

MOCK - 2



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2026

English

Passage (Q.1-Q.5): We cannot deny that oftentimes a thinker needs to be in their own company. In solitude they can best determine the extent to which they will allow the influence of others to affect their thought. In solitude, the philosopher is free from interruption, and free in a more profound sense too: they don't exist merely as the passive recipient of what has been already tailored for them by others. In solitude, their thought becomes authentic and autonomous, and so do they.

Nature offers the thinker the space for this transformation to take place. In nature, the philosopher can embark on an unhindered journey of self-discovery and self-determination beyond the normal facts of their life: in nature, and in the solitude it gives, the thinker can elevate themselves above chance limitations or a pre-conceived social identity, and challenge and examine these limitations to finally give shape to their own self and thought. Generally speaking, green spaces can serve as a refuge where thinkers can contemplate and freely build their thought. Nature provides them with space, offers them a choice; and if one of the agreed constituents of freedom is the capacity for choice, how can we call ourselves free if we have not chosen who to be and what to think? Hence, nature is freedom.

Nature also presents the thinker with an environment from which inspiration can be easily drawn. The colours of a field, the majesty of an old tree, or the sublime sight of a mountainous landscape, have contributed to the birth of some of the most important thoughts and artistic expressions throughout history. Within nature, the thinker's creativity is triggered, allowing the great accomplishments in thought and art which have enhanced the life of so many around the world.

Finally, the demands of human society and its pace can be overwhelming to some. Financial worries, feelings of unhappiness, depression, unsatisfied desires, unfulfilled expectations, pollution, and so on, play their role in the genesis of many of the psychological ailments which loom over us nowadays. However, nature serves as a sanctuary from this; as a haven where the thinker is able to detach from whatever adversely affects their well-being – physical as well as psychological – and thus, where their thought can gain health and robustness.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from “The Importance of Nature for Thought”, *Philosophy Now.*]

1. Which of the following best states the main point of the passage?
 - (a) True thinkers often suffer psychologically under the weight of societal expectations.
 - (b) Solitude is necessary for original philosophical ideas to be produced.
 - (c) Human society stifles freedom of thought and should be avoided by serious thinkers.
 - (d) Nature not only enables solitude but also provides the ideal conditions for authentic and creative thought.
2. The author’s attitude toward human society can best be described as:
 - (a) Bitter and resentful

- (b) Ironically detached
(c) Critically concerned
(d) Indifferent and clinical
3. Which of the following scenarios is most analogous to the function of nature in the development of philosophical thought, as described in the passage?
(a) An inventor retreats to a remote cabin, away from public opinion, and creates a new technology that reshapes industry.
(b) A musician samples existing songs to produce a mashup in their home studio.
(c) A city-dweller visits a park and feels immediately relaxed and calm.
(d) A philosopher chooses to debate ideas publicly in a town hall instead of writing in private.
4. According to the passage, which one of the following is most likely implied about the nature of authenticity in thought?
(a) Authenticity in thought emerges only after rejecting all social values.
(b) A thinker's autonomy is a necessary condition for their thought to be considered authentic.
(c) Only those who have suffered psychologically can produce authentic thought.
(d) Authenticity is purely a matter of emotional sincerity.
5. Which of the following findings would most strengthen the author's argument that nature contributes to psychological well-being in thinkers?
(a) The presence of green spaces correlates with higher property values in urban neighborhoods.
(b) Famous philosophers such as Nietzsche and Kant lived in cities with abundant libraries and social access.
(c) Studies show people exposed to nature-based imagery experience short-term increases in serotonin.
(d) Thinkers historically produce less work during the winter months.

Passage (Q.6-Q.10): A potential new dwarf planet has been discovered in the outer reaches of the solar system, and its existence poses the greatest challenge yet to the hypothesis that a ninth planet lurks far from the sun.

"We were very excited to discover 2017 OF201 because it was not expected at all," study leader Sihao Cheng of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, told Space.com. "It's very rare to discover an object both large and with an exotic orbit."

"The object's aphelion — the farthest point on the orbit from the sun — is more than 1,600 times that of the Earth's orbit," Cheng explained in a statement. "Meanwhile its perihelion — the closest point on its orbit to the sun — is 44.5 times that of the Earth's orbit, similar to Pluto's orbit."

We're learning more and more about the outer solar system. Beyond Neptune is the Kuiper Belt; a ring of icy cometary nuclei and planetesimals dominated by Pluto and Charon. The Kuiper Belt begins about 30 astronomical units (AU) from the sun (one AU is the distance of Earth from the sun), its inner edge guarded by Neptune, and extends out to 50 AU. NASA's New Horizons spacecraft is currently exploring the Kuiper Belt.

Meanwhile, the twin Voyager spacecraft have already sped through the Kuiper Belt and have entered a realm called the Scattered Disk, which is thought to go all the way out to more than 1,000 AU and is home to icy bodies on highly elongated and highly inclined orbits. These objects were literally scattered in the region through gravitational interactions with Neptune, and have had their orbits further modified via torques induced by the gravity of passing stars, or the "galactic tide" (the overall gravitational field of the Milky Way galaxy). Beyond the Scattered Disk is the Oort Cloud, which is an immense volume of space that possibly stretches up to a light-year from the sun and is the source of long-period comets. However, much about the Scattered Disk is still unknown, and besides those long-period comets that venture this way every now and then, no Oort Cloud object has ever been seen — they are too far away and too small. This is why every discovery of a trans-Neptunian object (TNO) on a greatly elongated orbit is vital for piecing together the mystery of the outer solar system.

Around 5,000 TNOs have been discovered until now, but the latest discovery may be one of the most important. Known as 2017 OF201, it is currently 90.5 AU away from the sun, but its orbit brings it as close as 4.14 billion miles (6.66 billion kilometers) from our star and as far away as a whopping 157 billion miles (244 billion kilometers) from the sun. For the vast majority of its 24,256-year orbit, 2017 OF201 is too far away to be seen with current telescopes; it could only be discovered because its last perihelion came in 1930, and that it's still relatively close.

The object's last perihelion also came, coincidentally, during the same year that Clyde Tombaugh discovered Pluto with a 13-inch (330mm) telescope at Lowell Observatory in Arizona. Would it have been possible for Tombaugh to have also found 2017 OF201? Probably not — at magnitude +20.1, this object would have been four magnitudes fainter than Pluto, and it is even fainter today.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from “Scientists found a possible new dwarf planet — it could spell bad news for Planet 9 fans”, *Space.com*.]

6. Which of the following best expresses the main purpose of the passage?
 - (a) To provide a detailed comparison between the Kuiper Belt and the Oort Cloud.
 - (b) To describe the discovery and significance of a new trans-Neptunian object and its implications for outer solar system models.
 - (c) To discuss the limitations of past telescopes in identifying distant solar system objects.
 - (d) To challenge the scientific validity of current solar system classifications.

7. Based on the passage, which of the following can most reasonably be inferred about objects like 2017 OF201?

- (a) They are thought to originate in the Oort Cloud and migrate inward.
(b) They are likely to collide with known planets due to their highly elliptical orbits.
(c) Their existence was predicted by Clyde Tombaugh in the early 20th century.
(d) Their detection is rare and typically only occurs when they are near their perihelion.
8. Which of the following would most strengthen the claim that 2017 OF201 challenges the hypothesis of a ninth planet?
(a) A simulation shows that objects like 2017 OF201 can exist without the gravitational influence of a ninth planet.
(b) A new object is discovered with an orbit highly consistent with the gravitational effects predicted by the ninth planet hypothesis.
(c) Astronomers find evidence that 2017 OF201 is actually a captured comet from another solar system.
(d) The ninth planet hypothesis is shown to be supported by the orbits of other known TNOs.
9. Which of the following situations is most analogous to the discovery of 2017 OF201 as described in the passage?
(a) A marine biologist finds a new species of fish only because it surfaced temporarily due to a change in sea temperature.
(b) A linguist discovers a lost language after carefully decoding centuries-old manuscripts.
(c) An archaeologist uses new tools to examine previously discovered fossils more closely.
(d) A chemist artificially synthesizes an element predicted by the periodic table but never before seen in nature.
10. According to the passage, which of the following best explains why 2017 OF201 was not discovered earlier?
(a) It was discovered only because its last perihelion was relatively recent and it is still within range.
(b) It had previously been mistaken for a background star due to its faintness.
(c) Its brightness varies unpredictably, making tracking difficult.
(d) Its orbit places it on the opposite side of the solar system from Earth for most of its cycle.

Passage (Q.11-Q.15): At the heart of modern Beijing is the huge empty space almost a kilometre long and half a kilometre wide known as Tiananmen Square, after the Tiananmen (Gate of Heavenly Peace) on its north side leading into the Forbidden City. An excellent way for the modern visitor to look at Chinese history is to wander around the square and consider what has happened there, what did not happen and what might have happened.

Tianamen itself was originally created in the fifteenth century. But it was only after the Boxer Rising at the end of the nineteenth century that the area in front of it was cleared and the square formed. In the middle stand the Monument to Revolutionary Heroes and the mausoleum of Mao Zedong.

Tiananmen is the public political face of China. The portrait of Chairman Mao that looks down from the Tiananmen Gate is replaced with a freshly painted copy each year. It shows a

man with no wrinkles, and by implication, with no faults. He arouses curiosity but can easily be ignored. The same applies to the slogans on either side of him: 'Long Live the Chinese People's Republic' and 'Long Live the Great Unity of the World's Peoples'. Nothing has changed here in fifty years. Above the portraits and the slogans is the reviewing stand, which forms part of the gate out of the Forbidden City. In the 1960s and 1970s the newsreel line-ups here on May Day and October 1st (National Day) were some of the few occasions on which the Chinese leadership showed itself to the masses. Throngs of tourists have since replaced the Chinese leaders in the 'throne room': in a sign of the advent of capitalism to China, a visit here is sold as an optional extra to a tour of the Forbidden City.

On either side of the podium are open areas, manned by disturbing numbers of soldiers with their backs to the square, waiting for an occasional daring demonstrator to try to unfurl a banner and remind passing visitors of the many occasions when the Square was a centre for serious protest.

The buildings on the western and the eastern side of the Square help reinforce the sense of complacency that the government would like to engender. To the west is the Great Hall of the People, and to the east what is now the Chinese National Museum but was formerly the Chinese Museum of Revolutionary History. Both date from 1959, built to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic. That was a time for the destruction of the old ministries and so much else. Tiananmen had been a square fit for an emperor to be carried across, but not somewhere for the mass rallies now planned by the Communist leadership. In 1959 the new republic was secure on all borders and could look back on a remarkable transformation from the corruption, poverty and constant warfare inherited from the Nationalists as they fled to Taiwan in 1949. The reconstruction of the whole square took one year, in 1958-59.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from "A History of Tiananmen Square", *History Today*.]

11. Which of the following most accurately expresses the author's primary purpose in the passage?
 - (a) To argue that the architectural design of Tiananmen Square has hindered public protest.
 - (b) To explore how Tiananmen Square has evolved as a physical and symbolic space reflecting political shifts in China.
 - (c) To criticize the Chinese government for militarizing Tiananmen Square and erasing its revolutionary legacy.
 - (d) To propose a redesign of Tiananmen Square that is more reflective of modern Chinese society.
12. According to the passage, which of the following is NOT true of the portrait of Mao Zedong on Tiananmen Gate?
 - (a) It draws intense attention and political emotion from all visitors.
 - (b) It is accompanied by unchanged political slogans on either side.
 - (c) It looks down over Tiananmen Square from the Tiananmen Gate.
 - (d) It is depicted in a way that suggests an idealized, faultless leader.

13. It can be inferred from the passage that the author views the current state of Tiananmen Square as:
- (a) A purely celebratory space meant to unify the Chinese public across class divisions.
 - (b) A glorified remnant of Chinese imperial history that resists modernity.
 - (c) A powerful space that continues to inspire public dissent and revolutionary spirit.
 - (d) A commercialized and carefully controlled site that conceals past and present tensions.
14. What is the most likely purpose of the author's mention of the 1959 reconstruction of the Square?
- (a) To illustrate how the Communist Party adopted and preserved traditional Chinese symbols.
 - (b) To emphasize how quickly the government can suppress dissent through urban planning.
 - (c) To highlight a moment when the Communist regime signaled its power and broke with the past.
 - (d) To question the legitimacy of the People's Republic through architectural choices.
15. The author most likely assumes that:
- (a) Public squares are inherently democratic and should remain open to protest.
 - (b) Government efforts to preserve visual consistency in Tiananmen Square are insincere.
 - (c) The symbolic meaning of public spaces evolves in tandem with shifts in state ideology.
 - (d) Tiananmen Square is of greater historical significance than the Forbidden City itself.

Passage (Q.16-Q.20): In an important contribution from the social sciences, Rice University anthropologists Cymene Howe and Dominic Boyer examine the societal consequences of global glacier loss in a commentary published today in Science. Their article appears alongside new research that estimates that more than three-quarters of the world's glacier mass could disappear by the end of the century under current climate policies. While the study projects the physical outcomes of glacial melt, Howe and Boyer highlight the social impacts and human stories behind the statistics -- from disrupted ecosystems and endangered cultural heritage to funeral rites held for vanished ice.

"Often statistics about glacier loss can feel abstract and distant. But glaciers have literally shaped the ground we walk on, and they provide crucial water resources to about 2 billion people. For people who have lived near glaciers, their cultural meanings are often profound, representing the fundamental relationship between social and natural worlds " said Howe, professor of anthropology and co-director of Rice's Program in Science and Technology Studies.

The commentary draws from the authors' ongoing work on the Global Glacier Casualty List, a Rice-based digital platform that documents glaciers that have melted or are critically endangered. The project blends climate science, social science and community narratives to memorialize a rapidly disappearing part of Earth's cryosphere.

"The past five years have been the worst five years for glaciers since ice loss has been tracked scientifically. We're now losing 273 billion tons of ice globally each year, but there's a feeling that even these staggering losses aren't enough to motivate needed climate action," said Boyer, professor of anthropology and co-director of the Center for Coastal Futures and Adaptive Resilience. "This is where we think the social sciences can work together with glaciologists and climate scientists to explain why these losses matter and how many lives and communities are impacted when these amazing landscapes disappear."

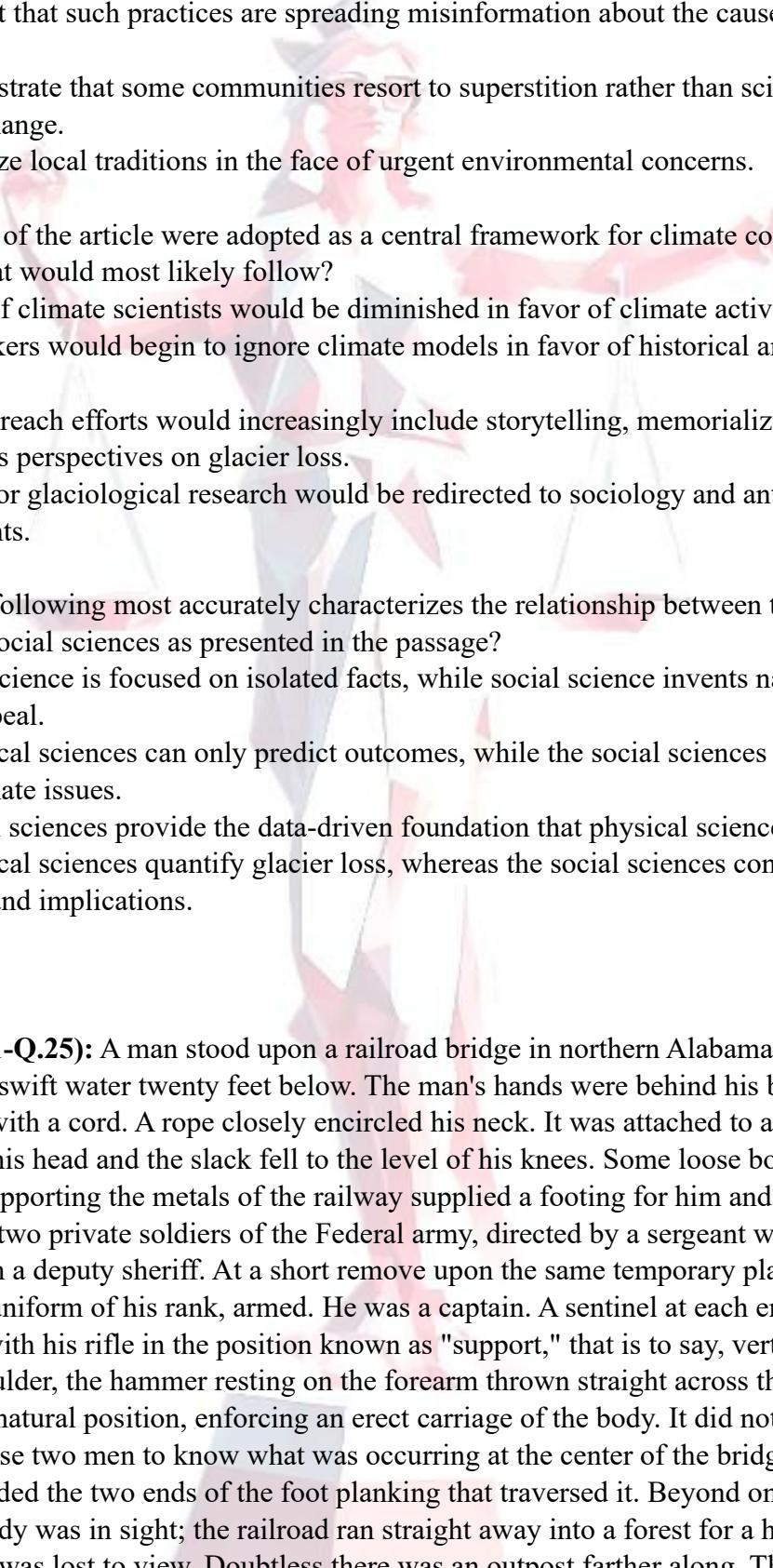
Their publication marks an uncommon appearance by social scientists in Science, which primarily features research in the natural and physical sciences. The authors argue that addressing the impacts of climate change requires not only scientific measurement but also cultural understanding, public memory and collective action.

"As glacial loss accelerates, so do the social and emotional responses to environmental change," they write.

The United Nations has designated 2025 as the International Year of Glaciers' Preservation. Howe and Boyer emphasize that global climate goals, such as limiting warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius above preindustrial levels, could still preserve a significant portion of the world's glaciers and prevent the erosion of ecosystems, economies and cultural lifeways connected to them.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from "Anthropologists spotlight human toll of glacier loss", *ScienceDaily*.]

16. Which of the following best expresses the main point of the passage?
 - (a) The Global Glacier Casualty List is the only viable solution to record ice loss data effectively.
 - (b) Glaciologists need to improve the accuracy of their models to spur effective climate action.
 - (c) Anthropologists are playing a more prominent role in international climate policy-making.
 - (d) Cultural and social perspectives are essential to fully understanding the consequences of glacier loss.
17. Based on the passage, the authors would most likely agree with which of the following statements?
 - (a) Scientific publications should prioritize data over narratives to maintain credibility.
 - (b) Climate action may be more effective if people understand the cultural and emotional dimensions of glacier loss.
 - (c) Glacial ecosystems are less important than the cultural traditions they support.
 - (d) The natural sciences are insufficient in modeling glacier melt due to a lack of statistical rigor.
18. What is the most likely purpose of the author mentioning the "funeral rites held for vanished ice"?

- 
- (a) To illustrate how communities respond symbolically and culturally to environmental degradation.
- (b) To suggest that such practices are spreading misinformation about the causes of glacier melt.
- (c) To demonstrate that some communities resort to superstition rather than science in facing climate change.
- (d) To trivialize local traditions in the face of urgent environmental concerns.
19. If the findings of the article were adopted as a central framework for climate communication strategies, what would most likely follow?
- (a) The role of climate scientists would be diminished in favor of climate activists.
- (b) Policymakers would begin to ignore climate models in favor of historical and cultural records.
- (c) Public outreach efforts would increasingly include storytelling, memorialization, and indigenous perspectives on glacier loss.
- (d) Funding for glaciological research would be redirected to sociology and anthropology departments.
20. Which of the following most accurately characterizes the relationship between the physical sciences and social sciences as presented in the passage?
- (a) Physical science is focused on isolated facts, while social science invents narratives for public appeal.
- (b) The physical sciences can only predict outcomes, while the social sciences alone can solve climate issues.
- (c) The social sciences provide the data-driven foundation that physical sciences lack.
- (d) The physical sciences quantify glacier loss, whereas the social sciences contextualize its meaning and implications.

Passage (Q.21-Q.25): A man stood upon a railroad bridge in northern Alabama, looking down into the swift water twenty feet below. The man's hands were behind his back, the wrists bound with a cord. A rope closely encircled his neck. It was attached to a stout cross-timber above his head and the slack fell to the level of his knees. Some loose boards laid upon the sleepers supporting the metals of the railway supplied a footing for him and his executioners--two private soldiers of the Federal army, directed by a sergeant who in civil life may have been a deputy sheriff. At a short remove upon the same temporary platform was an officer in the uniform of his rank, armed. He was a captain. A sentinel at each end of the bridge stood with his rifle in the position known as "support," that is to say, vertical in front of the left shoulder, the hammer resting on the forearm thrown straight across the chest--a formal and unnatural position, enforcing an erect carriage of the body. It did not appear to be the duty of these two men to know what was occurring at the center of the bridge; they merely blockaded the two ends of the foot planking that traversed it. Beyond one of the sentinels nobody was in sight; the railroad ran straight away into a forest for a hundred yards, then, curving, was lost to view. Doubtless there was an outpost farther along. The other bank of the stream was open ground--a gentle acclivity topped with a stockade of vertical tree

trunks, loopholed for rifles, with a single embrasure through which protruded the muzzle of a brass cannon commanding the bridge. Midway of the slope between the bridge and fort were the spectators--a single company of infantry in line, at "parade rest," the butts of the rifles on the ground, the barrels inclining slightly backward against the right shoulder, the hands crossed upon the stock. A lieutenant stood at the right of the line, the point of his sword upon the ground, his left hand resting upon his right. Excepting the group of four at the center of the bridge, not a man moved. The company faced the bridge, staring stonily, motionless. The sentinels, facing the banks of the stream, might have been statues to adorn the bridge. The captain stood with folded arms, silent, observing the work of his subordinates, but making no sign. Death is a dignitary who when he comes announced is to be received with formal manifestations of respect, even by those most familiar with him. In the code of military etiquette silence and fixity are forms of deference.

The man who was engaged in being hanged was apparently about thirty-five years of age. He was a civilian, if one might judge from his habit, which was that of a planter. His features were good--a straight nose, firm mouth, broad forehead, from which his long, dark hair was combed straight back, falling behind his ears to the collar of his well-fitting frock coat. He wore a mustache and pointed beard, but no whiskers; his eyes were large and dark gray, and had a kindly expression which one would hardly have expected in one whose neck was in the hemp. Evidently this was no vulgar assassin. The liberal military code makes provision for hanging many kinds of persons, and gentlemen are not excluded.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from “An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge”, *Ambrose Bierce.*]

21. Which of the following best describes the primary function of the passage?
 - (a) To establish a solemn atmosphere in describing a moment of impending death.
 - (b) To explore the psychological trauma of a soldier facing death.
 - (c) To highlight the injustices of war and the arbitrary nature of punishment.
 - (d) To analyze the social hierarchy within a military execution squad.
22. The narrator most likely describes the executioners and soldiers in such formal and still positions in order to:
 - (a) Highlight how desensitized soldiers have become to death.
 - (b) Emphasize the ceremonial and impersonal nature of the execution.
 - (c) Create a sense of confusion about who is responsible for the execution.
 - (d) Criticize the Union army for its harsh treatment of civilians.
23. The narrator’s tone in describing the man to be executed can best be described as:
 - (a) Indignant and sorrowful.
 - (b) Bitter and accusatory.
 - (c) Detached and analytical.
 - (d) Sympathetic and ironic.
24. What is the purpose of the paragraph detailing the appearance and posture of the soldiers, including phrases like “parade rest” and “statues to adorn the bridge”?

- (a) To illustrate how easily these rituals can be disrupted by resistance.
(b) To highlight the individual personalities of the soldiers.
(c) To contrast the emotional state of the condemned man with that of the soldiers.
(d) To underscore the mechanized, ritualistic quality of military procedure.
25. Which of the following scenarios most closely parallels the author's depiction of the execution scene?
- (a) A military tribunal debating the guilt or innocence of an enemy spy.
(b) A spontaneous street protest that erupts into chaos after a government crackdown.
(c) A courtroom trial where the accused is given a chance to speak before sentencing.
(d) A state funeral in which every movement of the guards and mourners follows a strict ceremonial code.



General Knowledge

Passage (Q.26-Q.30): Railway Minister [1] on Friday announced the upcoming launch of the automatic train protection system Kavach 5.0 for Mumbai's suburban trains. The railway ministry said the state-of-the-art safety and signalling system has been tailored for the suburban section in Mumbai.

"Kavach 5.0 is expected to significantly reduce the inter-train headway, enabling more trains to run safely and efficiently," it said.

[1], along with Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, interacted with reporters to highlight the transformative progress in railway infrastructure across the state.

According to the railway ministry, [1] emphasised that infrastructure development is the cornerstone for increasing suburban services and projects worth nearly Rs 17,000 crore, covering more than 300 kilometres of new lines, are currently underway at a rapid pace. "These initiatives aim to decongest existing lines, improve service frequency and cater to the ever-growing demand of Mumbai's suburban commuters," the ministry said.

Announcing a major upgrade in passenger comfort, [1] said 238 new air-conditioned suburban rakes, uniquely designed keeping in mind the needs of Mumbai's commuters, would soon be introduced.

"A major announcement during the interaction was the doubling of the Gondia-Ballarshah railway line, a 240-km strategic corridor, with an investment of Rs 4,819 crore," the ministry said.

"This key project connects Vidarbha and Marathwada, easing congestion and enabling faster passenger and freight movement. It will also strengthen Maharashtra's rail links with Andhra Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, boosting regional trade and integration," it added.

This infrastructure push was announced on April 7, when the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved four projects of the railway ministry with a total cost of Rs 18,658 crore.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from "Railway minister announces launch of Kavach 5.0 for Mumbai's suburban trains", *The Economic Times*.]

26. India's first passenger train ran between which of the following stations?
 - (a) Bombay and Thane
 - (b) Howrah and Hooghly
 - (c) Chennai and Arakkonam
 - (d) Mumbai and Delhi

27. Whose name is redacted with [1] in the given passage?
 - (a) Ashwini Vaishnaw

- (b) Piyush Goyal
(c) Nitin Gadkari
(d) Hardeep Singh Puri
28. Which of the following organisations developed Kavach?
(a) Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)
(b) Indian Railways
(c) Research Design and Standards Organisation (RDSO)
(d) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
29. Which of the following cities will Kavach 5.0 first deployed and launched in?
(a) Mumbai
(b) Delhi
(c) Kolkata
(d) Bengaluru
30. When was Kavach adopted by the Ministry of Railways as the national ATP system?
(a) 2021
(b) 2018
(c) 2019
(d) 2020

Passage (Q.31-Q.35): Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai was sworn in by President Droupadi Murmu as the 52nd Chief Justice of India at the Rashtrapati Bhavan on Wednesday.

Justice Gavai is the first Buddhist Chief Justice of India. He took his oath of office, pledging his commitment to uphold the Constitution and faithfully discharge duties, in Hindi.

Chief Justice Gavai acknowledged the applause with folded hands, shook hands with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankar, Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal, Home Minister Amit Shah, other dignitaries and family members sitting in the foremost row, including his immediate predecessor, Justice Sanjiv Khanna. The Chief Justice of India touched his mother's feet. Mr. Modi was also seen going up to the Chief Justice's mother to greet her. The ceremony concluded with the rendering of the National Anthem.

Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts, both sitting and retired, were present at the ceremony.

The CJI would continue to share his Bench with Justice Augustine George Masih.

The Chief Justice is expected to call a meeting of all the judges to discuss the road ahead, share his vision and take suggestions. There is hardly 10 days before the court goes into the annual summer recess, though it would be partly working with at least three Benches hearing cases at a time.

Chief Justice Gavai has a tenure of over six months till [1].

He was elevated as a judge of the Supreme Court on May 24, 2019 from the Bombay High Court.

Born on November 24, 1960 at Amravati, Justice Gavai joined the Bar on March 16, 1985. Justice Gavai's father, Ramakrishna Suryabhan Gavai, also known as 'Dadasaheb', was a former Governor of [2] and a prominent Dalit leader.

Known as a bold and decisive judge who speaks his mind, Chief Justice Gavai's tenure may see important hearings in the challenges to the Places of Worship Act and the Waqf (Amendment) Act of 2025.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from "B.R. Gavai sworn in as Chief Justice of India", *The Hindu*.]

31. Who was the first Dalit Chief Justice of India?
 - (a) Justice P. Sathasivam
 - (b) Justice M. N. Venkatachaliah
 - (c) Justice Y. V. Chandrachud
 - (d) Justice K. G. Balakrishnan
32. Under which Article of the Constitution does the President appoint the Chief Justice of India?
 - (a) Article 124(2)
 - (b) Article 74(1)
 - (c) Article 217(1)
 - (d) Article 76
33. Which of the following is redacted by [1] in the given passage?
 - (a) December 2025
 - (b) November 2025
 - (c) October 2025
 - (d) January 2026
34. The National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) was established by which of the following Constitutional Amendment Acts?
 - (a) 106th
 - (b) 98th
 - (c) 95th
 - (d) 99th
35. Which of the following is redacted by [2] in the given passage?
 - (a) Jharkhand
 - (b) Uttarakhand
 - (c) West Bengal

(d) Bihar

Passage (Q.36-Q.40): Even before his name was announced from the balcony of St Peter's Basilica, the crowds below were chanting "Viva il Papa" - Long live the Pope. Robert Francis Prevost, 69, has become the 267th occupant of the throne of St Peter and he will be known as Leo [1].

He is the first American to fill the role of pope, although he is considered as much a cardinal from Latin America because of the many years he spent as a missionary in Peru. Born in Chicago in 1955 to parents of Spanish and Franco-Italian descent, Leo served as an altar boy and was ordained in 1982.

Although he moved to Peru three years later, he returned regularly to the US to serve as a priest and a prior in his home city.

He has Peruvian nationality and is fondly remembered as a figure who worked with marginalised communities and helped build bridges.

He spent 10 years as a local parish pastor and as a teacher at a seminary in Trujillo in north-western Peru.

In his first words as Pope, Leo spoke fondly of his predecessor Francis.

"We still hear in our ears the weak but always courageous voice of Pope Francis who blessed us," he said.

"United and hand-in-hand with God, let us advance together," he told cheering crowds. [Extracted with revisions and edits from "Who is Robert Prevost, the new Pope Leo [1]?", BBC.]

36. Which of the following is redacted by [1] in the given passage?
 - (a) XIX
 - (b) XVI
 - (c) XIV
 - (d) XXI
37. Where is the conclave process held?
 - (a) St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City
 - (b) St. Mark's Basilica, Venice
 - (c) Sistine Chapel, Vatican City
 - (d) Cathedral of Notre Dame, Paris
38. Which treaty marked the independence of the Vatican City?
 - (a) Treaty of Tordesillas

- (b) Geneva Convention
 - (c) Lateran Treaty
 - (d) Treaty of Versailles
39. What is the apostolic constitution governing the conclave called?
- (a) Universi Dominici Gregis
 - (b) Lumen Gentium
 - (c) Deus Caritas Est
 - (d) Pastor Bonus
40. What is the name of the predecessor of the incumbent pope?
- (a) Joseph Ratzinger
 - (b) Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli
 - (c) Albino Luciani
 - (d) Jorge Mario Bergoglio

Passage (Q.41-Q.45): The government has authorised [1] (I4C) to share and receive information from the Enforcement Directorate under the anti-money laundering law, a move aimed at detecting money trail and combating cyber frauds.

In a notification dated April 25, the [2] Ministry included I4C under Section 66 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act. This would help I4C to share and receive information from the Enforcement Directorate and other law enforcement agencies. This would help identify the masterminds behind cyber frauds.

Amid growing instances of cyber frauds targeting common man, this information sharing would help identify the masterminds behind such frauds which are mostly trans-national.

Such online frauds are being perpetrated through fake websites, deceptive social media pages, and paid advertisements on search engines. Such fraudsters also resort to sending OTP or a weblink on an individual's phone or email, and when an unsuspecting individual clicks on the link or shares the OTP, his/her phone/computer gets hacked.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from “Govt. brings cybercrime centre I4C under PMLA”, *The Hindu*.]

41. Which of the following has been redacted by [1] in the given passage?
- (a) National Cybersecurity Command Council
 - (b) Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre
 - (c) Central Counter Cybercrime Cell
 - (d) Cyber Intelligence Coordination Committee
42. Which ministry does 14C function under?
- (a) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

- (b) Ministry of Defence
 - (c) Ministry of Home Affairs
 - (d) Ministry of Communications
43. The Directorate of Enforcement was established under which of the following originally?
- (a) Department of Revenue
 - (b) Ministry of Home Affairs
 - (c) Department of Financial Services
 - (d) Department of Economic Affairs
44. Which of the following has been redacted by [2] in the given passage?
- (a) Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance
 - (b) Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance
 - (c) Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance
 - (d) Ministry of Home Affairs
45. Which Section of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 is 14C now under?
- (a) 32
 - (b) 66
 - (c) 46
 - (d) 77

Passage (Q.46-Q.50): India's decision to hold the Indus Waters Treaty with Pakistan 'in abeyance' has proved that India will not hesitate to use water as a "weapon" in case political relations with common riparian neighbours nosedive, a leading water expert of Bangladesh has remarked.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Prof. Aninun Nishat, a leading water resource and climate change specialist in Dhaka said the decision to freeze the Indus Waters Treaty has "cast a shadow" on the prospects of renewal of the 1996 Ganga Waters Agreement.

"When Dhaka signed the Indo-Bangladesh Ganga Water Treaty, there were doubts on our side on whether India would really share Ganga's waters as promised as the actual control of the river is with India. The Indus Waters Treaty is a big treaty that was ratified by the Indian parliament. Critics here can cite the decision on Indus and argue that India's assurances on the Ganga equally has no value," said Prof. Nishat who has been part of several river-related discussions between India and Bangladesh.

The Indo-Bangladesh Ganga Water Treaty was signed on December 12, 1996 between Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina during what was the first prime ministerial tenure of Sheikh Hasina. The treaty provides Bangladesh with a minimum flow of water during the lean seasons and it can be renewed with "mutual consent" after three decades. Accordingly, the treaty will come up for renewal in 2026. "Renewal of the Ganga

treaty will come up next year but if India continues to hold the Indus Waters Treaty in abeyance then it will create doubts about India's willingness on sharing of river waters with Bangladesh," said Prof. Nishat.

The renewal of the Indo-Bangladesh Ganga Water Treaty has featured in official talks between the two on multiple occasions in the recent past. The matter came up during the June 2024 India visit by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina which was her last state visit before the uprising of July-August 2024 that led to her flight from Bangladesh.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from "India's decision on Indus casts shadow on renewal of India-Bangladesh Ganga Water Treaty: Bangladesh water expert", *The Hindu*.]

46. When was the Indo-Bangladesh Ganga Water Treaty signed?
 - (a) 1987
 - (b) 1996
 - (c) 1978
 - (d) 1995
47. Who was the Prime Minister of India during the signing of the Indo-Bangladesh Ganga Water Treaty?
 - (a) H. D. Deve Gowda
 - (b) I. K. Gujral
 - (c) P. V. Narasimha Rao
 - (d) Atal Bihari Vajpayee
48. Where did the 86th meeting of the India-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission take place?
 - (a) Delhi
 - (b) Mumbai
 - (c) Kolkata
 - (d) Bengaluru
49. When was the Joint Rivers Commission, which serves as a bilateral mechanism for managing shared river systems, established?
 - (a) 1979
 - (b) 1988
 - (c) 2003
 - (d) 1972
50. How many rivers do India and Bangladesh share?
 - (a) 46
 - (b) 54
 - (c) 71
 - (d) 37

Passage (Q.51-Q.55): Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to inaugurate the three-day Raisina Dialogue on Monday, marking India's premier conference on geopolitics and geo-economics.

The Raisina Dialogue is organized by the Observer Research Foundation (ORF) in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). According to the MEA, the conference will host representatives from around 125 countries, encompassing foreign ministers, former heads of state, military leaders, industry executives, technology innovators, academics, journalists, and experts in strategic affairs.

Notably, foreign ministers from 20 nations are confirmed to attend. The Ukrainian foreign minister's visit coincides with intensified US efforts to broker a temporary ceasefire between Ukraine and Russia amidst ongoing hostilities.

This year's event, the 10th edition, will see participation from delegates representing 125 countries, including notable figures such as New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon, US Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard, and Ukrainian Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha. In a significant development, a delegation from Taiwan, featuring a senior security official, will also be present, highlighting the increasing collaboration between India and Taiwan in recent years.

Prime Minister Luxon will deliver the keynote address during the inaugural session on Monday. Attendees also include foreign ministers from countries such as Slovenia, Luxembourg, Liechtenstein, Latvia, Moldova, Georgia, Sweden, the Slovak Republic, Bhutan, Maldives, Norway, Thailand, Antigua and Barbuda, Peru, Ghana, Hungary, and Mauritius. Additionally, Cuban Deputy Prime Minister Martinez Diaz and the Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines, Enrique A Manalo, will be part of the conference.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from “Raisina Dialogue: PM Modi to open summit in presence of several world leaders; here's all you need to know”, *The Economic Times*.]

51. Who was the Chief Guest at the Raisina Dialogue 2025?
 - (a) Christopher Luxon
 - (b) Rishi Sunak
 - (c) Giorgia Meloni
 - (d) Kyriakos Mitsotakis
52. What was the theme of the Raisina Dialogue 2025?
 - (a) Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam: One Earth, One Family, One Future
 - (b) Sankalp Se Siddhi: A Vision for a New World Order
 - (c) Kālachakra – People, Peace and Planet
 - (d) Chaturanga: Conflict, Contest, Cooperate, Create
53. Which of the following countries is not a part of the Five Eyes Alliance?
 - (a) Canada
 - (b) France

- (c) Australia
- (d) New Zealand

54. Name the Indian think tank which co-hosts the Raisina Dialogue every year.
- (a) Centre for Policy Research (CPR)
 - (b) Observer Research Foundation (ORF)
 - (c) NITI Aayog
 - (d) Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA)
55. Which of the following organisations co-hosted the 4th Conference on Global Challenges and Intelligence-Sharing Mechanisms?
- (a) Defence Intelligence Agency (DIA)
 - (b) National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS)
 - (c) National Investigation Agency (NIA)
 - (d) Intelligence Bureau (IB)

Legal Reasoning

Passage (Q.56-Q.60): The Kerala High Court recently set aside an order of the trial court which had added the charge of abetment of suicide against man whose wife is stated to have committed suicide by allegedly jumping into a well days after a draft divorce agreement was given to her.

Referring to the ingredients of Section 306 the court said that there is nothing in the allegations to show that there was any instigation or intentional aiding or direct or indirect act of incitement to the commission of the offence of suicide by the petitioner.

"Thus, the law is clear that to constitute an offence of abetment of suicide under Section 306 IPC (Section 108 of BNS), there must be proof of either instigation or conspiracy or intentionally aiding or direct or indirect act of incitement to the commission of the offence of suicide. A mere allegation of humiliation, harassment or threat unaccompanied by any incitement or instigation is not at all sufficient to attract the offence. There is no averment in Annexure A1 complaint or in the evidence of PWs 1 to 3 (family of deceased) that by handing over the Annexure A2 draft agreement for divorce, there was any instigation or intentional aiding or direct or indirect act of incitement to the commission of the offence of suicide by the petitioner," the court said.

The court said that what was deposed by deceased's family is that by reading draft divorce agreement, the deceased was "mentally shattered, and she committed suicide three days thereafter". It observed that the family did not state that the petitioner husband played "any active role in either instigating or intentionally aiding the commission of suicide". It further observed that the prosecution has no case that the husband through the co-accused had handed over the draft agreement with the intention to drive the deceased to commit suicide. "The alteration or addition of a charge must be for an offence that is made out by the evidence recorded during the trial before the Court. Though the power under S.216 Cr.P.C to alter or add to the existing charge is very wide, to exercise the said power, there must be some material existing before the Court which has some connection or link with the charges sought to be added," the court added.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from "Husband Sending Draft Divorce Agreement To Wife Would Not Constitute Abetment Of Suicide: Kerala High Court", *LiveLaw*.]

56. Ravi, a 17-year-old tennis player, was publicly berated by his coach during a tournament. The coach shouted, "You're a disgrace to the team," and made other harsh remarks about Ravi's performance. Teammates confirmed this was not the first time Ravi had been humiliated. Three days later, Ravi died by suicide. The parents filed a complaint, but Ravi left no note, and there was no evidence the coach suggested or encouraged self-harm. Do the facts legally support a charge against the coach?
- No, unless Ravi's parents can show he was mentally unstable before the incident.
 - Yes, because repeated public humiliation can have a serious psychological impact.
 - No, because humiliation alone, without instigation or intentional aid, is not sufficient.
 - Yes, if the coach had a history of emotionally targeting students.

57. Priya received a structured email from her team lead listing missed KPIs and improvement steps. The tone was critical but professional. She confided in a friend that she felt “disappointed” but didn’t report the matter. Five days later, she died by suicide. Her parents argued the email pushed her over the edge. Based on the facts, can the team lead be held criminally liable?
- (a) No, because the communication was devoid of personal malice or provocation.
 - (b) Yes, if it can be shown that Priya had a fragile emotional state known to the lead.
 - (c) No, unless the email violated internal HR guidelines or disciplinary norms.
 - (d) Yes, if the friend’s testimony proves emotional breakdown caused by the email.
58. Sana had recurring arguments with her roommate Deepti. After a particularly aggressive fight, Deepti texted: “Nobody cares about you. Why don’t you just end it?” Phone records showed the message was read moments before Sana’s suicide. Friends testified Deepti often made such remarks in private. Can Deepti be held criminally responsible for Sana’s suicide?
- (a) No, if Deepti claims she didn’t literally mean the words and was acting out of anger.
 - (b) Yes, but only if Sana had previously warned her to stop.
 - (c) No, because one message cannot establish legal incitement without continuous pressure.
 - (d) Yes, because her direct statement urging suicide, combined with a pattern of hostility, constitutes instigation.
59. After Karan was caught sneaking out at night, his father grounded him, removed his phone, and scolded him privately. He neither issued threats nor used abusive language. Karan seemed quieter afterward, then died by suicide two days later. No note was left, and neighbors suggested the father’s “controlling behavior” might have caused it. Do these facts justify prosecuting the father for abetment?
- (a) No, because no material suggests intention to instigate or provoke self-harm.
 - (b) Yes, if such discipline had occurred repeatedly in the past.
 - (c) No, unless forensic experts determine Karan was mentally unstable before the incident.
 - (d) Yes, because emotionally strict parenting may unintentionally pressure children toward suicide.
60. Nikhil, a student with a stammer, was repeatedly mocked by his classmates. They edited his classroom recordings into memes and circulated them. Nikhil privately asked them to stop, but the behavior continued. He eventually died by suicide. A handwritten note blamed persistent humiliation and named specific classmates. Are the classmates legally vulnerable under the given facts?
- (a) Yes, because the continuous, deliberate humiliation may constitute indirect incitement.
 - (b) No, since peer teasing, even if offensive, isn’t typically criminal unless accompanied by threats.
 - (c) Yes, but only if the videos violated school’s anti-bullying policies.
 - (d) No, unless there’s proof they intended for Nikhil to take such an extreme step.

Passage (Q.61-Q.65): The Supreme Court recently ruled that an employee does not possess an inherent right to determine their retirement age. This authority lies with the State, which must exercise it reasonably, adhering to the principle of equality enshrined under Article 14. The Court said that “an employee has no fundamental right as regards the age at which he would retire.” The bench comprising Justices Manoj Misra and KV Viswanathan heard the case where the Appellant, a locomotor-disabled electrician, was forced to retire at 58 years, while similarly placed visually impaired employees were allowed to serve until 60 years.

The retirement age of visually impaired employees was enhanced to 60 years vide Office Memorandum (“OM”) dated 29.03.2013. Later on, OM was withdrawn by the State government on 04.11.2019, keeping the retirement age as 58 years. The Appellant was retired on 18.09.2018 and was granted an extension till the date of withdrawal of the OM by the State government. The dispute occurred when the Appellant claimed continuation of employment beyond the date of withdrawal of the OM, i.e., 04.11.2019 i.e., till the completion of 60 years of age.

Setting aside the impugned decision which had refused to allow the same retirement benefits to the Appellant as given to other similarly situated employees, the Court noted that the Appellant is entitled to same benefits as granted to other employees but clarified that the benefits would accrue to him till the date of withdrawal of the OM, as the OM was in force till 04.11.2019. But, the same would not grant him the right to claim extension of service beyond 04.11.2019, as the fixation of date of retirement is a policy decision of the executive, where the employee lacks the right to determine their retirement age, the court said.

“Hence, in our view, on the date when the OM dated 04.11.2019 was issued, no right vested in the appellant to continue in service up to the age of 60 years. We are therefore of the considered view that the appellant is not entitled to continue in service beyond 04.11.2019 i.e., the date on which the OM dated 29.03.2013 was withdrawn.”, the court observed.

Accordingly, the Court allowed the appeal in part, noting that the Appellant shall be entitled to the benefit of continuance in service until 04.11.2019, followed by entitlement to full wages from 01.10.2018 to 04.11.2019, with all consequential benefits that may impact his pension.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from “Employee Has No Fundamental Right To Choose Retirement Age : Supreme Court”, LiveLaw.]

61. Anita, a state-employed typist with a hearing disability, was informed that due to a policy change effective January 2022, the retirement age for all clerical staff, including disabled employees, would revert from 60 to 58. Anita, who turned 58 in March 2022, challenged her retirement, arguing she had a “reasonable expectation” to work until 60. However, the order changing the age was issued before her birthday, and applied uniformly. What is the correct conclusion?
 - (a) Anita can continue till 60, as disabled employees are usually given special protection.
 - (b) Anita’s claim fails, since no right to retire at a certain age vested in her before the policy changed.

- (c) Anita must be compensated but cannot remain employed.
(d) The department must consider individual disability types before enforcing policy.
62. Ramesh, a diabetic technician, was retired at 58 in 2023. He later learned that employees with motor disabilities in the same pay grade had been retained until 60 under a 2021 circular. When he demanded equal treatment, the department argued that the circular only applied to a specific category and was rescinded in 2022. Ramesh had already retired before the withdrawal. What is Ramesh entitled to claim?
(a) Reinstatement until age 60 based on prior unequal treatment.
(b) Compensation for emotional distress.
(c) Benefits applicable under the circular only until its withdrawal in 2022.
(d) Full reinstatement unless policy explicitly excludes him.
63. Mina, a visually impaired librarian, received an official memo increasing her retirement age to 60 in April 2020. The memo was withdrawn in June 2021, but she received no direct communication and continued working past that date. Upon audit in December 2022, the department refused to pay her salary for the extra months, claiming she should have known about the change. How should this dispute be resolved?
(a) Mina should repay all salary since June 2021.
(b) Mina is entitled to salary and benefits only up to the withdrawal date.
(c) Mina can claim benefits till December 2022 since no direct notice was given.
(d) Cannot be determined.
64. Arun, a government-employed software analyst with a speech disability, claimed his retirement at 58 was discriminatory because employees with visual disabilities in the same department were allowed to serve till 60. However, the policy for the latter was based on a short-lived 2015 directive that had since been withdrawn. Arun's retirement came after the withdrawal. What should be the outcome?
(a) Arun's department must reissue the directive to cover all disability types.
(b) Arun can seek extension to 60 under equal treatment.
(c) Arun is entitled to benefits only until the directive's withdrawal.
(d) Arun cannot claim benefits as the directive didn't apply at his retirement time.
65. Ravi, an orthopedically disabled forest officer, was granted extension under a policy that allowed such employees to work till 60. Before he turned 59, the policy was withdrawn. Ravi insisted that since he was already covered under the policy and had not yet turned 60, he should continue till then. What is the most appropriate outcome?
(a) Ravi is not entitled to any further employment or benefits.
(b) Ravi can claim pension but not salary after the withdrawal date.
(c) Ravi must be allowed to continue till 60 as he was already a beneficiary.
(d) Ravi can only continue until the date the policy was withdrawn.

Passage (Q.66-Q.70): The Supreme Court today (May 30) outlined the essential components of a valid legal notice, ruling that a notice does not necessarily have to be explicitly labeled as

"legal" to be considered valid. The court held that if a communication sent to the recipient (noticee) effectively conveys the details of the default, potential consequences, and the sender's intent, it will qualify as a legal notice.

"Illustratively, the essential elements of a legal notice would include:

- a. It should contain a clear and concise set of facts which convey the information leading to the relevant circumstances. This element is also fulfilled when reference is made to any earlier communications issued between the concerned parties;
- b. It should convey the intimation of any impending legal obligation or breach committed by any party;
- c. It should convey the intention of the party issuing the communication to hold the other party liable to appropriate legal action or charge; and
- d. The communication in toto must be unambiguous and should not mislead or suppress material information. If issued under a Statute, it must comply with the relevant requirements prescribed therein as well.", the court observed.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and N Kotiswar Singh list out the aforementioned elements of a legal notice while hearing the case where the previous communication made by the Respondent to the Appellant were not considered as legal notice because it was not formally labelled as legal notice.

In terms of the aforesaid, the Court dismissed the appeal, noting that a notice need not be labeled "legal" to qualify, as what matters is whether it substantively conveys default, consequences, and intent.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from "Essential Elements Of Valid Legal Notice : Supreme Court Explains", *LiveLaw*.]

66. Rajiv, the procurement manager of a manufacturing firm, sent a detailed letter to a supplier after several shipments were delayed. The letter outlined the timeline of deliveries missed, referenced the relevant clauses of the supply contract, and clearly warned that further delays would lead to cancellation of the contract and possible legal proceedings for damages. Rajiv demanded immediate compliance to avoid consequences. However, the letter was not formally titled or labeled as a "Legal Notice." The supplier argued that because the letter was not labeled as such, it did not qualify as a legal notice and that no legal action could be taken based on it. Does this letter qualify as a valid legal notice?
- (a) Yes, because it clearly conveyed the default, consequences, and intent to take legal action.
 - (b) No, because the absence of the label creates ambiguity.
 - (c) Yes, but only if the supplier acknowledged it as a legal notice.
 - (d) No, because it was not labeled "Legal Notice."
67. Simran, a landlord, sent an email to her tenant reminding him about overdue rent payments that were two months late. The email expressed her dissatisfaction with the delay and requested that the rent be paid soon. However, the email did not mention that the tenant was in breach of contract, nor did it inform him of any consequences or warn of legal action if the

rent was not paid. The tenant claimed this was not a legal notice and ignored further demands. Is this email a valid legal notice?

- (a) No, unless it was sent through registered post.
- (b) Yes, since it points out the delay in payment.
- (c) No, because it does not convey consequences or intention to take legal steps.
- (d) Yes, because it reminds the tenant about their obligation.

68. A software company sent a letter to a client regarding overdue payments. The letter stated: "As detailed in our previous letters dated January 10 and February 15, your failure to clear outstanding dues amounts to a breach of contract. If the payment is not received within 15 days, we will initiate legal proceedings." Although the letter did not carry the heading "Legal Notice," it was clear in content and references. Is this communication a valid legal notice?
- (a) Yes, because it clearly refers to prior communications and conveys default, consequences, and intent.
 - (b) No, unless sent by a lawyer on behalf of the company.
 - (c) Yes, only if the client agrees to treat it as legal notice.
 - (d) No, because it lacks the phrase "Legal Notice."
69. An employer sent a letter to a former employee accusing her of breach of contract for not completing the notice period. The letter threatened legal action for damages. However, the employer failed to mention that both parties had earlier signed a settlement agreement waiving all claims related to the notice period. The former employee claimed the letter was misleading and ambiguous since it suppressed this material information. Can this letter be considered a valid legal notice?
- (a) No, because it suppresses material information, making the communication ambiguous.
 - (b) Yes, if the employee had already received prior warnings.
 - (c) No, unless the letter was formally labeled "Legal Notice."
 - (d) Yes, because it mentions breach and intent to sue.
70. Under a particular statute, any notice demanding payment must specify a 30-day period for the recipient to comply before legal action can be initiated. A company sent a notice to a debtor clearly stating the default in payment, warning of consequences, and expressing intent to sue. However, the notice did not specify the 30-day period for compliance as mandated by the statute. The debtor argued that the notice was invalid due to this omission. Is this a valid legal notice under the statute?
- (a) No, because it does not comply with the specific statutory requirement for the compliance period.
 - (b) Yes, if the recipient acknowledges it as legal notice.
 - (c) No, unless it is accompanied by a formal lawsuit.
 - (d) Yes, since it clearly communicates default and consequences.

Passage (Q.71-Q.75): The Allahabad High Court has observed that with the enactment of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023, the Criminal Procedure Code (UP Amendment) Act, 2018 - which imposed restrictions on the grant of anticipatory bail in the

State (effective from June 6, 2019), in cases under specific laws including the UP Gangsters Act - stands 'impliedly repealed'.

A bench of Justice Shree Prakash Singh observed that when a State amends a law on a subject in the Concurrent List, and the Parliament later makes a change to that same law, the State law must give way to the Parliament's law, even if the said law adds to, changes, or repeals the law made by the legislature of the State.

The Court added that when a legislature repeals any act, it has the power to save any right, privilege or remedy provided under the repealed statute; however, in the instant case, while BNSS has repealed CrPC, it did not save the State amendments made in the erstwhile CrPC and hence, UP State Amendment to CrPC would stand 'impliedly' repealed.

“...I am of the considered opinion that the subsequent law made by the Parliament though, does not expressly repeal the State law, nevertheless, the State Law will be impliedly repealed and that shall give way to any subsequent parliament law in respect with “same matter” which adds to, amends, varies or repeals the law made by the legislature of the State, by virtue of operation of proviso of Article 254 of the Constitution of India,” the Single-Judge noted in his 21-page order.

The Court, however, added that it is always open to the State Legislature to bring State amendment in the newly enacted Sanhita 2023.

For context, Section 438 of CrPC, 1973, which provided for the grant of bail to a person apprehending arrest in a non-bailable offence, was revived by the State's 2018 Amendment Act. The provision was removed by way of the CrPC (Uttar Pradesh Amendment) Act 1976, during the Emergency period.

However, subsection (6) provides that anticipatory bail provisions would not be applicable to the offences arising out of the UAPA, NDPS Act, the Official Secrets Act, the UP Gangsters Act and to the offences, in which a death sentence can be awarded.

The bench noted that since a Central Legislation (BNSS) has repealed and re-enacted the law concerning entries in List III of the 7th Schedule of the Constitution, any amendments made by State Legislatures to the earlier enactment (CrPC), even if they had received Presidential assent, shall also stand impliedly repealed.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from “CrPC (UP Amendment) Act 2018' Containing Restrictions On Grant Of Anticipatory Bail Stands Impliedly Repealed By BNSS: Allahabad HC”, *LiveLaw*.]

71. In 2024, the Madhya Pradesh State Legislature passed an amendment to a central statute on criminal procedure, placing restrictions on anticipatory bail in cases related to organized crime. However, in 2025, the central legislature enacted a comprehensive new criminal procedure law covering the same subject. Ravi, arrested under the organized crime statute,

- sought anticipatory bail relying on the central law. The State argued that its amendment continued to apply. Which of the following is most accurate?
- (a) State amendments always prevail unless struck down by court.
 - (b) Ravi can claim protection only if he proves the state amendment violates fundamental rights.
 - (c) Ravi cannot claim protection under the central law until the state amendment is expressly repealed.
 - (d) The central law overrides the state law as both deal with the same subject and the state law stands impliedly repealed.
72. An accused named Preeti is charged under a state law provision that barred anticipatory bail for certain offences. The provision was part of an earlier criminal procedure code amended by the state. After her arrest, a new central law replaced the earlier procedure code. The state provision was not explicitly mentioned in the new central law. Preeti applied for anticipatory bail. How should the court approach her application?
- (a) Deny anticipatory bail as the earlier provision was not explicitly repealed.
 - (b) Reject the application unless a new state amendment reinstates the old bar.
 - (c) Consider the state provision impliedly repealed and decide bail under the new central law.
 - (d) Grant bail only if the provision was found unconstitutional.
73. In 2020, the Bihar legislature passed a state-specific amendment to a central law concerning arrest procedures. The amendment had received Presidential assent. In 2025, the Parliament enacted a new central law comprehensively re-enacting the law on arrest. Aman, arrested in Bihar in 2026, argued the state-specific procedure was no longer applicable. What is the most reasonable legal position?
- (a) The state law remains valid unless expressly repealed.
 - (b) The state amendment stands impliedly repealed by the new central law.
 - (c) The state and central laws operate concurrently unless in direct conflict.
 - (d) The state amendment continues due to Presidential assent.
74. The BNSS received Presidential assent on December 15, 2023, but the UP Government delayed its official enforcement notification until February 15, 2024. During this two-month period, a man accused under the UP Gangsters Act applied for anticipatory bail, arguing that the 2018 UP Amendment no longer applied and the BNSS was binding by virtue of assent. The State countered that unless officially notified, the BNSS couldn't override the existing CrPC and UP Amendment framework. Which is the most tenable outcome in this case?
- (a) The accused has the option to choose which statute applies during this transitional phase.
 - (b) The BNSS applies from the date of assent, so the UP Amendment is repealed from December 15.
 - (c) The UP Amendment remains valid until the BNSS is formally enforced by notification.
 - (d) Neither BNSS nor the UP Amendment applies during this gap, creating a legislative vacuum.
75. Post-enactment of BNSS, the central government urges all States to harmonize their procedural laws and avoid unilateral amendments. The UP legislature, however, tables a Bill

to reintroduce anticipatory bail restrictions applicable only within the state. Civil rights groups challenge this move as contrary to the “cooperative federalism” spirit invoked by Parliament in drafting BNSS. Which position is best supported by the passage’s logic?

- (a) The State can legislate in the Concurrent List, subject to Presidential assent, even after BNSS.
- (b) The UP legislature loses all authority once Parliament enacts on a Concurrent List subject.
- (c) Cooperative federalism means States must align fully with the central law.
- (d) UP cannot amend BNSS unless the central government consents through Parliament.

Passage (Q.76-Q.80): The Andhra Pradesh High Court has said that a stranger to a private land cannot seek its survey or demarcation, and that survey applications can only made be made by persons who own the private land.

The Court was called upon to determine whether a survey of a private land, at the request of a private individual, could be conducted under the provisions of the Andhra Pradesh Survey and Boundaries Act, 1923.

Referring to Board Standing Order, Rule 20 of which allows for applications from private parties to be submitted to point out the boundaries of their fields in accordance with the survey records, a division bench of Justice R. Raghunandan Rao and Justice BVLN Chakravarthi held,

“While Rule 20 of B.S.O. 34-A provides for applications to be made for conduct of survey of private lands, the language of the Rule, extracted above, would indicate that such applications can only be made by persons in relation to land owned by them. On this basis, these provisions cannot be stretched to mean that a survey could be conducted where the applicant is not able to demonstrate a clear claim over the said land. It is clear that no stranger can seek survey of private lands or for demarcation of the fields.”

At the outset, the Court noted that there were no provisions or guidelines set out by the Revenue Department mandating a survey to be conducted. However, the Court referred to BSO No. 34-A, Rule 20 of which calls for applications from private parties to demarcate boundaries of their fields according to survey records. The Rule further enacts that whenever such an application is made, it would be the responsibility of the surveyor to carry out such a survey and to point out the boundaries of the private person land.

Commenting on the application of the provisions of the BSO, the Division Bench observed, “These provisions, of the B.S.O., indicate that, whenever there is a transfer of ownership, by any of the methods described above, the entries in the register of holdings are to be altered accordingly. Before such alterations, the land in question would have to be demarcated, on the ground, by way of a sub division of the survey number, so as to indicate the extent of land which is now with the transferee. This is done by identifying and specifying the fields, which would comprise the demarcated area. In view of such sub division, survey of such lands, by

identification of the field lines, more colloquially known as F-lines, is permissible. Rule 20 of B.S.O. 34-A provides for seeking such a survey, by way of an application. Any survey conducted by the surveyor, on the basis of such an application, would be restricted to point out the F-Line of the fields which is already in the survey records or the changes of the sub divisions which are already in the records.”

In the context of the present case, the Court observed that Rasmi could make a request for conduct of survey only for the purpose of pointing out the boundaries (subdivisions of the field lines) of her land, in accordance with the survey records.

However, with respect to the question of handing over possession of the land, the Court noted that Revenue Authorities cannot interfere in civil disputes to hand over possession of lands. Disposing of the Writ Appeal, the bench directed the parties to approach the appropriate Civil Court for obtaining possession.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from “Stranger Can't Seek Survey, Demarcation Of Land Owned By Private Persons: Andhra Pradesh High Court”, *LiveLaw*.]

76. Raghu claims to be the rightful owner of a small portion of land located within Anjali's private property. A decade ago, Anjali's father allegedly permitted Raghu's family to use a 10-foot-wide strip for cultivation, though there is no written agreement or revenue record to validate this understanding. Now, due to an increasing interest in expanding his agricultural operations, Raghu seeks a formal demarcation from the Revenue Department to identify the land strip. Anjali contests his request, asserting that he has no legal claim or ownership on the land and is a mere stranger attempting to interfere in her private property. Should Raghu's application for survey be entertained?
- Yes, because long-standing use of land justifies survey to determine boundaries.
 - No, because Raghu lacks documentary ownership and is therefore a stranger.
 - Yes, because oral permission creates an implied right.
 - No, because the application to seek the demarcation of land must be made to a court of law.
77. Leela jointly inherited agricultural land with her two siblings after their father's death. While no partition has been executed yet, Leela wants to sell her undivided share to Vikram. Wanting to begin cultivation immediately, Vikram applies to the Revenue Department for a survey to identify and demarcate the portion he wants to purchase. Leela's siblings strongly object, claiming not only has the land not been legally subdivided due to which no specific boundaries can be allocated yet, Vikram also did not have any claim over the land since he is a prospective buyer and that the land has not been sold to him yet. What is the most appropriate course of action to be taken in this situation?
- The land cannot be sold at all since it has not been formally partitioned and no physical boundaries exist in the survey records.
 - The land must be sold as a whole, so Vikram must convince Leela's siblings to sell him their share of the land as well.
 - Vikram must move a court of law to prove that he has interest in the land, and may therefore seek its survey and demarcation.

- (d) Leela must apply to the Revenue Department as an owner of the land, to survey and demarcate her portion of the land, and may sell her portion only after this.
78. A rural development scheme has sanctioned construction of a new road that runs close to Neela's privately owned farmland. Karthik, a contractor appointed for the project, submits a request to the Revenue Department asking for a survey of Neela's property to clearly identify her boundary and avoid encroachment during construction. Neela objects, stating Karthik has no standing to demand a survey of her private land, as he neither owns nor has legal interest in the property. Is Karthik entitled to request a survey of Neela's land?
- (a) No, unless the government formally intervenes.
(b) Yes, if the road project is sanctioned.
(c) No, because he is neither the owner nor a transferee.
(d) Yes, since public interest overrides private claims.
79. Farida owns farmland that has recently become the subject of a dispute with her neighbor, who claims part of her land overlaps his. To resolve this, Farida submits an application for a formal survey, relying on survey records from the 1950s. These records, however, do not reflect any of the subsequent subdivisions or officially recorded changes in ownership. Farida argues that the original field lines in the records are sufficient for the survey, while her neighbor maintains that the outdated records are misleading and irrelevant without updated official corroboration. Should the survey proceed using the old records alone?
- (a) Yes, because historic records are always sufficient to determine boundaries.
(b) No, because only updated official records reflecting changes can be used to conduct the survey.
(c) Yes, provided both parties agree to use the old records.
(d) No, because any records over 50 years old are presumed invalid.
80. Ramesh owns a plot of land that was recently surveyed by government authorities at his request, clearly marking out the official field lines. However, a portion of the land is currently occupied by Vivek, who refuses to leave, claiming uninterrupted residence for over two decades. Ramesh appeals to the Revenue Department, asking them to evict Vivek and hand over possession of the entire demarcated land. Can the Revenue Authorities remove Vivek and hand over the land to Ramesh?
- (a) No, unless criminal trespass is proved.
(b) Yes, since the land is now properly surveyed.
(c) No, because only Civil Courts can adjudicate possession disputes.
(d) Yes, but only if the surveyor authorizes it.

Passage (Q.81-Q.85): In a significant ruling, the Supreme Court held that prescribing different retirement ages for employees based on the nature of their disabilities amounts to unconstitutional discrimination under Article 14. The Court granted relief to a locomotor-disabled electrician, who was forced to retire at 58 years, while visually impaired employees were allowed to serve until 60 years.

The bench comprising Justices Manoj Misra and KV Viswanathan emphasized that such distinctions between differently-abled employees are arbitrary, reinforcing the principle of equal treatment under disability laws, and thereby mandating uniform retirement benefits for all benchmark disabilities.

Setting aside the impugned decision, the court underscored that all recognized disabilities under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 must receive equal treatment regarding retirement age, as they constitute a uniform category for employment-related benefits.

The Court reinforced this principle by citing its earlier affirmation of the Punjab & Haryana High Court's decision in Bhupinder Singh v. State of Punjab (2014), which had unequivocally held that the law mandates parity in service benefits across all disability categories protected under both the disability rights legislation i.e., PwD Act and RPwD Act.

“There appeared no intelligible basis to confer benefit of age extension to one disabled category and deny it to the other when both are specified in the 1995 Act as well as the 2016 Act. In this view of the matter, if benefit of extension of retirement age is available to visually impaired category, the same ought to be available to other categories of disabilities specified in the 1995 Act as reiterated in the 2016 Act.”, the court observed.

Resultantly, the Court held that the benefit of extension of retirement age as provided under the Office Memorandum (OM) dated 29.03.2013 could not have been confined to the visually impaired category. Rather, it should be available to persons suffering from all such benchmark disabilities as are specified in the 1995 Act and the 2016 Act.

While the state's 2019 withdrawal (OM 04.11.2019) of the extension was upheld under the General Clauses Act, the Court ruled that the Appellant had a legitimate expectation to the benefit until the withdrawal date.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from “Retirement Age Extension Given To One Disabled Category Can't Be Denied To Persons With Other Disabilities : Supreme Court”, *LiveLaw*.]

81. Ajay, a government-employed stenographer with hearing impairment, was asked to retire at 58 years. However, he noticed that a visually impaired colleague was allowed to continue till 60, under an Office Memorandum dated March 2013. Ajay filed a grievance, citing discriminatory retirement norms, arguing both disabilities are equally recognized. The department defended the rule as being policy-driven and within its discretion. Based on the passage, what is the most appropriate resolution?
- (a) Ajay can only claim relief if his disability is more severe than visual impairment.
 - (b) The rule is valid unless Ajay was promised an extension.
 - (c) The department's policy is valid since it treats disabilities on a case-by-case basis.
 - (d) Ajay should also be granted extension since both disabilities are recognized under the same law.

82. Deepa, a clerk with a locomotor disability, continued working till 60 based on a 2013 circular extending retirement age for persons with certain disabilities. In 2019, the government issued a new circular withdrawing the benefit prospectively. Her employer now demands she repay salary earned beyond 58. Deepa challenges this, asserting she relied on the earlier policy and was entitled to serve till its withdrawal. What is the most justifiable outcome?
- (a) Deepa is protected because she acted under a legitimate expectation until the new circular.
 - (b) Deepa's claim is valid only if she has written permission from a superior officer.
 - (c) Deepa can claim damages but not salary.
 - (d) Deepa must repay salary as the benefit was later withdrawn.
83. Rahul, an employee with a speech disability, discovered that only employees with locomotor and visual impairments were getting extended retirement benefits under service rules. When he requested parity, his application was rejected, citing administrative constraints. Rahul argues that all benchmark disabilities should be treated alike when it comes to employment benefits. What should be the resolution in Rahul's case?
- (a) The government has full discretion in such matters.
 - (b) Rejection is justified due to practical difficulties in implementing uniform rules.
 - (c) Speech disabilities are not as severe, so exclusion is fair.
 - (d) All benchmark disabilities must be treated equally for retirement benefits.
84. Manoj, an electrician with 40% locomotor disability, retired at age 58 in 2017. After learning about a later ruling mandating equal retirement age for all benchmark disabilities, he seeks retrospective relief, claiming he should have been allowed to serve till 60. The department argues the ruling cannot apply backward. What is the most plausible outcome?
- (a) Manoj cannot claim any relief since he already retired.
 - (b) Manoj is eligible for reinstatement.
 - (c) Manoj may be granted notional benefits or compensation for being prematurely retired.
 - (d) Manoj can only reapply for a new job.
85. Sushma, a visually impaired schoolteacher in State X, retires at 60, in line with state policy. Her friend Arjun, with an intellectual disability, employed in State Y under central rules, retires at 58. Arjun feels disadvantaged and files a complaint, citing unequal treatment of disabilities across states and departments. Based on the court's reasoning, what should be the resolution?
- (a) Arjun's retirement age is valid as per state policy.
 - (b) Sushma's benefit is not relevant to Arjun's case.
 - (c) States can maintain different retirement policies.
 - (d) Arjun is entitled to parity in retirement age with other recognized disabilities.

Logical Reasoning

Passage (Q.86-Q.90): There is no shortage of reasons to dislike and dismiss Robert Jenrick. He is, after all, the former immigration minister who ordered that a centre for unaccompanied child asylum-seekers paint over its murals of cartoon characters, lest the child refugees got the wrong idea and thought they were being welcomed and had at last reached a place of safety.

We certainly wouldn't want to take lectures on law-breaking from Jenrick, given that the former housing secretary acted unlawfully in rushing through approval for a development by the Conservative donor Richard Desmond, thereby saving the onetime porn publisher more than £40m. Nor would he be our go-to guy on matters of ripping off the public, not after it was revealed in 2020 that he claimed £100,000 in expenses for a third home. To say nothing of his service in a Boris Johnson administration that happily funnelled at least £1bn of taxpayers' money to assorted chancers lucky enough to have a friend in government, thereby securing for themselves a place in the VIP lane when it came to bidding for lucrative contracts making personal protective equipment or PPE.

All of that makes it tempting to wave aside Jenrick's latest stunt, a video of himself challenging fare dodgers at a London Underground station, calling them "mate" and demanding that they go back and pay for their journey. The transparency of his motive only strengthens that impulse. He wants Kemi Badenoch's job: we know that, because he tried to get it last time, when she defeated him.

What's more, his pitch is that he will be the Tory leader who outflanks Reform UK on the right, nullifying that party's threat by offering voters the same brew of nationalist populism they can get from Nigel Farage. That's why he speaks so often, and so unbendingly, on immigration and why he includes an unexpected item in the list of menaces with which he closes the fare-dodging video: "It's the same with bike theft, phone theft, tool theft, shoplifting, drugs in town centres, weird Turkish barber shops. It's all chipping away at society."

Weird Turkish barber shops. It leaps out, because it's the only thing in that list that isn't a crime. Ah, comes the response, but many of those places are suspected fronts for criminal activity, specifically money laundering. OK, but the same suspicion hovers over the "American candy" stores that are similarly proliferating on the high street; why didn't Jenrick mention them? Could it be that "American" doesn't quite have the same bite as "Turkish"? Jenrick is an extremely online politician, one who will be familiar with the "Yookay" meme, which suggests a Britain gone to the dogs: shabby, scuzzy, lawless and threatening – and that often likes to illustrate this descent into antisocial malaise with pictures of young Black and brown men. The "Turkish" reference fits that narrative quite nicely.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from "It's easy to dismiss Robert Jenrick's fare-dodging stunt. But he understands something Keir Starmer doesn't", *The Guardian*.]

86. What is the main criticism made in the passage against Robert Jenrick's recent public behavior?
- (a) He is trying to distract from his past by targeting minor crimes.
 - (b) He is unfairly attacking small businesses in his area.
 - (c) His actions are politically motivated and selectively target minority-linked issues.
 - (d) He believes fare dodging is the most serious crime in the UK.
87. Which of the following is most supported by the passage?
- (a) Jenrick's video was widely praised for being tough on crime.
 - (b) Jenrick is likely aware of online narratives portraying Britain as lawless.
 - (c) Turkish barber shops have been proven to launder money.
 - (d) Jenrick believes fare dodging is worse than government corruption.
88. Which reasoning error is committed by those who dismiss Jenrick's video solely because of his past controversies?
- (a) They attack the person rather than the message.
 - (b) They confuse legality with morality.
 - (c) They believe all public figures are dishonest.
 - (d) They draw a conclusion without any evidence.
89. The passage questions why Jenrick mentioned "Turkish barber shops" but not "American candy stores," although both are suspected of being used for money laundering. Which of the following, if true, would best explain this difference?
- (a) American candy stores are mostly located in tourist areas.
 - (b) Jenrick supports American-style business culture.
 - (c) Turkish barber shops are more dangerous than candy stores.
 - (d) Turkish barber shops are more commonly associated with immigrant communities.
90. How would the author most likely respond to someone claiming that Jenrick's video shows genuine concern for law and order?
- (a) "He should be allowed to change and do the right thing now."
 - (b) "That may be true, but it doesn't excuse his earlier conduct."
 - (c) "Possibly, but he should have focused on more serious crimes."
 - (d) "His past shows he doesn't really care about rules or fairness."

Passage (Q.91-Q.95): President Donald Trump's sweeping tariffs — both those he has threatened and those he has already enacted — have led many economists and American consumers to predict that the US economy could enter a recession while also pushing up inflation.

But a federal court's ruling late Wednesday that found Trump exceeded his authority to impose many tariffs could significantly disrupt the president's trade agenda — and potentially even nullify tariffs that are already in effect.

The White House immediately appealed the ruling. A federal appeals court on Thursday ruled the tariffs being challenged can remain in effect while the case is being heard, which could potentially work its way up to the Supreme Court.

Ultimately, if the block on tariffs holds, it could make a sizable dent in the economic outlook — with an emphasis on could.

“The chances for a major slowdown because of the tariffs or a major consumer price increase definitely have gone down a little bit, not to zero because God knows what they’re going to do,” said Norbert Michel, vice president and director at the Cato Institute’s Center for Monetary and Financial Alternatives, referring to legal actions the Trump administration can take.

Trump’s tariffs could hurt the US economy, given other nations could respond by tariffing American goods, which in turn could cost businesses foreign customers and result in layoffs. Indeed, Canada and China already have.

Economists have also predicted that the turbulence of the back-and-forth on tariffs will cause more businesses to stall investment plans and push consumers to spend less money if prices go up and fewer people are employed.

The risks of a recession have gone down slightly if the tariffs being challenged cannot remain in effect, Michel told CNN.

One reason is that the court’s ruling doesn’t apply to all the tariffs Trump has imposed. The ones that could be halted are blanket across-the-board tariffs on all US imports from other countries. That includes the 30% tariff in place on Chinese goods shipped to the US as well as the 10% tariff applicable to most other countries’ imports. It would also prevent the “reciprocal” tariffs on dozens of nations Trump unveiled on April 2, which are currently on pause until July 9, from resuming. The 54% tariff on goods worth less than \$800 from China that previously were shipped to the US duty-free under the de minimis exemption could also be halted.

However, the 25% tariff he has imposed on cars, car parts, steel and aluminum can continue to be levied since those goods are subject to Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act — a different law from the one currently in contention. Trump could even raise that 25% rate without any issues, said Alex Durante, a senior economist at the Tax Foundation.

In addition to the sectors already subject to higher tariffs, the administration has laid out the groundwork to levy higher tariffs on pharmaceuticals, lumber, copper, semiconductors and critical minerals.

If the appeals process doesn’t go the administration’s way, that could speed up the timeline for enacting those tariffs — and could even lead to new ones getting thrown into the mix.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from “Trump’s tariffs in jeopardy: What it means for prices and a recession”, CNN.]

91. The passage suggests that if the federal court ruling blocking some of Trump's tariffs is upheld, the risk of a recession “goes down a little.” Which of the following is most necessary for this conclusion to hold?
 - (a) Tariffs are the only major economic factor influencing the risk of a recession.
 - (b) The 25% tariffs under Section 232 have less influence on consumer prices than the blocked tariffs.
 - (c) The blocked tariffs have a significant enough economic impact to alter recession risk.
 - (d) None of the above.
92. Which of the following can most reasonably be inferred from the passage?
 - (a) Tariffs imposed under Section 232 are unaffected by the legal challenges currently underway.
 - (b) The ruling guarantees a long-term reduction in consumer prices in the US.
 - (c) If the appeals court sides with Trump, all blanket tariffs will be made permanent.
 - (d) The reciprocal tariffs announced on April 2 are already causing an economic downturn.
93. Which of the following is a flaw in reasoning that could weaken the claim that the legal block on tariffs will reduce the chances of a recession?
 - (a) It overlooks that consumer behavior may not be influenced by tariff news.
 - (b) It treats a temporary legal ruling as a long-term economic policy decision.
 - (c) It fails to consider that courts may later expand the ruling to Section 232 tariffs.
 - (d) It assumes that the president cannot enact new tariffs under a different statute.
94. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument that the legal ruling could improve the economic outlook?
 - (a) Steel and aluminum imports make up a larger portion of US trade than electronics.
 - (b) The majority of businesses have already adjusted to the existing tariffs.
 - (c) The blocked tariffs would have affected more consumer goods than industrial products.
 - (d) Other nations had no plans to retaliate against new tariffs.
95. Suppose that the appeals court eventually upholds the block on the blanket tariffs. Based on the passage, which of the following is the most likely consequence?
 - (a) The global response to US trade policy will shift toward cooperation.
 - (b) All tariffs currently in place will be automatically revoked.
 - (c) Tariffs under Section 232 will also be deemed unlawful.
 - (d) The administration may attempt to speed up new tariffs in other sectors.

Passage (Q.96-Q.100): A small genetic change makes the bacterium that caused the plague less fatal but possibly more transmissible, allowing for greater disease spread in smaller populations, a study in Science reports.

The bacterium *Yersinia pestis* caused the Black Death — killing up to 50 million people in the mid-fourteenth century — as well as an earlier plague across the Mediterranean in the sixth century AD. The bacteria still circulate in low levels in parts of the United States, Africa and Asia, and are typically transmitted to humans by infected fleas carried by rats or other rodents.

Previous research found that some strains of *Y. pestis* had reduced amounts of pla, a gene associated with disease severity, but it was unclear why, says Ravneet Sidhu, a palaeogeneticist at McMaster University in Hamilton, Canada, and a co-author of the latest work. “Our findings in this study characterize a case in which a pandemic-causing pathogen has independently evolved to cause what we believe is a slightly weaker form of the disease,” she says.

To understand the impact of the genetic change, the team infected mice with modern strains of *Y. pestis* that had normal levels of pla, had reduced levels of the gene or were unable to express it at all. When the bacteria were injected beneath the skin to mimic the form of plague that affects lymph nodes, mice infected with the reduced- pla strain lived for almost two days longer than did those infected with the normal strain. Mortality also decreased from 100% with the normal strain to 85% with the reduced- pla strain. However, when the team infected mice intravenously or through the nose to mimic blood- or lung-based infections, the pla - reduced strain was as fatal as the normal strain.

The team also looked at the genomes of ancient and modern strains of *Y. pestis* to find out how prevalent pla depletion was. Between 30% and 50% of ancient strains obtained from previously published studies showed signs of depletion, as did three modern strains, isolated from a human and two rats in 1994. Wanting to understand why pla was depleted, the researchers analysed the genetic data from these ancient and modern strains. They found that the reduction was caused by deletion of a 2,100-base-pair-long region of DNA containing the pla gene in one region of the genome, and the integration of a DNA molecule called a plasmid carrying the gene into other regions.

Sidhu says the team hypothesized that pla depletion occurred because repeated outbreaks of the plague decreased the density of rodent populations. Increasing the time for which rats were infectious would have given them more time to travel between fragmented populations, increasing the chance of them spreading the disease, she adds.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from “Black Death bacterium has become less lethal after genetic tweak”, *nature*.]

96. The researchers conclude that the pla-depleting genetic change evolved to increase transmission in smaller rodent populations. Which of the following is an assumption required for this conclusion?
- Y. pestis* is less transmissible in dense rodent populations than in fragmented ones.
 - The reduction in pla does not affect the bacteria's ability to survive outside a host.
 - Rodents with longer infectious periods are more likely to spread the bacteria between groups.

- (d) The pla gene is essential for infection in humans but not in rodents.
97. Which of the following can be most reasonably inferred from the passage?
- The presence of the pla gene guarantees 100% mortality in all infection types.
 - Modern strains of Y. pestis with reduced pla are likely to be less fatal regardless of transmission route.
 - Genetic changes that reduce mortality necessarily reduce disease transmission.
 - Some ancient plague strains may have been less fatal than previously believed.
98. Which of the following, if true, would most seriously undermine the researchers' conclusion that pla depletion evolved to increase transmission among fragmented rodent populations?
- The pla gene also contributes to bacterial resistance to environmental stresses.
 - The deletion of pla occurred before any major decline in rodent populations.
 - Human-to-human transmission was more common during early plague outbreaks.
 - Rodents rarely travel between different population groups, even when infectious.
99. Which of the following would most strengthen the hypothesis that pla depletion provides a transmission advantage in certain conditions?
- Ancient human DNA shows a mutation making people more susceptible to Y. pestis.
 - The modern strains of Y. pestis with reduced pla have shown no increase in rodent-to-human transmission.
 - In experiments, rodents infected with reduced-pla strains traveled farther before dying.
 - The deletion of the pla gene leads to a longer incubation period in humans.
100. Which of the following, if true, would best help to resolve the apparent contradiction that the reduced-pla strain is less fatal in skin infections but equally fatal in blood or lung infections?
- The pla gene is more active in skin-related infections than in other forms of infection.
 - The mice in the intravenous study had different immune responses.
 - The bacteria mutate more quickly when injected intravenously.
 - The dosage of bacteria used in the lung infection study was higher than in the skin study.

Passage (Q.101-Q.105): Jamie Dimon, JPMorgan Chase & Co.'s longstanding chief executive, fired off a warning about the bond market on Friday, telling regulators they will "panic" when it happens.

"You are going to see a crack in the bond market — OK," Dimon said, speaking at an event organized by the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation. "It is going to happen."

"And I tell this to my regulators — some of who are in this room — I'm telling you this is going to happen. And you are going to panic."

Dimon has been a frequent critic of banking regulations, pointing to "deep flaws" in the rules in the wake of extreme tumult in the bond market in April. He has singled out proposed changes to banks' supplementary leverage ratio as likely to aid the roughly \$29 trillion Treasury market.

A sharp bond selloff in April has kept investors on edge and rattled White House officials. President Donald Trump, during peak tumult, said that bond investors were getting “yippy.” Trump then paused some of his most aggressive tariffs, and stocks rallied powerfully in May. Some investors have been buying the dip on the view that Trump would threaten but not apply those higher levies. That has helped the S&P 500 index SPX get back to nearly where it started the year.

Treasury prices, however, remain under pressure, which has driven up yields. Longer-duration 10-year and 30-year yields were at 4.418% and 4.931%, respectively, on Friday, up about 25 basis points in May, their biggest monthly yield jumps this year, according to Dow Jones Market Data.

“I don’t hold the same view as Jamie,” said Tom di Galoma, managing director at Mischler Financial Group, when asked about Dimon’s bond-market warning.

“I thought the bond market was broken back in April,” di Galoma said, adding that successful Treasury auctions over the past week, including a closely watched 7-year auction, helped reinforce calm in the sector. The Federal Reserve and Treasury also have tools to use if needed, he said, to help manage points of friction and stress in the sector.

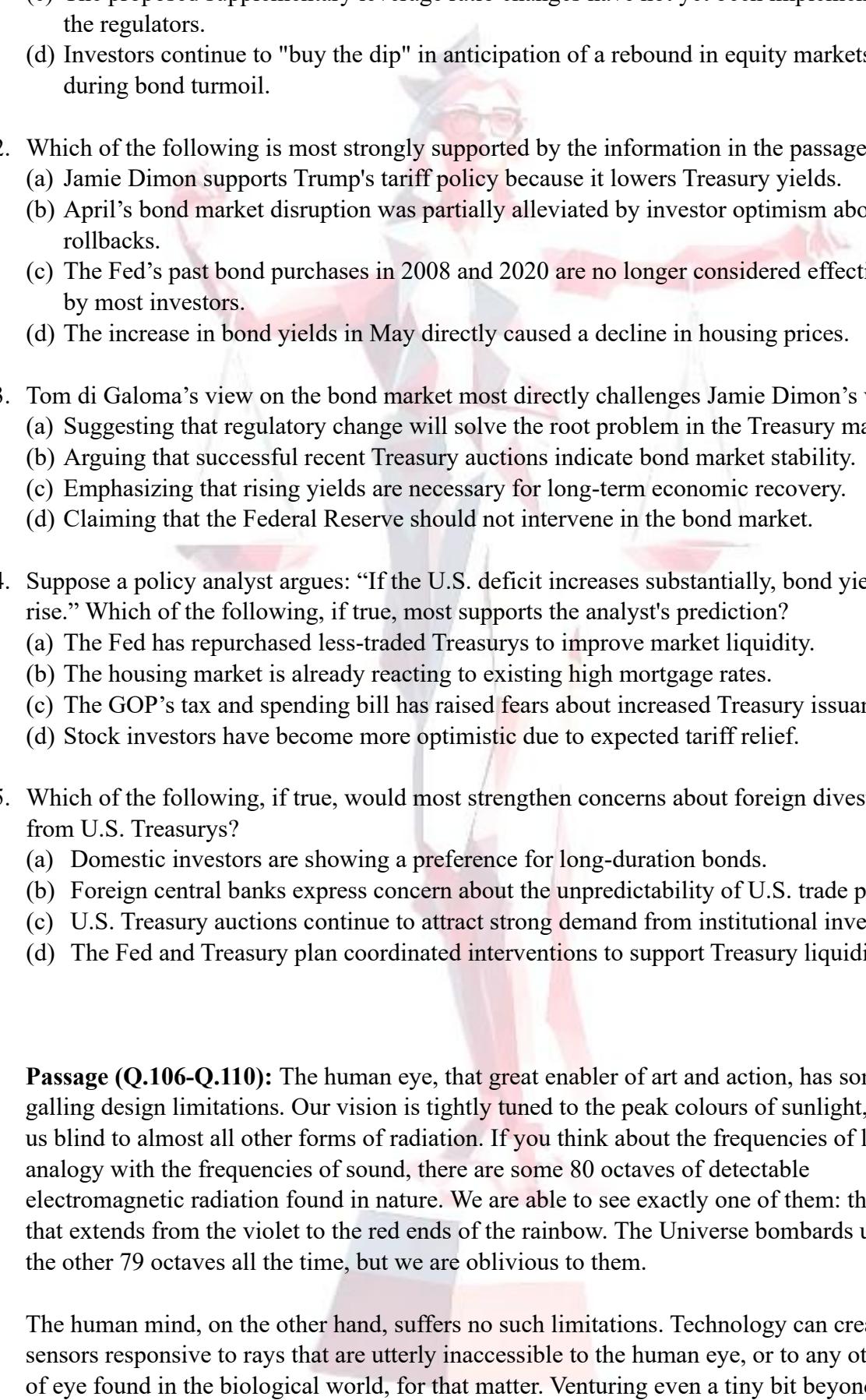
Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent has been vocal about wanting to see lower 10-year Treasury yields, which could help unthaw the housing market and ease credit conditions. To that end, Bessent said work was being done with U.S. banking regulators on potential changes to the supplementary leverage ratio, and he noted that results could come as soon as this summer.

The Fed purchased trillions of dollars in Treasurys during the 2007-08 global financial crisis and again in 2020, at the start of the pandemic, to reopen credit markets and keep them functioning. The Treasury Department lately has also been repurchasing certain Treasurys that trade less frequently to aid market liquidity.

However, bond investors remain anxious that the GOP’s massive tax and spending bill could add to the U.S. deficit, which could require more Treasury issuance and keep rates elevated. Trump’s chaotic approach to tariffs, with U.S. courts now also in the mix, has also raised concerns about foreigners potentially selling — or simply allocating less to — U.S. assets, including the dollar, stocks and Treasurys.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from “‘You are going to panic,’ Jamie Dimon tells regulators about what will happen when the bond market cracks”, *MarketWatch*.]

101. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken Jamie Dimon’s claim that regulators will “panic” when a bond market crack occurs?
 - (a) The Federal Reserve has limited tools to influence the longer-duration bond yields effectively.
 - (b) Regulators have recently completed a stress test scenario based on a bond market selloff worse than April’s event.

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- (c) The proposed supplementary leverage ratio changes have not yet been implemented by the regulators.
- (d) Investors continue to "buy the dip" in anticipation of a rebound in equity markets, even during bond turmoil.
102. Which of the following is most strongly supported by the information in the passage?
- (a) Jamie Dimon supports Trump's tariff policy because it lowers Treasury yields.
 - (b) April's bond market disruption was partially alleviated by investor optimism about tariff rollbacks.
 - (c) The Fed's past bond purchases in 2008 and 2020 are no longer considered effective tools by most investors.
 - (d) The increase in bond yields in May directly caused a decline in housing prices.
103. Tom di Galoma's view on the bond market most directly challenges Jamie Dimon's view by:
- (a) Suggesting that regulatory change will solve the root problem in the Treasury market.
 - (b) Arguing that successful recent Treasury auctions indicate bond market stability.
 - (c) Emphasizing that rising yields are necessary for long-term economic recovery.
 - (d) Claiming that the Federal Reserve should not intervene in the bond market.
104. Suppose a policy analyst argues: "If the U.S. deficit increases substantially, bond yields will rise." Which of the following, if true, most supports the analyst's prediction?
- (a) The Fed has repurchased less-traded Treasurys to improve market liquidity.
 - (b) The housing market is already reacting to existing high mortgage rates.
 - (c) The GOP's tax and spending bill has raised fears about increased Treasury issuance.
 - (d) Stock investors have become more optimistic due to expected tariff relief.
105. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen concerns about foreign divestment from U.S. Treasurys?
- (a) Domestic investors are showing a preference for long-duration bonds.
 - (b) Foreign central banks express concern about the unpredictability of U.S. trade policy.
 - (c) U.S. Treasury auctions continue to attract strong demand from institutional investors.
 - (d) The Fed and Treasury plan coordinated interventions to support Treasury liquidity.

Passage (Q.106-Q.110): The human eye, that great enabler of art and action, has some galling design limitations. Our vision is tightly tuned to the peak colours of sunlight, leaving us blind to almost all other forms of radiation. If you think about the frequencies of light by analogy with the frequencies of sound, there are some 80 octaves of detectable electromagnetic radiation found in nature. We are able to see exactly one of them: the octave that extends from the violet to the red ends of the rainbow. The Universe bombards us with the other 79 octaves all the time, but we are oblivious to them.

The human mind, on the other hand, suffers no such limitations. Technology can create sensors responsive to rays that are utterly inaccessible to the human eye, or to any other type of eye found in the biological world, for that matter. Venturing even a tiny bit beyond the red

edge of the rainbow, into the undiscovered country of the infrared, is a transformative experience: it reveals an entire hidden Universe, a previously walled-off layer of reality that we are now exploring every day as results pour in from the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST).

From its perch a million miles from Earth, JWST has spent the past three years scanning the sky in infrared radiation, sensing light waves that are up to 40 times longer than the reddest red that we humans can see. All of the glorious pictures that the telescope sends back – scenes of galaxies in collision and infant stars spewing out streamers of gas – are not photographic snapshots so much as they are data interpretations. JWST perceives celestial shapes and colours that exist only within the circuitry of its digital detectors. Astronomers then use software and imagination to translate the detectors' electrical impulses into images we can comprehend.

Every fresh result from JWST, then, is a showcase of the technological evolution of our species. The largest, most complex observatory ever sent into space is also the largest, most complex bionic eye ever wired into our consciousness. It is the culmination of a two-century effort to tear off our evolutionary blinders and endow Homo sapiens with senses that are as expansive as the laws of physics allow.

JWST is a floating catalogue of everything that astronomers have ever learned about telescope making. It follows a blueprint laid out in a 1988 report from the US National Research Council, which endorsed a giant new space telescope that ‘would lead to a quantum leap in our understanding of some of the most fundamental questions in astronomy’, supported by \$10 billion of subsequent funding.

The resulting instrument peers out at the cosmos using a 6.5-metre-wide mirror composed of 18 interlocking hexagons, fabricated from lightweight beryllium metal and coated with 48 grammes of super-reflective pure gold. Together, those mirrors take in a million times as much light as the pupil in your eye. The collected rays then focus on 15 mercury-cadmium-telluride detectors and three detectors made of arsenic-doped silicon, which act as JWST’s infrared-tuned electronic retinas. The whole telescope huddles behind a 21-metre-wide Kapton sunshade that keeps it chilled to 233 degrees below zero Celsius; even a trickle of solar heat would ruin its hypersensitive vision.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from “The light beyond sight”, *aeon*.]

106. The author claims that JWST “is the culmination of a two-century effort to tear off our evolutionary blinders.” Which of the following is an assumption required for this claim?
- The development of JWST is a natural continuation of previous scientific advancements in observational astronomy.
 - Infrared light is the most important part of the electromagnetic spectrum for expanding our cosmic understanding.
 - The limitations of human vision are a result of evolutionary processes, not environmental constraints.
 - JWST’s images offer an accurate visual representation of cosmic phenomena.

107. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the author's claim that JWST represents a "quantum leap" in astronomical understanding?
- (a) The images from JWST are more aesthetically compelling than those from earlier telescopes.
 - (b) JWST has identified light from the earliest galaxies formed after the Big Bang, unseen by prior instruments.
 - (c) JWST operates using technology not yet available on Earth-based observatories.
 - (d) JWST's sunshield is made of materials specifically designed for military satellites.
108. Based on the passage, which of the following can be most reasonably inferred about the nature of JWST's visual output?
- (a) JWST's images are constructed from raw data that the human eye cannot directly interpret.
 - (b) JWST detects radiation from sources too faint to be observed by any Earth-based telescope.
 - (c) The colour choices in JWST's images are pre-programmed by its onboard detectors.
 - (d) Without the sunshield, JWST would be capable of detecting a broader range of electromagnetic waves.
109. Which of the following would most seriously weaken the argument that JWST is the most advanced extension of human vision to date?
- (a) Other instruments such as neutrino detectors offer insights into cosmic phenomena that JWST cannot detect.
 - (b) Some early galaxies imaged by JWST have also been previously captured by Hubble.
 - (c) The JWST is unable to detect ultraviolet or X-ray radiation from distant galaxies.
 - (d) Human perception of color is more detailed in the visible spectrum than in infrared renderings.
110. Which of the following scenarios most closely parallels the relationship between human vision and JWST's imaging capability as described in the passage?
- (a) An astronomer draws a galaxy after looking at it through a telescope.
 - (b) A camera enhances a photograph with artistic filters to improve its appeal.
 - (c) A person with poor hearing learns to read lips to improve their understanding of speech.
 - (d) A chef uses a digital thermometer to gauge food temperature more accurately than touch can.

Quantitative Techniques

Passage (Q.111-Q.115): The nation of Pindia enjoys watching the cricket team due to the four stalwarts of the team: VK, RJ, RS and JB. All these four players can either only bat or only bowl for the team. In a tournament they produced the following statistics: VK played 9 matches and scored about 810 runs. JB has played more matches compared to RJ. JB has taken 7 more wickets than RJ. The number of overs bowled by JB was three times the matches played by VK. RJ takes an average of 2 wickets every match he plays. JB gives away a total of one fifth of the runs scored by VK in the entire tournament. The prize money for winning the player of the match award is 50000 rupees. The sum of and difference between the number of matches played by RJ and JB is 35 and 5 respectively. RJ bowls 5 overs per match. RS played two less matches compared to VK and scored 20% less runs than VK. RJ gives away about 3 runs per over.

111. Find the ratio between the number of matches played by JB to the matches played by RS.
(a) 7:11
(b) 20:7
(c) 21:11
(d) 4:3

112. Find the difference between the runs scored and runs given.
(a) 1056
(b) 1094
(c) 1071
(d) 1082

113. Find the difference between wickets per match of the two bowlers.
(a) 0.10
(b) 0.20
(c) 0.15
(d) 0.25

114. VK gets paid about 30000 as match fees for each match and he has won the player of the match award 3 times. JB gets paid 1% less than VK and has won the player of the match award 2 times more than VK. Find the total amount of money earned by them in the tournament.
(a) ₹13,45,000
(b) ₹12,64,000
(c) ₹12,56,000
(d) ₹13,65,000

115. VK decides to invest a seventh of the money earned by him for 4 years at a rate of 7% on simple interest. Find the total amount earned by him after the tenure is complete.
(a) ₹76,800
(b) ₹16,800
(c) ₹54,600

(d) ₹45,780

Passage (Q.116-Q.120): In a library, there are three genres of books available – thriller, tragedy and comedy. Books in the library are either published before 1940 or after 1940. The number of comedy books is 400 more than tragedy books. There are 2800 books in total. Thriller and tragedy books are in the ratio of 4:3. The number of thriller books published after 1940 is 400. The ratio of tragedy and comedy books published before 1940 is 1:3.

116. Find the ratio of tragedy and comedy books together after and before 1940 respectively.
- (a) 55:37
 - (b) 34:56
 - (c) 37:55
 - (d) 56:34
117. The library has a loan out facility for its books. Rs. 5, 15, and 25 is the cost to loan out one thriller, tragedy and comedy book respectively for 7 days. Avay decided to loan out 3 thrillers for one week, 7 tragedy books for three weeks and 12 comedy books for 4 weeks. What is the total amount he will have to pay?
- (a) ₹1530
 - (b) ₹1450
 - (c) ₹1580
 - (d) ₹1610
118. Find the average of tragedy books before 1940 and comedy books after 1940.
- (a) 380
 - (b) 375
 - (c) 330
 - (d) None of the above
119. What is the ratio of the amount Avay will have to pay for the tragedy and comedy books respectively.
- (a) 21:80
 - (b) 12:17
 - (c) 80:1
 - (d) 2:55
120. A segment for fiction books was introduced. The ratio of comedy books before 1940 and the total fiction books is 1:7. Find the total number of fiction books.
- (a) 3655
 - (b) 3855
 - (c) 4885
 - (d) 6300



ROUGH WORK

CLAT COMMUNITY

*EVERY SETBACK IS JUST A SETUP FOR A
GREATER COMEBACK. KEEP PUSHING
FORWARD – YOUR BREAKTHROUGH IS
CLOSER THAN YOU THINK.*

