stipulates a legal obligation for a person with sufficient means to provide maintenance to his wife, children, and parents if they are unable to maintain themselves. This section is secular and applies to all irrespective of religion. The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 and the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act, 1956 specifically govern Hindus, which include Buddhists, Jains, and Sikhs, and dictate maintenance rights and obligations. For Muslims, maintenance is governed by personal laws and the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act, 1986. The Act allows for a divorced Muslim woman to receive maintenance during the period of iddat, and any further maintenance would need to be determined as per the CrPC provisions.

The concept of 'stridhan' under Hindu law also plays a role in maintenance, as it includes property and wealth that a woman acquires during her marriage and which she is entitled to keep. Maintenance can be claimed by filing an application in a family court. The quantum of maintenance is determined by the

court based on several factors, including the payor's ability to pay and the recipient's own income and assets.

**Q 73.** Anita filed a maintenance claim against her husband Raj under Section 125 of the CrPC after being divorced. Raj argues that since they are Muslims, the CrPC does not apply to them. Is his argument valid?

- a) Yes, because Muslims are governed by their personal law.
- b) No, because Section 125 of the CrPC is secular and applies to all.
- c) Yes, but only until the period of iddat.
- d) No, because the maintenance claim is post-divorce.

**Q 74.** Sunita, a Hindu woman, is seeking maintenance from her estranged husband. She also claims ownership of her 'stridhan'. Does she have a right to both maintenance and 'stridhan'?

- a) Yes, she has a right to maintenance and 'stridhan' is her property.
- b) No, she can only claim maintenance or 'stridhan', not both.
- c) Yes, but she will only get 'stridhan' if she relinquishes maintenance.
- d) No, 'stridhan' belongs to her husband's family.

**Q 75.** Vikram, a well-to-do businessman, refuses to support his elderly parents. The parents file a case under Section 125 of the CrPC. Can elderly parents seek maintenance from their children under this section?

- a) Yes, if they can prove Vikram has sufficient means and they cannot maintain themselves.
- b) No, this section only applies to wives and children.
- c) Yes, but only if they are suffering from a medical condition.
- d) No, because parents are expected to have their own savings.

**Q 76.** Rohit, who earns a modest income, is required by the court to pay maintenance to his wife and child. He claims that his income is insufficient to maintain them. What factors will the court consider in determining the maintenance amount?

- a) Only Rohit's current income.
- b) Rohit's income, property, and the wife's income and property.
- c) The lifestyle and expenses during the marriage.
- d) Both (b) and (c).

**Directions for questions 53 to 84:** You have been given some passages followed by questions based on each passage. You are required to choose the most appropriate option which follows from the passage.

## Passage – 7

Electronic Contracts (e-Contracts), not explicitly required to be in paper form by the Indian Contract Act, 1872, have gained validity and enforceability akin to traditional paper contracts. This is facilitated by the Information Technology (IT) Act's provisions, especially Section 4, which acknowledges electronic forms and records as satisfying the legal requirement for written documentation if they are accessible and usable for future reference. Furthermore, Section 10A of the IT Act specifies that contracts formed through electronic communication are not inherently unenforceable due to their digital format.

A precedent for this interpretation was set by the Madras High Court in the case of Tamil Nadu Organic Private Ltd v. State Bank of India, affirming that contracts can be legally formed and enforced through electronic means. The IT Act also provides for the authentication of e-Contracts through electronic signatures, which must be recognized as valid by the Central Government and listed in Schedule II of the IT Act, as per sections 3 and 3A. This legal framework supports the use of e-Contracts, offering a modern alternative to paper contracts, and ensures their legal standing in India's digital era.

**Q 77.** X run a construction business. Once one Y approached X seeking his assistance in building a complex. X was known for his expertise in constructing high-class complexes. X agreed for the same. Both the parties had negotiation regarding the contract and they agreed to enter into a contract. X drafted the contract in electronic form which had provision of electronic signatures. Y is ambiguous regarding the validity of this electronic contract. Help Y.

- a) This electronic contract shall be deemed to be valid in the eyes of law.
- b) This electronic contract shall not be deemed to be valid in the eyes of the law.
- c) An electronic contract shall have no legal existence in case of construction contracts.
- d) This electronic contract shall be held valid only if the electronic copy is forwarded to a third party

**Q 78.** X runs a construction business. Once one Y approached X seeking his assistance in building a complex. X was known for his expertise in constructing high-class complexes. X agreed for the same. Both the parties had negotiation regarding the contract and they agreed to enter into a contract. X drafted the contract in electronic form which had provision of electronic signatures.

However, the unique nature of this contract was such that it was not accessible for subsequent references. Decide the validity of the contract.

- a) The contract is invalid as it is an electronic contract.
- b) The contract is valid and has a legal standing in the eyes of law.
- c) The contract is invalid under section 6 of the IT act 2000
- d) The contract is invalid under section 4 of the IT act 2000

**Q 79.** D made an offer to B for the purchase of his car. B accepted the offer on 1st May 2023. The acceptance reached D on 4th May 2023. On 3rd May, B revoked his acceptance in electronic form by the form of an email. Now D is not willing to accept the revocation as the same was made in electronic form. Decide whether the revocation is valid?

- a) The revocation is invalid in the given case.
- b) The revocation is invalid in the given case as the acceptance has not reached D yet.
- c) The revocation is valid in the given case.
- d) Both (a) and (b)

**Q 80.** Ramu lived in the remote village and belonged to one Kosi tribe. Ramu secured a government job and was asked to report for his job in the nearby town. On the first day, Ramu was asked to enter into the contract as the job was on a contractual basis. The contract was in electronic form and Ramu was instructed to authenticate the same. Help Ramu by advising him how an electronic contract can be authenticated.

- a) An electronic contract shall be authenticated by taking a print of the contract.
- b) An electronic contract shall be authenticated by affixing a signature.
- c) An electronic contract shall be authenticated by affixing an electronic signature
- d) An electronic contract cannot be authenticated .

**Directions for questions 53 to 84:** You have been given some passages followed by questions based on each passage. You are required to choose the most appropriate option which follows from the passage.

#### Passage – 8

"What is cruelty in one case may not be the same for another." It added, "It has to be applied from person to person while taking note of the attending circumstances." Along with this, the SC observed that "... an element of subjectivity has to be applied albeit, what constitutes cruelty is objective. Therefore, what is cruelty for a woman in a given case may not be cruelty for a man, and a relatively more elastic and broad approach is required when we examine a case in which a wife seeks divorce." Cruelty generally means the matrimonial act which causes pain and distress of any kind such as physical, mental, economical to others. It could be series/persistent act or one weighty act of cruelty that could be a ground for divorce. Before The Marriage Laws (Amendment) Act 1976, cruelty was the only ground of judicial separation. Under this provision, the word 'cruelty' is used in a very restricted sense that 'if any party treats the other with such cruelty which causes reasonable apprehension in the mind of the other that it is injurious and harmful for him/her to live with the other, then it becomes the valid ground for judicial separation'. But after the amendment in 1976, the wordings of this section "as to cause a reasonable apprehension in the mind of others that it is harmful and injurious for him to live with another party" was changed. By adding subclause (i-a) in section 13(1)(i) cruelty became the

ground of divorce too. However, there are some exceptions to cruelty:

- Condonation by the victim party - According to this Section, if any party after filing the petition of divorce, does any act which amounts to condonation of cruelty, then this may become sufficient ground for any Court to cancel his petition for divorce.
- Effect of Condonation of Cruelty- In any proceeding whether defended or not, if any party to the case has condemned the cruelty then the Court would cancel his/her petition of the divorce.
- The fountain of love and affection - This provision simply casts a duty on the Court to check or test whether the fountain of love and affection between the parties is totally dried up or not before granting any decree of divorce. If it is not, then the Court makes every effort to bring the parties to reconciliation. However, it is difficult to know the same.

**Q 81.** H, wife of J for 5 years was not happy in her marriage. She used to constantly threaten J and his family that she'll commit suicide and they'll be responsible for instigating her. J was tired of the constant bickering and threatening. He filed for divorce on the ground of mental cruelty.

Decide.

a) J should be awarded divorce because constant threat of suicide constitutes mental cruelty.

b)

J should be awarded divorce because he was not happy with the constant bickering and threatening.

c)

This is not a case of mental cruelty, because it is clear that H is just threatening them, and would not never take such a step.

d)

This is a case of mental cruelty for H, because she was not happy in the marriage, to the point that she threatened to commit suicide.

**Q 82.** H, wife of J for 5 years was not happy in her marriage. She would publicly make false allegation on J of physical and mental torture. J was tired of the constant humiliation that he felt because of all the false allegations. He filed for divorce on the ground of mental cruelty. Decide.

a) This is a case of mental cruelty because, J was tired of their relationship.

b) This is a case of mental cruelty because H would publicly make false accusation against J.

c) This is not a case of mental cruelty because the allegations made were false.

d) This is not a case of mental cruelty because both of them were in an unhappy marriage.

**Q 83.** L and P were married for a year now. L was an aspiring medical student and was preparing for medical examinations. However, L had to look after some of the household chores, because all other members in the family were working and had to leave for their offices early.

Therefore, she could not get enough time for her studies. L filed a case for divorce on the ground of mental cruelty. Decide.

a) This is a case of cruelty, as L has to sacrifice her studies for household chores of her in-laws.

**b)** This is a case of cruelty, as L was treated as a house help.

**c)**

This is not a case of cruelty because it is usual to ask members of the family to help in the household chores.

**d)** This is not a case of cruelty, because no other member could do the chores, as all are working.

**Q 84.** A was married to B in the year 1970. After 5 years of their marriage B started beating and torturing his wife. Appalled by this, A contacted her lawyer to seek a legal remedy. Advise A about the legal options which can be availed by her.

**a)** A can file a suit for divorce on the ground of physical cruelty against B.

**b)** A can file a suit for judicial separation on the ground of physical cruelty against B.

**c)** A cannot file any suit on the ground of physical cruelty against B.

**d)** Both (a) and (b).

## Logical Reasoning

**Directions for questions 85 to 108:** Read the passages and answer the questions that follow.

### Passage – 1

Imagine you have just been assigned as a consultant for a school that is struggling with low academic performance and student engagement. The school offers a variety of courses, and the management is concerned about the learning outcomes and retention of the students. Your task is to evaluate the current curriculum and pedagogy and propose changes to enhance the quality and relevance of the education. As you begin your assessment, you gather feedback and observe the following:

- The school has a high dropout rate of students, who often lose interest or face difficulties in their studies.
- The school has a low enrolment rate of students, who often prefer other schools or online platforms that offer more choices and flexibility.
- The school has a low score on standardized tests, which reflect the gaps and weaknesses in the curriculum and instruction.
- The school's competitors have adopted innovative approaches and tools, such as project-based learning, gamification, and adaptive learning, which engage and motivate the students and improve their skills and knowledge.
- The school's teachers and students have reported a lack of feedback, support, and interaction, which affect the effectiveness and enjoyment of the learning process.
- The school has a high ratio of students to teachers, which limits the individual attention and

guidance that the students receive.

- The school has a low level of parental involvement and community engagement, which reduces the support and accountability of the students and the school.

**Q 85.** What could be the main advantage of the project-based learning, which is adopted by the school's competitors?

- a) It lowers student dropout rate.
- b) It boosts scores in the standardized tests.
- c) It develops their problem-solving skills.
- d) It enhances parental and community involvement.

**Q 86.** What could be the best possible solution for the school to adopt immediately?

- a) Increase the number of teachers and reduce the class size.
- b) Implement a learning model that combines online and face-to-face instruction.
- c) Revise the curriculum and align it with the standards and the students' needs.
- d) Involve the parents and the community in the school's activities and decision-making.

**Q 87.** Which of the following best sums up the most critical issue that the school is facing?

- a) High level of competition from other schools.
- b) High ratio of students to teachers.
- c) Low level of innovation and technology.
- d) High dropout rate of students.

**Q 88.** Which of the following could be a consequence of the school having a low level of parental involvement and community engagement?

- a) The school will face more disagreements and arguments among its members.
- b) The school will have less pressure and expectations to perform well on standardized tests.
- c) The school will have more difficulty in collaborating with the parents and the community.
- d) The school will have more autonomy and flexibility to design and implement the curriculum.

**Q 89.** What is the main reason why the school performs poorly on standardized tests?

- a) The tests are too simple and do not stimulate the students.
- b) The tests are too difficult and do not suit the students' levels.
- c) The tests are unrelated and do not capture the students' passions.
- d) The tests are obsolete and do not correspond to the curriculum.

**Directions for questions 85 to 108:** Read the passages and answer the questions that follow.

### Passage – 2

In the world of music, each note is a vibrant droplet in the ocean of human emotion, together forming

a universal language that transcends all boundaries. A melody, woven from these notes, can travel through time, carrying with it the essence of eras long past, yet striking a chord that resonates in the contemporary soul. Music is the invisible thread that connects hearts across continents and cultures, a rhythmic bridge that links the individual to the collective human experience. In its harmonies and dissonances, music encapsulates the complexity of life, mirroring our joys, sorrows, hopes, and fears. It has the power to uplift spirits, soothe pain, ignite passion, and provoke thought. A symphony, with its intricate interplay of instruments, is akin to a grand narrative of life, each movement a different chapter, each instrument a unique voice contributing to the overarching story. From the gentle strum of a guitar to the majestic swell of an orchestra, music in all its forms is a testament to human creativity and the endless quest for expression. In silence, it is the echo of memories and emotions; in celebration, it is the very essence of joy. Music, in its essence, is not just an art form but a profound aspect of the human condition, a timeless companion in our journey through life.

**Q 90.** What is the central theme of the passage?

- a)** The history and evolution of music.
- b)** The emotional benefits of music therapy.
- c)** The technical and artistic aspects of music.
- d)** The emotional and social impact of music.

**Q 91.** According to the passage, what does a 'symphony' represent?

- |                               |                              |                       |                       |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>a)</b>                     | <b>b)</b>                    | <b>c)</b>             | <b>d)</b>             |
| A splendid account of living. | A grand rhythmic connection. | A universal language. | A timeless companion. |

**Q 92.** What does the passage imply about music's relationship to time?

- a)** Music is everlasting and can carry the essence of eras long past.
- b)** Music is temporal and can reflect the contemporary soul.
- c)** Music is timeless and can transcend all boundaries of time and space.
- d)** Music is ephemeral and can seize any occasion in the journey.

**Q 93.** Which of the following statements from the passage, if true, would most weaken the author's idea about the universal impact of music on human emotions?

- a)** Music is a rhythmic bond connecting the individual with the shared human experience.
- b)** Music is a consequence of human ingenuity and the aspiration for individual originality.
- c)** Music is a form of communication that can convey messages and ideas.
- d)** Music is a subjective interpretation that is influenced by one's culture.

**Q 94.** "Music, in its essence...is a timeless companion in our journey through life." Which of the following conclusions can be drawn from the above statement?

- a)** Music is always relevant and helpful in different situations and emotions.
- b)** Music is ancient and eternal, existing since the dawn of humanity.

- c) Music is loyal and supportive, never betraying or abandoning us.
- d) Music is universal and diverse, reflecting various cultures and perspectives.

**Directions for questions 85 to 108:** Read the passages and answer the questions that follow.

### Passage – 3

In the digital age, the intersection of technology and privacy has emerged as a critical battleground, shaping the contours of freedom, security, and individual rights. As the internet becomes increasingly integral to daily life, personal data has transformed into a valuable commodity, coveted by corporations and governments. This dynamic has sparked a complex debate over the ethical use of information and the extent to which individuals can control their own digital footprints. The rise of social media and smart devices has simplified sharing personal details online, trading off privacy for convenience. Corporations exploit this data to customize ads, forecast consumer habits, and sway political landscapes, often bypassing explicit user consent. This, alongside the nebulous data collection methods and digital networks' extensive reach, exposes users to potential manipulation and surveillance risks.

Complicating matters is the increasing cybercrime threat, including phishing, identity theft, prompting global governmental efforts to enhance cybersecurity. However, these measures sometimes stir concerns about governmental overreach and civil liberties encroachment, challenging the equilibrium between national security and individual freedoms. Significant legislation like the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) marks progress in safeguarding digital rights by offering individuals more control over their data. Nonetheless, the success of such laws hinges on thorough enforcement and international cooperation. Navigating the digital domain demands education and awareness, empowering individuals to make informed decisions about their online presence and privacy protection. Additionally, the advent of privacy-enhancing technologies like encryption presents avenues to secure personal data. The tension between technology and privacy underscores a broader societal challenge: how to harness the benefits of digital innovation while protecting the fundamental rights of individuals. As the digital landscape evolves, so must its regulatory frameworks, ensuring technology benefits humanity. The future of digital privacy relies on a collective dedication to ethical standards, transparency, and recognizing individuals as their data's rightful proprietors.

**Q 95.** The passage implies that the trade-off between privacy and convenience arises from:

- a) Growing internet reliance making personal information increasingly valuable.
- b) Moral considerations on information use and control over online presence.
- c) Digital innovations making it easier to share personal information online.
- d) Businesses using data for ads, predicting purchases, and political influence.

**Q 96.** Which of the following statements, if true, would most weaken the argument that individuals can control their own digital footprints?

a)

Most users are unaware of the privacy policies and terms of service of the online platforms they use.

b) Some users deliberately share false or misleading information online to protect their identity.

c)

Many users have multiple accounts and profiles on different online platforms to manage their online presence.

d) Some users opt out of data collection and tracking by using privacy tools and settings.

**Q 97.** Which of the following statements the author best agrees with?

a) Technology and privacy are incompatible; avoid sharing data.

b) Technology and privacy are complex; be aware and informed.

c) Technology and privacy are compatible; balance sharing and protecting data.

d) Technology and privacy are dynamic; be cautious and skeptical.

**Q 98.** Which of the following statements reflects governmental overreach while enhancing cybersecurity, as per the author?

a) Without consent or knowledge, the government accesses and collects personal data.

b) The government adheres to and collaborates with international digital laws.

c) For political purposes, the government manipulates and exploits personal data from businesses.

d) The government maintains and respects the equilibrium between security and freedom.

**Directions for questions 85 to 108:** Read the passages and answer the questions that follow.

#### Passage – 4

In the digital age, the intersection of technology and privacy has emerged as a critical battleground, shaping the contours of freedom, security, and individual rights. As the internet becomes increasingly integral to daily life, personal data has transformed into a valuable commodity, coveted by corporations and governments. This dynamic has sparked a complex debate over the ethical use of information and the extent to which individuals can control their own digital footprints. The rise of social media and smart devices has simplified sharing personal details online, trading off privacy for convenience. Corporations exploit this data to customize ads, forecast consumer habits, and sway political landscapes, often bypassing explicit user consent. This, alongside the nebulous data collection methods and digital networks' extensive reach, exposes users to potential manipulation and surveillance risks.

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**Q 99.** What is one of the impediments to the effective realization of laws like the GDPR, as per the passage?

- a) The challenge of ensuring adherence and collaboration among diverse regions and entities.
- b) The defiance of corporations and governments to give up their influence over personal data.
- c) The difficulty of establishing and measuring the ethical use of information and consent.
- d) The ambiguity of the scope and applicability of the GDPR to different types of data and actors.

**Directions for questions 85 to 108:** Read the passages and answer the questions that follow.

#### Passage – 4

The global pandemic catalysed a digital revolution in education, transforming the delivery and reception of learning. Transitioning from traditional classrooms to online spaces has both democratized education, allowing access for those in remote or marginalized areas, and underscored significant challenges and disparities. The move, driven by social distancing needs, revealed digital tools' potential to enhance learning but also spotlighted the digital divide's impact across regions. Online education platforms have broadened knowledge access, enabling learners from various backgrounds to engage with quality educational content. Institutions globally have adopted virtual classrooms, integrating video conferencing, learning management systems, and other technologies to maintain teaching and student interaction. This shift also empowers lifelong learners to pursue new skills through massive open online courses and digital resources.

Nevertheless, the rapid transition to online learning has accentuated the importance of digital literacy for both teachers and students. Educators faced the challenge of adapting to new teaching methods with limited support, striving to engage students remotely. Students, meanwhile, need not just technology access but also the competence to navigate digital platforms effectively. The digital divide

presents a formidable barrier, with unequal technology and internet access hindering online learning participation. Beyond infrastructure, socioeconomic factors, including home learning environments and parental support, play crucial roles.

Digital learning's rise also prompts questions about its social implications. The lack of in-person interaction may affect students' social skills and mental health. To mitigate these issues, some institutions are exploring hybrid teaching models, blending online and face-to-face instruction. Technological innovations, such as artificial intelligence (AI) and virtual reality (VR), are being harnessed to personalize learning, offer real-time feedback, and create immersive educational experiences, potentially improving understanding and engagement. Addressing digital education's challenges requires a cooperative strategy involving governments, educational bodies, and tech providers. Implementing policies for equitable tech access, investing in digital infrastructure, and supporting educators in digital pedagogy development are critical for fostering a more inclusive and effective educational landscape.

**Q 100.** Which of the following is the author most likely to agree with?

a)

Worldwide, educational institutes have totally shifted to online learning, giving up traditional classrooms.

b) Lifelong learners have been dissuaded from pursuing new interests or skills by online learning.

c) In terms of quality, traditional classroom learning is not as good as online learning.

d) Online learning has revolutionized education by allowing access for those in remote areas.

**Q 101.** Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the main argument of the passage?

a) Online education has increased the demand for digital skills and jobs in the global market.

b) Online education has reduced the costs and environmental impacts of traditional schooling.

c) Online education has enabled more collaboration and diversity among learners and educators.

d) Online education has exposed the gaps and inequalities in access and quality of learning.

**Q 102.** Based only on the author's statement that "The lack of in-person interaction may affect students' social skills and mental health", which of the following would the author be most likely to agree with?

a)

Online learning should be embraced by students as an opportunity to cultivate new forms of social and emotional intelligence.

b)

Balancing online learning with other activities that promote social and emotional health is the need of the hour.

**c)**

Online learning should be shunned by students as much as possible, and they should opt for face-to-face learning whenever feasible.

**d)**

Students should neglect online learning as a passing phenomenon, and they should aim for their future face-to-face learning goals.

**Q 103.** If the information in the passage above is correct, which of the following must necessarily be true?

**a)**

Online education platforms have narrowed the knowledge gap between learners from different backgrounds.

**b)** Hybrid teaching models have solved the social issues of online learning.

**c)** Participation in online learning is significantly hampered by the digital divide.

**d)** All the above

**Q 104.** Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a benefit of the shift to online education in the passage?

**a)** Democratization of education by providing access to learners in remote areas.

**b)** Utilizing technical advancements to provide feedback in real time.

**c)** Assuring improved academic performance across student demographics.

**d)** Enabling institutions to maintain teaching and student interaction through virtual classrooms.

**Directions for questions 85 to 108:** Read the passages and answer the questions that follow.

### Passage – 5

In the burgeoning dialogue on gender parity in the workplace, a misleading narrative often takes center stage. This narrative, championed by well-intentioned leaders, male and female alike, is grounded in the misconception that men and women possess inherent, disparate traits—beyond mere biology—that influence their professional lives. "Women are from Venus, Men are from Mars" seems to be the underlying script, yet this script is fundamentally flawed. Science, however, calls for a rewrite. Research, including comprehensive meta-analyses, consistently reveals that men and women are strikingly similar in their aspirations, attitudes, and abilities. The perceived differences, often dramatized by headlines, are not ingrained in our DNA but are products of our environment shaped by organizational structures and societal expectations.

The narrative that women are naturally more family-oriented or men inherently more ambitious does little but perpetuate stereotypes. As Harvard Business School research elucidates, the aspirations for

work-life balance are remarkably similar across genders. Yet, the plot thickens once family enters the stage. Women are encouraged to take the supporting role in their careers, while men are nudged to maintain their lead roles without publicizing their behind-the-scenes struggles with work-life balance.

In a telling example, men seeking a reduced travel schedule may find their requests begrudgingly accepted, with an unspoken expectation of a temporary arrangement. Women, on the other hand, often find themselves gently steered towards less demanding roles, sidelining their career progression. The message is clear: the professional arena is rigged, not by nature, but by societal scripts that dictate how men and women should navigate their careers and family lives.

It's high time we change the narrative. Instead of attempting to "fix" women or accommodate perceived weaknesses, we must address the real antagonist—the structures and practices that perpetuate these gender disparities. Let's direct our efforts towards reshaping the workplace into a setting where gender does not dictate one's role or opportunities.

In the words of Gloria Steinem, "We've begun to raise daughters more like sons... but few have the courage to raise our sons more like our daughters." Perhaps, in redefining how we support parents in the workplace, irrespective of gender, we can finally close the curtain on outdated stereotypes and pave the way for true gender parity.

**Q 105.** What is the main idea of the above passage?

- a) Biological differences guide workplace roles and aspirations.
- b) Gender stereotypes harm societal and workplace progress.
- c) Workplace structures, not nature, dictate gender roles.
- d) Efforts to accommodate women perpetuate workplace equality.

**Q 106.** Based on the passage, what can be inferred about the impact of family on career trajectories?

- a) Family demands disproportionately damage women's careers more than men's.
- b) Family responsibilities enrich professional experiences, leading to a diverse workforce.
- c) Family roles can sideline women's careers and complicate men's work-life balance.
- d) Men's careers are typically enhanced by family considerations, unlike women's.

**Q 107.** "Women are from Venus, Men are from Mars" seems to be the underlying script, yet this script is fundamentally flawed.

In the context of the statement, which of the following strengthens the author's opinion?

- a) Mentorship programs have shown success in advancing women's careers.
- b) Economic fluctuations impact employment trends, affecting men and women differently.
- c) Research shows no significant gender differences in job performance.

**d)** Hormonal differences can affect behavior and decision-making in stressful environments.

**Q 108.** Gloria Steinem's words imply that a significant barrier to gender parity in the workplace is:

- a)** Society's differential expectations and upbringing of boys and girls.
- b)** Disparities in workplace roles based on parental status of children.
- c)** Preconceived notions influencing career and family decisions.
- d)** Lack of bravery in upbringing methods for boys.

## Quantitative Techniques

**Directions for questions 109 to 112:** Answer the questions on the basis of the information given below.

There are six friends - Gopal, Tejpal, Mohan, Rohan, Sohan and Tarun - who use the services of a bank for investments as well as for availing loans. Gopal receives Rs.5,862 as simple interest for a certain principal, Rs.P, invested for 4 years at  $r\%$  per annum. When Tejpal invests Rs.2P at 5% per annum simple interest for 2 years, the simple interest received by him is Rs.2,931.

Sohan takes a loan of Rs.10,500 at  $r\%$  p.a. compounded annually which is to be repaid in two equal annual installments, one at the end of the first year and the other at the end of the second year.

Rohan and Mohan have equal amounts. Rohan invested all his amount at  $r\%$  compounded annually for 2 years and Mohan invested  $1/4$  of his amount at  $r\%$  compound interest (annually) and rest at  $k\%$  per annum at simple interest for the same 2 years period. The amount received by both at the end of the second year is the same.

**Q 109.** At what rate of simple interest did Gopal invest his principal?

- a)** 8%
- b)** 10%
- c)** 10.5%
- d)** 12%

**Q 110.** If Gopal had invested his principal at 12% per annum simple interest, then what amount would he receive at the end of 5 years?

- a)** Rs.28,348
- b)** Rs.24,640
- c)** Rs.26,442
- d)** Rs.23,448

**Q 111.** What is the value of each annual installment paid by Sohan?

- a)** Rs.6,050
- b)** Rs.5,250
- c)** Rs.7,125
- d)** Rs.6,555

**Q 112.** If Rohan received Rs.15,750 as interest for his investment, then what amount did Mohan invest at  $k\%$ ?

**a)** Rs.60,000**b)** Rs.36,500**c)** Rs.56,250**d)** Rs.46,750

**Directions for questions 113 to 116:** Answer the questions on the basis of the information given below.

In a square field labeled ABCD, with each side measuring 30 meters, lush grass covers the ground, enclosed by iron wires. Four cows, Red, Black, White, and Brown, are tethered by ropes at the corners A, B, C, and D respectively of the square field. Each rope has a length of 14 meters. The cows are restricted to grazing only within the confines of the square field. (Use  $\pi = 22/7$ )

**Q 113.** What is the area (in sq. meter) of grass that the red cow can graze?

**a)** 77**b)** 115.5**c)** 154**d)** 184

**Q 114.** What percentage of the area of the square field that cannot be grazed by any of the four cows?

**a)** 24.44%**b)** 31.56%**c)** 36.67%**d)** 42.33%

**Q 115.** What is the perimeter (in meter) of the portion of the square field that cannot be grazed by any of the four cows?

**a)** 96**b)** 72**c)** 48**d)** 90

**Q 116.** If a 5<sup>th</sup> cow is tethered at the center of the square field and does not graze within the area of the four cows, what could be the maximum length (in integer meters) of the rope for the 5th cow? (Use  $\sqrt{2} = 1.414$ )

**a)** 5**b)** 6**c)** 7**d)** 8

**Directions for question 117 to 120:** Read the following information and answer the questions that follows.

There are 10 boxes A through J are kept one above the other such that 4 boxes on the bottom have same weight 'a' kg, then 3 boxes kept immediately above these four boxes have same weight 'b' kg, similarly, 2 boxes kept above these 3 boxes have equal weights 'c' kg and the box kept on the top has the weight 'd' kg.

I.  $4a = 3b = 2c = d$

II.  $W(X)$  represents weight of box X where X can be any box from A through J.

$W(J) + W(F) = 84$  kg,  $W(A) + W(D) = 108$  kg, and  $W(B) - W(I) = 12$  kg.

III. Box A is kept immediately above the box E. There are three boxes between E and H. Box I is the bottom most box. Box C is kept immediately above the box G. Weight of box G is only equal to weight of Box A.

**Q 117.** What is the average (in kg) of all ten boxes?

**a)** 67.2**b)** 57.6**c)** 52.8**d)** 62.4

**Q 118.** Which box is kept immediately below box E?

- a)** Box B, Box F or Box J    **b)** Box D, Box J or Box F    **c)** Box B, Box F or Box D    **d)** Box J, Box D or Box B

**Q 119.** If box J is kept immediately above box F but immediately below box B, then what is the average weight (in kg) of all boxes between G and D?

- a)** 42    **b)** 45    **c)** 48    **d)** 51

**Q 120.** Two boxes are removed from the stack of the boxes such that the average of remaining boxes reduces to 63 kg. Which of the following pair of boxes CANNOT be the one to be removed?

- a)** Box H and Box I    **b)** Box F and Box D    **c)** Box B and Box F    **d)** Box I and Box J