

MOCK - 4



CLAT
COMMUNITY

MASTER MOCK

WHERE ACHIEVERS HELP
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2026

English

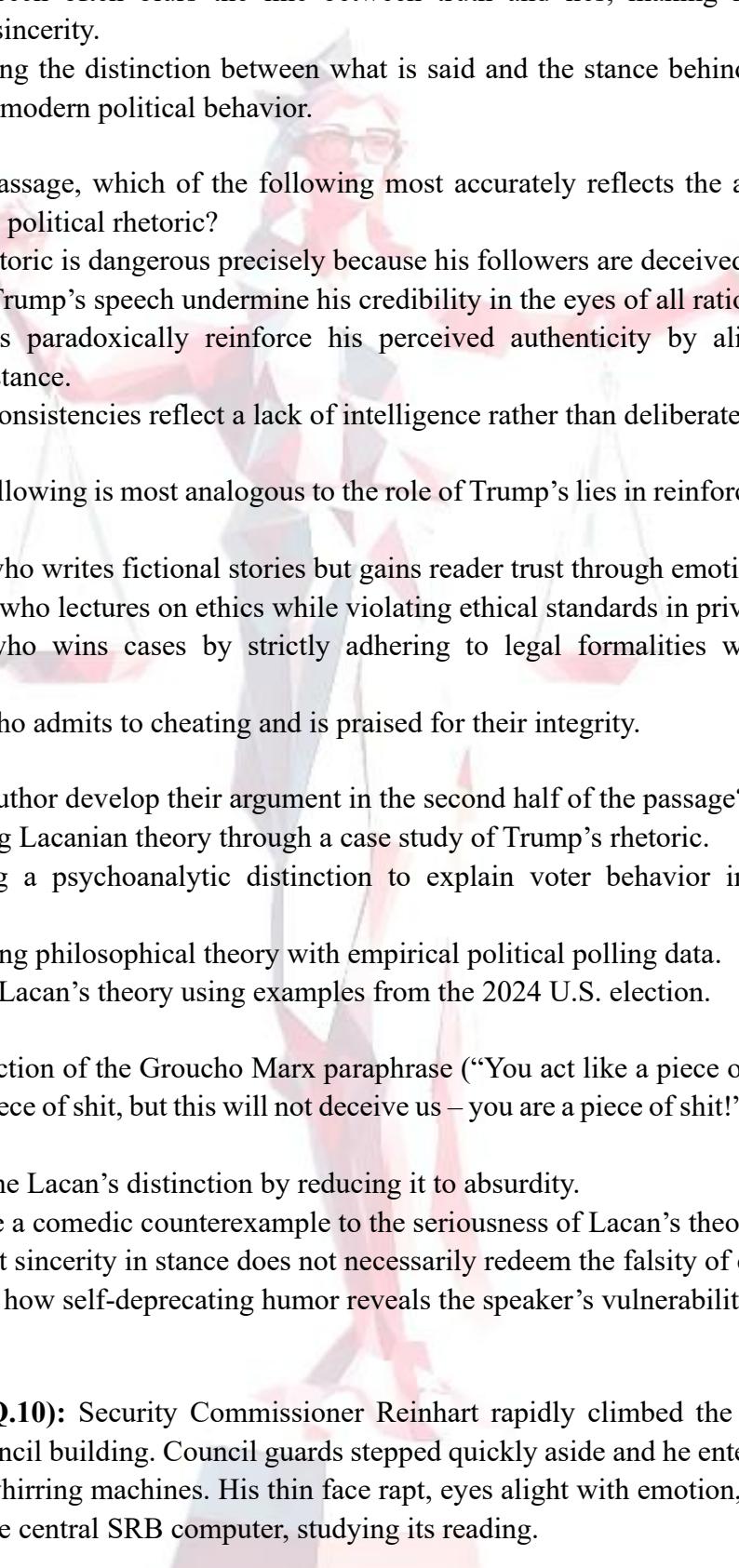
Passage (Q.1-Q.5): The so-called Liar Paradox – statements like ‘everything I say is false’ – has been endlessly debated by philosophers from Ancient Greece and India to the twentieth century. The paradox is that if this statement is true then it is false (everything I say is not false), and vice versa. Instead of getting lost in the endless network of arguments and counter-arguments, I will turn to Jacques Lacan (1901-81), who offers a unique solution by way of distinguishing between the content of an enunciation and the subjective stance implied by this enunciation: between the content of what you are saying and the stance implied by what you are saying. The moment we introduce this distinction, we immediately see that a statement like ‘everything I say is false’ can itself be true or false. ‘I am always lying’ can either correctly or incorrectly render the subjective experience of my entire existence as inauthentic, a fake. However, the opposite also holds: the statement ‘I know I am a piece of shit’ can in itself be true in its content, but false at the level of the subjective stance it pretends to render, since even saying it implies that I somehow demonstrate that I am NOT fully ‘a piece of shit’ – that I am at least honest about myself... But our reply to this should be a paraphrase of the well-known Groucho Marx line: “You act like a piece of shit and admit that you are a piece of shit, but this will not deceive us – you are a piece of shit!”

Why lose time with such endlessly debated paradoxes? Because in our ‘post-truth’ era of Rightist populism, the practice of relying on this paradox has reached its extreme. So today’s political discourse cannot be understood without the distinction between the enunciation and the enunciated.

Let’s jump in medias res [Latin for ‘in the midst of things’, Ed]. After Trump was reelected in 2024, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (who retained her seat in Congress) publicly appealed to those of her voters who also voted for Trump to explain why they made such a strange and inconsistent vote. She was told that the predominant reason was that compared with the manipulative calculations of Kamala Harris and other Democrats, she and Trump both appeared more sincere. This is also why, when Trump is caught in inconsistencies or outright lying, such disclosures only help him: his partisans take even his lies as a proof that he acts like a normal human being who does not just rely on his expert advisers but bluntly speaks his mind. In our terms, the very inconsistencies and lies in the enunciated content of Trump’s statements function as a sign that, at the level of the enunciation’s stance, Trump speaks as an authentic and sincere human being. This proves that the implied stance of enunciation can also be a fake.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from “Welcome to the Civilization of the Liar’s Paradox”, *Philosophy Now.*]

1. Which one of the following best expresses the main point of the passage?
 - (a) Voters today are unable to distinguish between authentic and inauthentic political figures.
 - (b) The Liar Paradox has no solution and must be accepted as a feature of natural language.

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- (c) Political speech often blurs the line between truth and lies, making it impossible to distinguish sincerity.
- (d) Understanding the distinction between what is said and the stance behind it is crucial to interpreting modern political behavior.
2. Based on the passage, which of the following most accurately reflects the author's attitude toward Trump's political rhetoric?
- (a) Trump's rhetoric is dangerous precisely because his followers are deceived by his lies.
- (b) The lies in Trump's speech undermine his credibility in the eyes of all rational observers.
- (c) Trump's lies paradoxically reinforce his perceived authenticity by aligning with his enunciated stance.
- (d) Trump's inconsistencies reflect a lack of intelligence rather than deliberate strategy.
3. Which of the following is most analogous to the role of Trump's lies in reinforcing perceptions of sincerity?
- (a) A novelist who writes fictional stories but gains reader trust through emotional honesty.
- (b) A professor who lectures on ethics while violating ethical standards in private.
- (c) A lawyer who wins cases by strictly adhering to legal formalities without personal investment.
- (d) A student who admits to cheating and is praised for their integrity.
4. How does the author develop their argument in the second half of the passage?
- (a) By critiquing Lacanian theory through a case study of Trump's rhetoric.
- (b) By applying a psychoanalytic distinction to explain voter behavior in contemporary politics.
- (c) By contrasting philosophical theory with empirical political polling data.
- (d) By refuting Lacan's theory using examples from the 2024 U.S. election.
5. What is the function of the Groucho Marx paraphrase ("You act like a piece of shit and admit that you are a piece of shit, but this will not deceive us – you are a piece of shit!") in the author's argument?
- (a) To undermine Lacan's distinction by reducing it to absurdity.
- (b) To introduce a comedic counterexample to the seriousness of Lacan's theory.
- (c) To show that sincerity in stance does not necessarily redeem the falsity of content.
- (d) To illustrate how self-deprecating humor reveals the speaker's vulnerability.

Passage (Q.6-Q.10): Security Commissioner Reinhart rapidly climbed the front steps and entered the Council building. Council guards stepped quickly aside and he entered the familiar place of great whirring machines. His thin face rapt, eyes alight with emotion, Reinhart gazed intently up at the central SRB computer, studying its reading.

"Straight gain for the last quarter," observed Kaplan, the lab organizer. He grinned proudly, as if personally responsible. "Not bad, Commissioner."

"We're catching up to them," Reinhart retorted. "But too damn slowly. We must finally go over—and soon."

Kaplan was in a talkative mood. "We design new offensive weapons, they counter with improved defenses. And nothing is actually made! Continual improvement, but neither we nor Centaurus can stop designing long enough to stabilize for production."

"It will end," Reinhart stated coldly, "as soon as Terra turns out a weapon for which Centaurus can build no defense."

"Every weapon has a defense. Design and discord. Immediate obsolescence. Nothing lasts long enough to—"

"What we count on is the lag," Reinhart broke in, annoyed. His hard gray eyes bored into the lab organizer and Kaplan slunk back. "The time lag between our offensive design and their counter development. The lag varies." He waved impatiently toward the massed banks of SRB machines. "As you well know."

At this moment, 9:30 AM, May 7, 2136, the statistical ratio on the SRB machines stood at 21-17 on the Centauran side of the ledger. All facts considered, the odds favored a successful repulsion by Proxima Centaurus of a Terran military attack. The ratio was based on the total information known to the SRB machines, on a gestalt of the vast flow of data that poured in endlessly from all sectors of the Sol and Centaurus systems.

21-17 on the Centauran side. But a month ago it had been 24-18 in the enemy's favor. Things were improving, slowly but steadily. Centaurus, older and less virile than Terra, was unable to match Terra's rate of technocratic advance. Terra was pulling ahead.

"If we went to war now," Reinhart said thoughtfully, "we would lose. We're not far enough along to risk an overt attack." A harsh, ruthless glow twisted across his handsome features, distorting them into a stern mask. "But the odds are moving in our favor. Our offensive designs are gradually gaining on their defenses."

[Extracted with revisions and edits from “The Variable Man”, *Philip K. Dick*.]

6. Which of the following best characterizes the role of Kaplan's assertion that “nothing is actually made” in the overall structure of the passage?
- (a) It is a digression unrelated to the passage's central concern with military odds.
 - (b) It undermines the credibility of Reinhart's confidence in Terra's technological advancement.
 - (c) It introduces a skeptical observation that Reinhart acknowledges but ultimately reframes in support of his own conclusion.
 - (d) It provides the conclusion that the author endorses as the main idea of the passage.

7. If it were the case that Proxima Centaurus had recently made a breakthrough in stabilizing defensive production despite the usual design churn, how would this most seriously affect Reinhart's argument?
- It would suggest that Terra is not as innovative as the passage claims.
 - It would undermine Reinhart's strategy by suggesting the current odds are misleading.
 - It would suggest the SRB machines are inaccurate predictors of conflict.
 - It would strengthen Kaplan's view that continued design leads nowhere.
8. What is the purpose of the author's description of Reinhart's "rapt face" and "stern mask" as he stares at the SRB computer's output?
- To underscore the tension between rational calculation and political ambition.
 - To illustrate the weakness of human leaders in the face of machine logic.
 - To portray Reinhart as a tragic figure aware that his hands are tied by probability.
 - To reveal the extent to which technological dominance has replaced human judgment.
9. Which of the following best describes how Reinhart responds to Kaplan's skepticism?
- He changes the topic to avoid directly engaging with Kaplan's claim.
 - He concedes the problem but reinterprets it as the key to Terra's eventual success.
 - He refutes Kaplan by citing historical examples where weapon lag determined outcomes.
 - He appeals to emotion, expressing frustration without offering substantive reasoning.
10. Suppose Terra develops a new weapon but is unable to assess whether Centaurus has developed a corresponding defense. According to the logic of Reinhart's position in the passage, which of the following would be the most rational course of action?
- Postpone conflict until the SRB ratio unambiguously favors Terra.
 - Produce the weapon in secret while continuing to feed false data to the SRB system.
 - Increase public broadcasts to suggest Terra is advancing technologically.
 - Preemptively declare war to prevent Centaurus from preparing a counter-defense.

Passage (Q.11-Q.15): 'I was born in the land of the priests of Aksum,' ZeraYacob is believed to have written in the 17th century. 'But I am the son of a poor farmer in the district of Aksum.' So begins the Hatata (a Ge'ez word meaning 'enquiry') of ZeraYacob, in which he documents his spiritual journey against a backdrop of intense religious controversy. He proceeds to reflect on the nature of God and human existence, the essence of evil and the basis of morality. A second Hatata, commonly attributed to WeldaHeywat, concentrates on issues of justice and moral truth. These two short texts are at the centre of Ethiopian philosophy. They have been generating intense controversy for generations because their authenticity and philosophical value have a crucial bearing on the very existence of Ethiopian philosophy and how it should be done.

There are, very roughly, two camps within Ethiopian philosophy today. The universalist approach to Ethiopian philosophy starts with the historical narrative that philosophy is a refined intellectual exercise that serves as a foundation for societal progress and individual

enlightenment. This approach sees philosophy as one continuous dialogue, each philosopher learning from another in order to come up with new ideas. The universalist approach is founded on a cumulative and linear path that sees philosophy as starting at the time of the pre-Socratic philosophers, developing through the ideas of Socrates, Plato, Aristotle and the rest of the ancients, on to the medieval age, and finally into the modern era that was inaugurated by René Descartes and that is currently dominated by German and French Continental philosophy.

Other traditions of philosophy, such as the many strands of Indian philosophy, the philosophy of the Aztecs, the Japanese and the Chinese and so on, are, for the universalist, subsumed under the label of ‘comparative philosophy’. The value of non-Western philosophical traditions derives from what we might call an intercultural perspective. All philosophies are concerned with universal truths – all philosophies can be put into dialogue around this universal search for the conditions that make our existence possible and the reasons we have to live the way that we do. In general, the universalist position does not pay attention to the qualifiers of a tradition: it is not Indian or Aztec or Chinese philosophy that is at issue, but simply philosophy itself, philosophy as such.

The other camp we’ll call Africanist. For the Africanist way of doing Ethiopian philosophy, the history of philosophy is a process of deliberate exclusion that consists primarily in epistemicide – the systematic process of obliterating the knowledge system of the Other. In Africa, epistemicide was committed by colonisers in the name of disseminating the values of the Enlightenment and modernity. The Africanist approach sees itself as the saviour of, specifically, Africa and Ethiopia’s history. It is engaged in the search for a philosophy in the past that can serve as a foundation for cultural pride and recognition. Challenging the superior epistemic and cultural position that has been occupied by the West, Africanists see themselves primarily as countering the influence of Eurocentrism. In the words of Bekele Gutema, what is needed is ‘a robust understanding of philosophy that recognises the existence of philosophy in many cultures’.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from “What is Ethiopian philosophy?”, *aeon.*]

11. Suppose a newly discovered manuscript shows that Descartes was inspired by translated passages from ZeraYacob’s Hatata. How would this most fundamentally undermine a central assumption of the universalist position described in the passage?
 - (a) It would show that philosophy developed non-linearly, thus invalidating the role of rationalism.
 - (b) It would demonstrate that the chronological foundation of Western philosophical superiority is historically fragile.
 - (c) It would suggest that Cartesian doubt was actually derived from comparative theology.
 - (d) It would blur the distinction between spiritual reflection and secular philosophy.
12. The passage mentions that ZeraYacob begins with a personal note about being the son of a poor farmer. Which of the following most plausibly explains why this detail matters in the context of the Africanist philosophical agenda?

- (a) It signals his marginal role in religious controversy.
 (b) It establishes a link between agriculture and spirituality in Ethiopian thought.
 (c) It underscores that his work is more autobiography than philosophy.
 (d) It subverts elitist assumptions about philosophical authorship by centering non-aristocratic voices.
13. Which of the following positions could both a universalist and an Africanist plausibly endorse, even if for different reasons?
 (a) Philosophy should focus solely on its practical contributions to modernity.
 (b) All texts must be interpreted through Enlightenment categories of reason.
 (c) The Hatata should be studied alongside Plato and Kant.
 (d) Philosophical merit should be judged independently of cultural origin.
14. If a universalist insists that “no tradition should be excluded from the philosophical canon,” which of the following best exposes a tension within their own stated framework as described in the passage?
 (a) The universalist believes that only Western ideas are universally applicable.
 (b) The universalist does not believe African thinkers are logical.
 (c) The universalist refuses to read ancient texts in translation.
 (d) The universalist classifies non-Western thought as comparative, not foundational.
15. Which of the following questions would most directly challenge the epistemological foundations of the universalist position as it is presented in the passage?
 (a) Can non-literate societies produce philosophy?
 (b) Can a philosophy that assumes linear progress account for the cyclical or fragmented nature of cultural memory?
 (c) Is theology a subset or antecedent of philosophy?
 (d) What counts as a “major philosopher” in any canon?

Passage (Q.16-Q.20): At the end of President Obama’s inaugural address in January 2009, he alluded to a small passage that appeared in Thomas Paine’s pamphlet Common Sense. Faced with an American economy wracked by nervousness and self-doubt Obama noted Paine’s rallying cry that galvanised and gave hope to the despairing:

“Let it be told to the future world ... that in the depth of winter, when nothing but hope and virtue could survive ... that the city and the country, alarmed at one common danger, came forth to meet [this danger].”

Unique among radicals, the 200th anniversary of the death of Thomas Paine will be marked in England, in France and across the Atlantic. This is a measure of the impact of Paine’s ideas both in his own country and in parts of the world that became the centre of revolutionary political change at the end of the 18th century. Paine was perhaps fortunate to live in such invigorating times and to be able to think about them so constructively. Yet what is

remarkable is that his message has been capable of speaking with immediacy to each successive generation, providing radical inspiration and comfort in troubled times. This is because Paine was a persuasive author with a gift for penetrating, lucid and memorable language. However, he was also actively participating in the revolutions he wished to inspire. Both through word and deed he could justly claim ‘the world is my country and my religion to do good.’

Thomas Paine’s origins were anything but promising. He was born in Thetford in Norfolk in 1737 and was apprenticed to his father as a corset- and stay-maker, a trade that he followed intermittently. Some commentators would not let him forget this and later a number of cartoons portrayed his radicalism as an attempt forcibly to lace the English constitution in the shape of Britannia into an uncomfortable corset. After a spell in the capital, Paine embarked on a similarly lacklustre career as an excise officer. In 1768 he moved to Lewes, but debt and disillusion with this career led to his emigration to America in 1774.

Arriving in Philadelphia with a letter of introduction from Benjamin Franklin, Paine immediately began to mix with radical journalists and to make his mark. His first venture into radical journalism, as the editor of the Pennsylvania Magazine, was a success. The magazine focused on American colonial opposition to high-handed British policies and it flourished. From this success, Paine distilled his arguments for American independence into one of his most important pamphlets, Common Sense:

... many strong and striking reasons may be given, to shew, that nothing can settle our affairs so expeditiously as an open and determined declaration of independence.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from “Who Gained from Thomas Paine?”, *History Today*.]

16. What is the primary function of the anecdote about Obama quoting Paine in the first paragraph of the passage?
 - (a) To show that Paine's work still resonates in modern political discourse.
 - (b) To criticize contemporary political appropriation of revolutionary rhetoric.
 - (c) To suggest that Paine's writing influenced Obama's presidential platform.
 - (d) To introduce an example of how Common Sense was used during the American Revolution.
17. Which of the following most accurately characterizes the author's attitude toward Thomas Paine's early failures?
 - (a) Dismissive skepticism regarding their historical importance.
 - (b) Mild embarrassment on behalf of the subject.
 - (c) Admiration for his ability to rise above humble beginnings.
 - (d) Condemnation of a system that marginalized early talent.
18. Which of the following principles about political influence can be inferred from the passage's account of Paine's life and work?

- (a) Political ideas endure only when they are adopted by governing institutions.
(b) Clarity and emotional force in writing can amplify an author's political impact.
(c) Radical ideas are most effective when couched in legal terminology.
(d) Political activism is more important than literary contribution in creating change.
19. Which of the following best captures a tension or irony present in the passage?
(a) Paine's later works advocated monarchy, contradicting his early ideals.
(b) Paine's radicalism helped America gain independence, yet he died unknown in England.
(c) The pamphlet *Common Sense* was rejected in France despite its revolutionary tone.
(d) Paine inspired unity, though he originated from a divided career path marked by failure.
20. If Paine had never emigrated to America and remained a relatively obscure figure in England, what would most likely follow from the author's reasoning in the passage?
(a) His lack of access to revolutionary moments would have curtailed his impact and legacy.
(b) His rhetorical style would still have made him a central Enlightenment figure.
(c) His modest upbringing would have disqualified him from public intellectualism.
(d) His Corset-making background would have become his main historical legacy.

Passage (Q.21-Q.25): Knowing how human DNA changes over generations is essential to estimating genetic disease risks and understanding how we evolved. But some of the most changeable regions of our DNA have been off-limits to researchers -- until now.

A team of researchers from University of Utah Health, University of Washington, PacBio, and other institutions has used multiple DNA sequencing technologies to develop the most comprehensive atlas yet of genetic change through generations. The new investigation revealed that parts of the human genome change much faster than was previously known, laying the foundations for new insights into the roots of human disease and evolution.

"It's mutations that ultimately differentiate us from other species," says author Lynn Jorde, PhD. "We're getting at a very basic property of what makes us human."

By comparing the genomes of parents to their children, the researchers could detect how often new mutations occurred and were passed down, a rate that Jorde says is as fundamental to understanding human biology as the speed of light is for understanding physics. "This is something you really need to know -- the speed at which variation comes into our species," says Jorde, professor of human genetics in the Spencer Fox Eccles School of Medicine (SFESOM) at the University of Utah. "All of the genetic variation that we see from individual to individual is a result of these mutations." Over time, these changes have led to everything from differences in our eye color to the ability to digest lactose to rare genetic diseases.

The researchers estimate that every human has nearly 200 new genetic changes that are different from either parent. Many of these changes occur in regions of DNA that are especially difficult to study.

Aaron Quinlan, PhD, professor and chair of human genetics in SFESOM and an author on the study, says that previous efforts to study human genetic change were limited to the parts of the genome that mutate the least. But the new study used advanced sequencing technologies to reveal the most rapidly changing regions of human DNA -- regions that Quinlan describes as "previously untouchable."

"We saw parts of our genome that are crazy mutable, almost a mutation every generation," he says. Other segments of DNA were more stable.

Jorde says that the new resource can be an important support for genetic counseling by helping answer the question, "If you have a child who's affected with a disease, is it likely to be inherited from a parent, or is it likely to be a new mutation?" Diseases caused by changes in "mutation hotspots" are more likely to be unique to the child, rather than having been passed down from their parents. This means that the risk of the parents having other kids with the same disease is lower. But if a genetic change was inherited from the parents, those parents' future kids have a higher risk of having the disease.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from "Parts of our DNA may evolve much faster than previously thought", *ScienceDaily*.]

21. Which of the following most accurately reconstructs the argument structure of the passage as a logical form?
 - (a) Genetic mutations have always been overestimated, but a new study shows they are relatively rare.
 - (b) Because genetic mutations are unpredictable, scientists cannot measure their frequency, but new technology may soon help.
 - (c) All new genetic mutations affect disease risk, so measuring them helps prevent illness in future generations.
 - (d) Previously inaccessible regions of the genome can now be studied due to technological advancement, and this enables more accurate models of mutation, which are essential for understanding both evolution and disease.
22. Which of the following best describes the kind of knowledge produced by the study discussed in the passage?
 - (a) Metaphysical knowledge about the role of randomness in nature.
 - (b) Descriptive-mechanistic knowledge about the rate and distribution of mutations in the genome.
 - (c) Normative ethical knowledge about the implications of genome sequencing.
 - (d) Historical-empirical knowledge about mutation patterns in ancient populations.
23. The researchers assume that new mutations detected in children but not present in parents are meaningful. If it turned out that such mutations were the result of sequencing error rather than biological processes, what would most likely follow?

- (a) Genetic counseling would become more reliable.
(b) The difference between common and rare mutations would become clearer.
(c) Most inherited diseases would become easier to trace.
(d) The usefulness of parent-child comparison for tracking mutation rates would be severely undermined.
24. What is the discursive function of the quote from Aaron Quinlan about “crazy mutable” genome regions?
(a) To introduce a new methodology for identifying stable genome segments.
(b) To add an emotional tone of urgency to the problem of mutation.
(c) To shift the focus from technology to policy.
(d) To undermine the idea that genome variation is evenly distributed.
25. In the passage, the researchers explain why this new study matters. All of the following are cited as reasons EXCEPT:
(a) It helps distinguish between inherited and spontaneous mutations.
(b) It improves the understanding of evolution.
(c) It enhances the accuracy of genetic counseling.
(d) It enables precise modeling of population genetics.

General Knowledge

Passage (Q.26-Q.30): India continues its steady rise on the Human Development Index (HDI), ranking 130 out of 193 countries in the 2025 Human Development Report (HDR) released today by the United Nations Development Programme. With an HDI value increasing from 0.676 in 2022 to 0.685 in 2023, India remains in the medium human development category, moving closer to the threshold for high human development ($HDI \geq 0.700$).

The 2025 HDR, titled “A Matter of Choice: People and Possibilities in the Age of AI”, highlights the critical role of artificial intelligence in shaping the next chapter of human development—particularly in fast-growing economies like India.

“We congratulate India on its notable progress in the Human Development Index, rising from rank 133 in 2022 to 130 in 2023. This advancement reflects sustained improvements in key dimensions of human development, particularly in mean years of schooling and national income per capita. India’s life expectancy reaching its highest level since the inception of the index is a testament to the country’s robust recovery from the pandemic and its investments and commitment to long-term human well-being. With a renewed focus on women-led development, quality education and healthcare for all, India is well positioned to achieve inclusive growth and continued progress on human development,” said Angela Lusigi, Resident Representative, UNDP India.

India’s HDI value has increased by over 53% since 1990, growing faster than both the global and South Asian averages. This progress has been fueled by economic growth and targeted social protection and welfare programmes.

Life expectancy rose from 58.6 years in 1990 to 72 years in 2023, the highest recorded since the index began. National health programmes by successive governments such as the National Rural Health Mission, Ayushman Bharat, Janani Suraksha Yojana, and Poshan Abhiyaan have contributed significantly to this achievement.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from “India’s human development continues to make progress, ranks 130 out of 193 countries”, *United Nations Development Programme*.]

26. What is the title of the Human Development Index – 2025 Report?
 - (a) Shaping Our Shared Digital Future: People and Policy in the AI Era
 - (b) A Matter of Choice: People and Possibilities in the Age of AI
 - (c) Human-Centered AI: Building Futures Together
 - (d) Beyond Metrics: Human Development in a Digital World

27. Who are credited for the making of the Human Development Index?
 - (a) Amartya Sen and Mahbub ul Haq
 - (b) Adam Smith and John Maynard Keynes
 - (c) Joseph Stiglitz and Angus Deaton

- (d) Paul Krugman and Jeffrey Sachs
28. Which of the following countries is not ranked within the top 5 in the Human Development Index, 2025?
(a) Germany
(b) Netherlands
(c) Denmark
(d) Switzerland
29. Which of the following countries is ranked the lowest on the Human Development Index 2025?
(a) Central African Republic
(b) Somalia
(c) South Sudan
(d) Chad
30. India is ranked 130th in the Human Development Index 2025 at par with which of the following countries?
(a) Pakistan
(b) Sri Lanka
(c) Bangladesh
(d) Nepal

Passage (Q.31-Q.35): On 15 April 2025, to commemorate the 106th Birth Anniversary of the Marshal of the Indian Air Force Arjan Singh Padma Vibhushan, DFC, a bust was unveiled at Astha, Senior Citizen Home, Tughlakabad, Delhi by Air Mshl Vijay Kumar Garg, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Maintenance Command and Air Mshl Jagjeet Singh (Retd) Senior Vice President Air Force Association. The event was attended by Mrs Ritu Garg, President AFFWA(R), IAF veterans and Personnel of Air Force Station, Tughlakbad.

The event was a tribute casted in the form of unveiling of the Marshal's bust, symbolising his enduring courage, visionary leadership and selfless service to the nation. The audience was reminded of his strategic brilliance and unflinching resolve shown as the Chief of the Air Staff during 1965 war. Under his leadership, the Indian Air Force provided the decisive close air support to pulverise the Pakistani Armoured thrust in the Akhnoor sector which changed the course of the war in India's favour. He is the only Five-star officer of the IAF, who is an institution by himself and shall remain a guiding beacon to follow for generations to come.

During the event, the AOC-in-C, Maintenance Command and President AFFWA (R) also interacted with the senior citizens and enquired about their wellbeing. The Air Force personnel also had the opportunity to interact with veterans who had served with the Marshal. Their real life narrative revived the heroic life of the legend.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from "Commemoration of the Birth Anniversary Celebrations of the Marshal of the Indian Air Force Arjan Singh Padma Vibhushan, DFC", PIB.]

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31. Who among the following is the incumbent Chief of the Air Staff of the Indian Armed Forces?
 - (a) AP Singh
 - (b) Anil Chauhan
 - (c) Upendra Dwivedi
 - (d) Dinesh K Tripathi
 32. Which of the following led to the creation of Bangladesh?
 - (a) Kargil War, 1999
 - (b) Third Indo-Pakistani War, 1971
 - (c) Second Indo-Pakistani War, 1965
 - (d) Operation Safed Sagar, 1999
 33. Which of the following wars was Marshal Arjan Singh the Chief of Air Staff for?
 - (a) Kargil War, 1999
 - (b) Third Indo-Pakistani War, 1971
 - (c) First Indo-Pakistani War, 1947-1948
 - (d) Second Indo-Pakistani War, 1965
 34. Who among the following has been awarded a Five-Star Rank in the Indian Navy?
 - (a) KM Cariappa
 - (b) Sam Manekshaw
 - (c) Both (a) and (b)
 - (d) None of the above.
 35. Which of the following is the highest attainable rank in the Indian Army?
 - (a) Lieutenant General
 - (b) General
 - (c) Major General
 - (d) Field Marshal

Passage (Q.36-Q.40): The 21st-century world is deeply integrated with interconnected supply chains and financial flows, and any unwinding of this integration could trigger significant economic upheaval, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) cautioned.

The warning came on a day IMF's World Economic Outlook (WEO) cut India's growth forecast for the current fiscal year to 6.2% and slashed its global trade outlook, as the US tariff war raises concerns worldwide. The fund had earlier predicted 6.5% growth for India in October, which was reiterated in January. The latest revision comes after similar cuts by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Moody's Analytics and S&P Global.

"The uncertainty around trade policy is also a major factor depressing our outlook. Faced with increased uncertainty about access to markets—their own but also those of their suppliers and customers—many firms' initial reaction will be to pause, reduce investment, and cut purchases," IMF's economic counsellor Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas said. "Likewise, financial institutions will re-evaluate their credit supply to businesses, until they can assess the latter's exposure to the new environment," he added.

The Economic Survey 2024-25 said that despite global headwinds, India remains the fastest-growing major economy, with FY26 growth seen between 6.3% and 6.8%, supported by rural demand, services, and manufacturing.

The IMF said India's growth outlook is relatively more stable at 6.2% in 2025 (2025–26), supported by private consumption, particularly in rural areas, but this rate is 0.3 percentage points lower than that in the January 2025 World Economic Outlook update on account of higher levels of trade tensions and global uncertainty. In FY27, IMF expects India to grow at 6.3%.

The IMF presents India's economic data and predictions on a fiscal year basis, while it uses the calendar year for other economies.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from “IMF cuts India view, cautions against global de-integration”, *Mint*.]

36. Which of the following conferences led to the establishment of the International Monetary Fund?
 - (a) Bretton Woods Conference
 - (b) Potsdam Conference
 - (c) Geneva Conference
 - (d) Yalta Conference
37. Who among the following is the ex-officio Governor on the Board of Governors of the International Monetary Fund?
 - (a) Nirmala Sitharaman
 - (b) Shaktikanta Das
 - (c) Narendra Modi
 - (d) Ajay Seth
38. What is the IMF's global growth forecast for 2025?
 - (a) 3.3 %
 - (b) 2.3 %
 - (c) 2.8%
 - (d) 4.2 %
39. Which of the following is not true about the IMF's World Economic Outlook?

- (a) It provides analysis and projections of global economic developments.
 (b) It is published quarterly by the International Monetary Fund.
 (c) It includes forecasts for both advanced and emerging economies.
 (d) It covers economic developments across all major regions of the world
40. Which of the following is not a flagship publication of the IMF?
 (a) Global Financial Stability Report
 (b) World Economic Outlook
 (c) Fiscal Monitor
 (d) World Development Report

Passage (Q.41-Q.45): The Technology Development Board (TDB), under the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, today unveiled the official theme for National Technology Day 2025 — “YANTRA – Yugantar for Advancing New Technology, Research & Acceleration.”

The word YANTRA, deeply rooted in India’s scientific and cultural heritage, represents not just mechanical ingenuity but also symbolic power — of systems, synergy, and scalable solutions. Yugantar, meaning an epochal shift, is emblematic of the country’s momentum in transitioning from technology adaptation to global technology leadership.

National Technology Day commemorates the momentous events of 11th May 1998, when India conducted successful nuclear tests under Operation Shakti, and saw the maiden flight of the indigenously developed Hansa-3 aircraft. In recognition of these achievements, then Prime Minister Sh. Atal Bihari Vajpayee declared 11th May as National Technology Day.

Over the years, National Technology Day has evolved into a flagship occasion for honouring scientific excellence, showcasing industrial innovations, and reinforcing the partnership between science, society, and industry. This year’s celebrations will be held on 11th May 2025 under the aegis of TDB-DST. The event will bring together policymakers, scientists, technocrats, industry leaders, academic institutions, and startup founders to deliberate on accelerating India’s technological journey through deep-tech, precision engineering, and transformative R&D.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from “TDB-DST launches theme for National Technology Day 2025: “YANTRA – Yugantar for Advancing New Technology, Research & Acceleration””, PIB.]

41. Who declared the first National Technology Day to honour Indian scientific developments?
 (a) Dr. Manmohan Singh
 (b) K. R. Narayanan
 (c) Atal Bihari Vajpayee
 (d) Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam

42. Which of the following was the code name for the Pokhran I nuclear test?
- (a) Operation Trikaya
 - (b) Operation Shakti-1
 - (c) Project Buddha's Smile
 - (d) Smiling Buddha
43. Where is the secretariat of the Wassenaar Arrangement located?
- (a) Brussels, Belgium
 - (b) The Hague, Netherlands
 - (c) Vienna, Austria
 - (d) Geneva, Switzerland
44. Which of the following is the theme of the National Technology Day 2025?
- (a) Yugantar for Advancing New Technology, Research & Acceleration
 - (b) Empowering a Sustainable Tomorrow Through Innovation
 - (c) Science and Technology for a Sustainable Future
 - (d) School to Startups – Igniting Young Minds to Innovate
45. Which of the following is not true about India's position on global nuclear treaties?
- (a) India supports a universal, non-discriminatory, and verifiable nuclear disarmament regime.
 - (b) India is a signatory to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) but has not ratified it.
 - (c) India has consistently opposed the discriminatory provisions of global nuclear treaties.
 - (d) India has not signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) as a non-nuclear weapon state.

Passage (Q.46-Q.50): Gender inequality and the climate crisis are one of the greatest challenges of today, which the quote above highlights. It also shows the need to integrate 'gender and climate' especially for rural communities. The inadequacy of a robust climate lens in the Beijing India Report 2024 (India's Report on Beijing+30) is a significant opportunity — integrating gender and climate considerations is not just an imperative for achieving gender equality but is also essential for India's sustainable and resilient future and human rights.

Existing inequalities, especially in India's rural areas, leave women and girls with less access to resources and decision-making power. They are often concentrated in the agrarian economy. The link between climate change and issues among women due to extreme heat exposure, malnutrition caused by droughts, food insecurity, and displacement leading to a higher rate of hysterectomies, infertility and menstrual health concerns is an area of concern. Heat stress and/or extreme precipitation affect/s agriculture productivity, human productivity and ecosystem functionality, causing price fluctuations, loss in income, distress migration, damaged infrastructure and hampered services for women. It results in nearly 33% losses in income, especially from non-farm livelihood streams.

If we look at climate policies and finance, they are primarily directed towards clean energy, green transport and energy efficiency. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, approximately 6% of climate policies mention women, 1% mention people living in poverty and 6% mention farmers. At the household or family level, the increased burden of unpaid care work (water collection, fuel gathering) due to climate-related resource scarcity affects women. The daily workload of women in India exceeds eight hours, with a staggering 71% unpaid work hours, according to a new report from Arsht-Rock. It warns that without efforts to combat climate change, the time women spend on unpaid tasks could reach 8.3 hours a day by 2050.

In India, over 50% of pregnant women are anaemic, which is an underlying cause or contributing factor to maternal deaths in India. The lack of consistent access to food affects women's health, as those experiencing food insecurity are 1.6 times more likely to suffer from anaemia when compared to their food-secure counterparts. In India, which has the highest rate of intimate partner violence among the countries in the study, there was a clear correlation between temperature rise and abuse: for each rise in degree Celsius, physical violence rose by 8% and sexual violence by 7.3%.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from "The Beijing India Report as milestone and opportunity", *The Hindu*.]

46. Where was the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995) adopted?
 - (a) First World Conference on Women
 - (b) Second World Conference on Women
 - (c) Third World Conference on Women
 - (d) Fourth World Conference on Women
47. According to the passage, which of the following statements best explains the impact of climate change on rural Indian women?
 - (a) Women are largely unaffected by climate change as they mostly work indoors.
 - (b) Climate change has led to significant wage increases for women due to new green jobs.
 - (c) Climate-related stressors increase women's unpaid workload, reduce their income, and worsen health outcomes.
 - (d) Women benefit from climate change policies as they are the primary recipients of climate finance.
48. What was primary objective of the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995?
 - (a) To launch a new international fund for women entrepreneurs
 - (b) To establish a UN convention on rural climate action
 - (c) To create a framework for economic development in Asia
 - (d) To address women's rights and gender equality globally
49. The term "unpaid care work" in the passage refers to:

- (a) Medical assistance provided by women without remuneration
 - (b) Domestic tasks like water collection and fuel gathering done by women without pay
 - (c) Women working in schools and anganwadis on honorarium
 - (d) Volunteer work by NGOs in rural areas
50. Which of the following statements is true as per the data in the passage?
- (a) For every 1°C rise in temperature, physical violence increases by 8%.
 - (b) Energy efficiency programs in India are primarily targeted at women farmers.
 - (c) Food-secure women are more likely to be anaemic.
 - (d) Extreme climate events have no measurable impact on health indicators.

Passage (Q.51-Q.55): A new, semi-automated framework developed by Isro's National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) is providing near real-time monitoring of crop sowing and harvesting during the current Rabi season across India.

The Comprehensive Remote Sensing Observation on Crop Progress (CROP) framework has systematically assessed wheat sown areas and overall crop conditions using optical and synthetic aperture radar datasets from multiple satellites for the 2024-25 Rabi season. Monitoring has focused on eight major wheat-growing states: Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Bihar, Gujarat, and Maharashtra.

"According to satellite data analysis, the wheat sown area as of March 31, 2025, stands at 330.8 lakh hectares, closely matching Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare statistics of 324.4 lakh hectares reported on February 4, 2025," Isro said.

A remote sensing-based Vegetation Health Index (VHI) has been employed to monitor crop conditions and drought stress. In January, crop conditions were stable with timely sowing and satisfactory growth, particularly in Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh. February saw rising temperatures and rainfall deficits causing concerns about potential yield losses due to heat stress during grain filling stages.

By late March, however, Rabi crops demonstrated notable resilience, supported by favourable weather conditions in late February and March," Isro said. It added that crop maturity progressed well, leading to optimistic projections. The Rabi crop harvest began in December, showing progressive increases through January, February, March, and the first week of April 2025.

An experimental assessment of wheat production has been conducted by integrating satellite-derived parameters with a process-based crop growth simulation model at 5 km × 5 km spatial resolution. Total wheat production from the eight major wheat-growing states is estimated at 122.7 million tonnes as of March 31, 2025.

This study showcases a methodology for near real-time monitoring of crop areas using multi-source satellite data, including progressive mapping of wheat crop area and production estimation. “The framework serves as a proof-of-concept highlighting potential for operational scalability, though the methodology requires further refinement to enhance accuracy and timeliness in supporting agricultural planning and food security decision-making at the national level,” Isro said.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from “ISRO’s new tool enables real-time monitoring of wheat crops”, *Times of India*.]

51. Which of the following components of the Comprehensive Remote Sensing Observation on Crop Progress (CROP) framework delivers optical remote sensing data for assessing vegetation and soil conditions?
 - (a) EOS-06 (Oceansat-03)
 - (b) Resourcesat-2A
 - (c) EOS-04 (RISAT-1A)
 - (d) None of the above.
52. Which of the following states are not encompassed by ISRO’s wheat production estimate?
 - (a) Uttar Pradesh
 - (b) Madhya Pradesh
 - (c) West Bengal
 - (d) Bihar
53. Which of the following indicators was used in the CROP framework to monitor drought stress and crop conditions?
 - (a) Soil Moisture Audit Scale
 - (b) Agricultural Crop Burden Index
 - (c) Vegetation Health Index (VHI)
 - (d) Photosynthetic Emission Metric
54. Which satellite data type allows observation through clouds and during nighttime, used in this study along with optical data?
 - (a) Solar radiometry
 - (b) Synthetic Aperture Radar
 - (c) LIDAR terrain mapping
 - (d) Doppler cloud sweepers
55. In the Indian agricultural context, which of the following crops is not typically sown in the Rabi season?
 - (a) Wheat
 - (b) Paddy
 - (c) Barley
 - (d) Gram

Legal Reasoning

Passage (Q.56-Q.60): The Supreme Court recently quashed an FIR and chargesheet filed against a husband and his family members for the offence under Section 498A of the Indian Penal Code(domestic cruelty towards wife), emphasizing that generic allegations lacking specificity cannot sustain a criminal trial.

The Bench found that the allegations against the mother-in-law and five sisters-in-law were vague and generic, without specific details of individual acts or incidents. Citing K. Subba Rao v. State of Telangana (2018) 14 SCC 452, the Court stressed that distant relatives cannot be prosecuted based on omnibus allegations alone.

The Court noted that despite serious allegations of physical cruelty and dowry demands, the complainant had failed to produce medical records, injury reports, or witness statements. The complainant had also withdrawn an earlier complaint, raising doubts about the credibility of her claims.

"Even if the allegations and the case of the prosecution is taken at its face value, apart from the bald allegations without any specifics of time, date or place, there is no incriminating material found by the prosecution or rather produced by the complainant to substantiate the ingredients of "cruelty" under section 498A IPC," the Court observed.

While acknowledging that even a police officer could be a victim of cruelty, the Court cautioned against the misuse of criminal law provisions to harass family members. It highlighted that indiscriminate prosecution, especially of distant relatives, must be avoided to prevent abuse of process.

Exercising its powers under Article 142 of the Constitution, the Supreme Court quashed FIR No. 1098/2002 and the chargesheet dated 27.07.2004, holding that proceeding with the trial would be oppressive and unjust given the lack of specific allegations and evidence.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from "Supreme Court Quashes S.498A IPC Case Against Husband & In-Laws, Cautions Against Misuse Of Law", *LiveLaw*.]

56. Ayesha, a schoolteacher, filed an FIR against her husband and five of his relatives, including his mother, elder sister, and three cousins. She submitted medical records showing repeated bruises on her arms and back over a span of four months, and a letter from her therapist indicating symptoms of sustained emotional abuse. In her statement to the police, she claimed, "My husband and his entire family constantly harassed me for dowry, made my life miserable, and isolated me from my own parents." However, when asked to describe specific incidents involving the other accused, she stated, "They all supported my husband. He could not have behaved like this without them backing him." No separate acts, communications, or dates were provided with respect to anyone except the husband. The prosecution included all six accused

in the chargesheet, citing a “pattern of collective domestic pressure.” Which of the following conclusions is most consistent with the Supreme Court’s reasoning in the passage?

- (a) The absence of specific allegations, timing, or actions against the relatives makes it legally improper to prosecute them based on assumption or association.
 - (b) The therapist’s testimony and Ayesha’s general statements suffice to infer the relatives’ complicity in the abuse and justify continuing the case.
 - (c) The cumulative psychological and physical harm described by Ayesha supports prosecuting the entire family as a unit, regardless of individual roles.
 - (d) Since the complainant has medical records and emotional distress has been corroborated, all named parties must face trial to ensure justice.
57. Neelam lodged a complaint against her husband and three of his relatives, including his sister, alleging prolonged emotional and psychological abuse stemming from dowry-related pressure. To support her claims, she submitted an audio recording of a phone call that took place two weeks before she left her matrimonial home. In the recording, a woman’s voice is heard angrily rebuking Neelam: “You brought nothing from your father’s house, and now you expect to live here comfortably?” Neelam identified the voice as that of her sister-in-law, with whom she had regular confrontations. However, the recording neither includes any explicit mention of dowry nor contains identifiable names. The sister-in-law categorically denied it was her voice and claimed she had not spoken to Neelam for several months. No forensic voice analysis was submitted. The investigating officer, relying on Neelam’s identification alone, included the sister-in-law in the chargesheet under allegations of mental cruelty and abetment. Which of the following most accurately reflects the evidentiary concern, as per the principles laid down in the Supreme Court decision referred to in the passage?
- (a) The very act of including the audio recording, irrespective of its content or attribution, shifts the burden onto the sister-in-law to prove her innocence.
 - (b) The aggressive tone of the speaker and the reference to “father’s house” strongly indicate a dowry-related taunt, which is sufficient to justify proceeding against the sister-in-law.
 - (c) In the absence of independent voice verification or specific corroboration, attributing the recording solely based on Neelam’s claim is inadequate to sustain criminal proceedings.
 - (d) Since emotional abuse is difficult to document, the court must allow broad inferences and include all named individuals to ensure a fair trial.
58. Divya filed an FIR alleging that her husband and his entire family routinely harassed her for dowry and beat her. The complaint did not mention any specific dates, places, or witnesses. It was filed shortly after she returned to her parents’ home following a heated argument with her husband. She had never lodged any prior complaint, and she provided no medical reports, injury records, or corroborating statements from neighbors or friends. The police still included six family members in the chargesheet. Which of the following most significantly undermines the credibility of her allegations, based on the reasoning in the passage?
- (a) She did not claim to suffer emotional trauma in her complaint.
 - (b) Her return to her parental home suggests family interference.
 - (c) The FIR was triggered by a single domestic argument.
 - (d) The absence of medical or documentary evidence to support serious allegations.

59. Sneha filed an FIR against her husband, his mother, and two maternal uncles, alleging they collectively pressured her for dowry. As evidence, she submitted WhatsApp chats with her husband in which he said, “They are asking too much—I told them it’s enough.” There were no messages or statements directly from the in-laws, and Sneha did not provide dates, witness accounts, or specify the uncles’ role. The police included all four in the chargesheet based on this exchange. Which option most accurately reflects how the Court would assess this evidence, based on the reasoning in the passage?
- (a) Family discussions about finances create automatic liability.
 - (b) Elderly uncles are presumed to be decision-makers in such matters.
 - (c) The husband's use of “they” is enough to prosecute the family.
 - (d) (b) Indirect references without specific conduct don't justify prosecution.
60. Jyoti filed a complaint against her husband for cruelty, submitting photos of injuries and WhatsApp messages in which he threatened her. She also named his brother and cousin, claiming they “encouraged his behaviour by not stopping him.” However, during mediation, Jyoti admitted she had never directly interacted with the cousin. There was no evidence of the cousin’s presence during any incident, nor any reference to him in messages or photos. Still, the chargesheet included his name based on her initial statement. Which of the following, if true, would most strongly undermine the justification for including the cousin in the FIR, as per the Court’s reasoning?
- (a) A friend of Jyoti suggested adding the cousin’s name.
 - (b) The cousin lived in another state and was never part of the household.
 - (c) The cousin posted insensitive memes about marriage online.
 - (d) The cousin was often away on business trips.

Passage (Q.61-Q.65): The Supreme Court today (June 9) has held that an accused person has a right to voluntarily undergo a narco-analysis test, but at the appropriate stage of the trial, that is, when the accused is exercising his right to lead the evidence. Having said that, there is no indefeasible right of the accused to undergo a narco-analysis test, for upon receipt of such an application the concerned Court, must consider the totality of circumstances surrounding the matter, such as free consent, appropriate safeguards etc., authorizing a person to undergo a voluntary narco-analysis test.

The short issue in this case, which came to be challenged before the Supreme Court, was that the Patna High Court, in an application for regular bail, accepted the submission of the Sub-Divisional Police officer, Mahua, that a narco-analysis test will be conducted on all accused persons during investigation in a matter relating to the allegations of dowry death by husband and his family.

While other members of the family were out on bail, the husband-Appellant's bail came to be considered before the high court. The High Court accepted the submissions of narco-analysis, thereby rejecting his bail. The Appellant claimed that this was in contravention of the Selvi and

Ors. v. State of Karnataka (2010), wherein it was held that forceful subjection of an individual to such techniques violates Article 21.

The Court held that the High Court was wrong in accepting the submission for conducting a narco-analysis test on all accused persons.

"However, conducting such tests on persons accused of committing a crime raises serious questions, vis-à-vis, the constitutional protection granted from compulsion to become a witness against oneself under Article 20(3). The constitutional validity of this test, along with similar tests like the polygraph test, came to be challenged before this Court in Selvi (*supra*). After an elaborate discussion, this Court (three-Judge Bench) held involuntary administration of this test to be hit by Articles 20(3) and 21 of the Constitution."

The Court therefore concluded that any involuntary or forced narco-analysis test is not permissible under law. Consequently, a report of such a test or information that is discovered subsequently is also not *per se*, admissible as evidence.

The judgment authored by Justice Karol also questioned as to why the High Court accepted such a submission whereas its job was to consider the bail plea considering the allegation, custody undergone, nature of offence, etc. It is settled law that while entertaining an application for grant of bail, the Court has to take into consideration the allegations against the accused; period of custody undergone; nature of evidence and the crime in question; likelihood of influencing witnesses and other such relevant grounds. It does not involve entering into a roving enquiry or accepting the use of involuntary investigative techniques.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from "Accused Has Right To Voluntarily Undergo Narco-Analysis Test Subject To Court's Permission : Supreme Court", *LiveLaw*.]

61. Arjun, a 28-year-old man, was arrested in connection with the alleged dowry death of his wife and had remained in judicial custody for over 90 days. During the bail hearing, the prosecution acknowledged that no direct eyewitnesses or confession existed yet but claimed that a narco-analysis test would soon be conducted on Arjun, which could yield "crucial leads." Relying entirely on this assertion, the judge rejected Arjun's bail, observing that the potential outcome of the test might drastically influence the course of the investigation. Arjun's counsel argued that denial of bail cannot rest on anticipated, unverified future tests, particularly those of controversial reliability. No arguments were made regarding the likelihood of Arjun tampering with evidence, fleeing, or influencing witnesses. Which of the following most appropriately reflects how the court should have decided the bail application?
- (a) Deny bail since investigative steps are pending.
 - (b) Consider the bail plea on relevant grounds, ignoring the proposed test.
 - (c) Direct Arjun to undergo the test before considering bail.
 - (d) Await test results to decide fairly.

62. Farhan, charged with criminal conspiracy, was on trial before a Sessions Court. After the prosecution had examined three key witnesses but before he had been asked to enter his defence, Farhan filed a written application stating that he wished to voluntarily undergo a narco-analysis test to prove his innocence. He argued that the police investigation was biased and the test could reveal exculpatory material in his favor. The trial judge summarily dismissed the request, stating that such tests are only permissible during investigation and cannot be entertained once charges have been framed. The court did not examine whether Farhan's consent was voluntary or whether procedural safeguards could be ensured. According to the reasoning in the Supreme Court's judgment, how should the court have handled this request?
- (a) He can apply to undergo the test when he begins presenting his defence.
 - (b) The accused may not request a test at any stage of the trial.
 - (c) The court was correct; such tests must only occur pre-trial.
 - (d) The request was premature; he should wait till the judgment stage.
63. Mehul, a 35-year-old man accused of orchestrating a burglary at a local jewelry store, was taken into custody by the police. During the investigation, officers subjected him to a narco-analysis test without his written consent or prior approval from any magistrate. Under sedation, Mehul allegedly mentioned the location where some of the stolen items had been hidden. Acting on this information, the police conducted a search and recovered a portion of the stolen property. At trial, the prosecution submitted both the narco-analysis test report and the recovery memo as evidence of Mehul's guilt. Mehul's defence counsel objected, arguing that the test was conducted without legal authorization and violated his rights. The court now must decide the admissibility of both the test report and the recovered material. How should the trial court assess the evidentiary value of these materials, based on the Supreme Court's reasoning?
- (a) Accept both the test and the recovery.
 - (b) Reject the recovery, but admit the test report.
 - (c) Reject both as they stem from an illegal test.
 - (d) Cannot be determined.
64. Priya, a postgraduate student, was arrested in connection with the alleged suicide of her husband. She had been in custody for 45 days when she applied for bail. During the hearing, the prosecution informed the court that Priya had expressed willingness to undergo narco-analysis and a polygraph test, and that these tests "could bring clarity on her role." No material evidence had emerged implicating her beyond initial witness statements, and the prosecution did not claim she posed a flight risk or was attempting to influence witnesses. The judge, citing the potential of these scientific tests to reveal the truth, postponed the bail hearing until the results were available. Priya's counsel argued that deferring bail on the basis of pending tests was both speculative and procedurally flawed. Which of the following actions best aligns with the reasoning adopted by the Supreme Court?
- (a) The bail decision must rest on existing evidence and custody factors.
 - (b) Bail should be denied until the test is completed.
 - (c) The court can factor in willingness to undergo tests when granting bail.
 - (d) The judge must await the test results.

65. Rajiv, on trial for alleged involvement in a financial fraud, submitted a formal written application to the trial court requesting to undergo a narco-analysis test. He claimed that the test would help establish his innocence and expose inconsistencies in the prosecution's evidence. Without seeking any explanation regarding Rajiv's understanding of the procedure or verifying whether his consent was informed and voluntary, the judge allowed the request and directed authorities to proceed. No medical evaluation was conducted, and no safeguards were documented. After the test was conducted, Rajiv's lawyer moved to exclude the results, contending that the approval process had failed to comply with the required standards of voluntariness and procedural fairness. Based on the reasoning in the Supreme Court's ruling, what should the court have done before approving the test?
- Reject the request since such tests are unreliable.
 - Ensure consent was informed, voluntary, and medically sound before approval.
 - Refer the request to the prosecution for review.
 - Accept the application as valid and proceed.

Passage (Q.66-Q.70): The Supreme Court held that a High Court cannot suo motu exercise its revisional powers to enhance the sentence while considering an appeal filed by a convict/accused against conviction.

The Court stated that the High Court cannot invoke its revisional jurisdiction under Section 401 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Section 442 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita) when the party who could have filed the revision petition, such as the State or the complainant, has chosen not to do so.

A bench comprising Justice BV Nagarathna and Justice Satish Chandra Sharma was considering an appeal against a judgment of the Madras High Court, which suo motu used its revisional powers to sentence and convict the appellant for the offence under Section 306 (abetment of suicide) of the Indian Penal Code. The trial court had acquitted the appellant of the offence under Section 306 IPC but convicted him under Sections 354 & 448 IPC and sentenced him to three years imprisonment. He filed an appeal in the High Court against conviction. The High Court then registered a suo motu revision petition and considered it along with the convict's appeal. Asserting that it has inherent suo motu revision powers, the High Court convicted the appellant under S.306 IPC also and sentenced him to undergo five years rigorous imprisonment along with fine.

The Supreme Court disapproved of the course adopted by the High Court, observing that "the appellate court in an appeal filed by the accused cannot while maintaining the conviction enhance the sentence."

"While exercising its appellate jurisdiction, the High Court cannot act as a revisional court, particularly, when no appeal or revision has been filed either by the State, victim or complainant for seeking enhancement of sentence against accused," observed the judgment authored by Justice Nagarathna.

The Court referred to Sub-section (4) of Section 401 of CrPC, which states that where under the CrPC an appeal could have been filed and has not been filed, then no proceeding by way of revision could be entertained at the instance of the party who could have appealed. From this, the Supreme Court deduced that if the "State, complainant or the victim who have the right to file an appeal do not opt to do so, then the High Court cannot entertain a revision at its behest."

The Court added : "Under Section 401 of CrPC, the High Court is not authorised to convert the findings of acquittal into one of conviction by exercise of revisional jurisdiction. This salutary principle can be extended to also mean that the High Court cannot enhance the sentence imposed by a Trial Court on conviction in an appeal filed by the accused/convict. Thus, in sum and substance, it can be observed that in an appeal filed by the accused seeking setting aside of the conviction of sentence, the High Court cannot exercise its revisional powers and while affirming the conviction direct for enhancement of sentence, when actually appeal could have been filed by the State, complainant or the victim and has not been filed. Therefore, where an appeal has been filed by the accused challenging the conviction and the sentence, the revisional jurisdiction cannot be exercised by the High Court so as to remand the matter to the Trial Court for the purpose of enhancement of the sentence."

Even if an opportunity of hearing is given to such an accused/convict, we do not think that the High Court can exercise its revisional jurisdiction under Section 401 of CrPC while exercising its appellate jurisdiction in an appeal filed by the accused/convict in the High Court. All that the High Court can do is to set-aside the judgment of conviction and sentence and acquit the accused, or while doing so, order for a retrial, or in the alternative, while maintaining the conviction, reduce the sentence. In other words, in an appeal filed only by the accused/convict, the High Court cannot suo motu exercise its revisional jurisdiction and enhance the sentence against the accused while maintaining the conviction.

The Court affirmed that the power to enhance the sentence can be exercised by the appellate court only in an appeal filed by the State, victim or complainant, provided the accused has had an opportunity of showing cause against such enhancement.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from "High Court Cannot Exercise Suo Motu Revision Power To Enhance Sentence In Convict's Appeal : Supreme Court", *LiveLaw*.]

66. Suresh was convicted by the trial court under charges of trespass and criminal harassment involving his neighbour and sentenced to two years of simple imprisonment. He appealed to the High Court, seeking reversal of the conviction and sentence. During the hearing, the High Court reviewed the trial court record and noted that the victim had died by suicide one month after the incident, though this was not part of the original charges. The court, calling it a "clear miscarriage of justice," treated the appeal as a revision, added the charge of abetment of suicide, and enhanced Suresh's sentence from two to five years. The State had not filed any appeal or revision application against the original judgment. Suresh had no prior notice of the enhancement. What should be the correct legal response to the High Court's action?
- It is valid if Suresh was heard before the sentence was increased.
 - The High Court acted within its power to do justice.

- (c) The court cannot enhance sentence in an appeal filed only by the accused.
(d) The victim's death allowed the High Court to revisit charges.
67. Tariq was convicted by the trial court for causing grievous hurt and sentenced to three years' imprisonment. He appealed to the High Court challenging both the conviction and the severity of the sentence, arguing that the evidence was weak and the sentence disproportionate. The State, however, did not file any appeal or revision seeking enhancement. During the hearing, the High Court agreed with the trial court's findings and upheld the conviction. However, while doing so, it observed that the act was "particularly brutal" and increased Tariq's sentence to five years. It reasoned that Tariq had been granted an opportunity to respond and that the enhancement served the ends of justice. Tariq challenged this, arguing that the High Court lacked the authority to enhance his sentence in an appeal filed solely by him. What is the correct legal position in this case?
(a) Once conviction is upheld, the High Court has full discretion to modify the sentence.
(b) The increase is valid since the accused was heard.
(c) Sentence can be enhanced if new aggravating factors are found.
(d) The High Court cannot enhance the sentence in an appeal filed only by the accused.
68. Renu was convicted by the trial court under charges of forgery and sentenced to one year of simple imprisonment. She filed an appeal before the High Court, arguing that the evidence was insufficient to prove her guilt and that several procedural errors had occurred during trial, including the improper admission of documents. The State did not appeal against the judgment—neither to challenge the sentence nor to seek a conviction under a more serious offence. After hearing the matter, the High Court concluded that the trial had procedural lapses and the evidence was insufficient to sustain the conviction. However, instead of acquitting Renu, the High Court ordered a retrial and directed the trial court to re-examine the charges in detail. It made no reference to enhancement or modification of the charges. What was the legally permissible course of action open to the High Court in this situation?
(a) Acquit Renu or order a retrial, depending on its evaluation of evidence.
(b) Enhance sentence to deter such crimes.
(c) Modify conviction to include more serious charges.
(d) Convert the appeal into a revision to add further counts.
69. Deepak, a bank employee, was convicted by the trial court for criminal breach of trust and sentenced to two years' rigorous imprisonment. He appealed the conviction to the High Court, challenging both the findings and the sentence. The State did not file any appeal or revision seeking enhancement of sentence or conviction under additional charges. During the appeal hearing, the High Court expressed concern over the "leniency" of the sentence and asked Deepak's lawyer whether he had any submissions against enhancement. The lawyer filed a written response opposing it. Despite this, the High Court maintained the conviction but increased the sentence from two to four years, reasoning that the accused had been granted a full opportunity to be heard and that the severity of the act warranted stronger punishment. Deepak challenged the order before a higher bench. What is the most accurate legal conclusion?
(a) The enhancement is valid due to the hearing opportunity.

- (b) The High Court cannot use revisional powers just because the accused replied.
 (c) Deepak consented by engaging with the notice, so he cannot object.
 (d) Once conviction is maintained, sentence enhancement follows naturally.
70. Savita was convicted for issuing threats and sentenced to a fine of ₹1,000. Feeling aggrieved by the conviction, she filed an appeal before the High Court, arguing that the evidence was unreliable. During the hearing, the High Court noted that the offence had created substantial fear in the locality and questioned whether the sentence was "meaningful." It then directed a sentence of three months' simple imprisonment, holding that the fine alone undermined deterrence. No appeal or revision had been filed by the complainant or the State. Savita's counsel objected, stating that the High Court was exceeding its jurisdiction. Which of the following best reflects the correct legal outcome?
- (a) The High Court had no power to alter the sentence while hearing only the convict's appeal.
 (b) Hearing the accused cured any jurisdictional defect.
 (c) The sentence enhancement was valid due to public interest.
 (d) The High Court was entitled to correct a sentence that failed to deter crime.

Passage (Q.71-Q.75): The Supreme Court recently set aside the preventive detention under the Kerala Anti-Social Activities (Prevention) Act, 2007 (KAAPA). The Court emphasized that the extraordinary power of preventive detention must be exercised sparingly and strictly in line with constitutional safeguards, reaffirming the principle that the liberty of an individual cannot be curtailed lightly.

The judgment by Justice Sanjay Karol and Justice Manmohan underscored the difference between 'public order' and 'law and order' and clarified that preventive detention cannot be used merely as a substitute for criminal prosecution or to circumvent bail orders.

"The circumstances pointed out in the order by the detaining authority may be ground enough for the State to approach the competent Courts for cancellation of bail, but it cannot be said that the same warranted his preventive detention," the Court observed.

The Court reiterated that preventive detention is an extraordinary measure that must be sparingly used, being an exception to the right to personal liberty guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution. It referred to *Rekha v. State of Tamil Nadu*, holding that the power of preventive detention is an exception to Article 21 and, therefore, must be applied as such, as an exception to the main rule and only in rare cases.

Given the extraordinary nature of the power of preventive detention, the Court referred to *Icchhu Devi v. Union of India*, placing the burden on the detaining authority to prove that such actions are in conformity with the procedure established by law, in consonance with Article 21. Similarly, in *Banka Sneha Sheela v. State of Telengana*, the Court reiterated that an action of preventive detention has to be checked against Article 21 of the Constitution and the statute in question.

The Court emphasized the distinction between 'law and order' and 'public order', citing SK. Nazneen v. State of Telangana and Nenavath Bujji v. State of Telangana.

In SK. Nazneen v. State of Telangana, it was held that: "The detention orders were not justified as it was dealing with a law and order situation and not a public order situation."

Quoting the decision in Nenavath Bujji v. State of Telangana, the Court said: "The distinction between the areas of 'law and order' and 'public order' is one of degree and extent of the reach of the act in question on society. It is the potentiality of the act to disturb the even tempo of life of the community which makes it prejudicial to the maintenance of public order. If a contravention in its effect is confined only to a few individuals directly involved as distinct from a wide spectrum of public, it could raise a problem of law and order only. In other words, the true distinction between the areas of law and order and public order lies not merely in the nature or quality of the act, but in the degree and extent of its reach upon society."

Thus, in the present case, the Court said: "In our view, the attending facts and circumstances do not fall under the category of a public order situation. The observations made in the detention order do not ascribe any reason as to how the actions of the detenu are against the public order of the State."

The Court also relied on Ameena Begum v. State of Telengana while addressing the issue of bail conditions. It was emphasized the decision that: "There may have existed sufficient grounds to appeal against the bail orders, but the circumstances did not warrant the circumvention of ordinary criminal procedure to resort to an extraordinary measure of the law of preventive detention."

The Court also looked at the precedent of Vijay Narain Singh v. State of Bihar and quoted the judgment: "... It is well settled that the law of preventive detention is a hard law and therefore it should be strictly construed. Care should be taken that the liberty of a person is not jeopardised unless his case falls squarely within the four corners of the relevant law. The law of preventive detention should not be used merely to clip the wings of an accused who is involved in a criminal prosecution."

[Extracted with revisions and edits from "Preventive Detention Can't Be A Substitute For Bail Cancellation : Supreme Court", *LiveLaw*.]

71. Rakesh was detained under a preventive detention order after being involved in a street fight that left two individuals injured. The detention order stated that his actions were "likely to disturb peace in the area." No reports suggested that the incident caused panic or impacted daily life in the neighborhood. Rakesh had no history of similar violence, and his bail was already granted by a magistrate. What is the most reasonable conclusion under the Court's reasoning?
- The detention is valid as peace was disturbed.
 - The detention is invalid as the incident affected only a few individuals.
 - Since bail was granted, detention must automatically follow.
 - Any violent incident justifies preventive detention.

72. Priya, arrested for illegal arms possession, was granted bail by the sessions court. A week later, the District Magistrate issued a preventive detention order stating that she might commit further offences. The order did not indicate any fresh acts or public risk beyond the original charge. The State argued that it had no option but to detain her as her release on bail was "undesirable." What is the most appropriate legal response to the detention?
- (a) The State must challenge the bail instead of using detention.
 - (b) Bail and detention can always coexist.
 - (c) Once bail is granted, preventive detention becomes automatic.
 - (d) The detention is valid if based on State's dissatisfaction.
73. Shahid was involved in organizing repeated acts of arson during public protests. The events led to major road blockages across three districts, multiple school closures, and temporary suspension of internet services. Several reports indicated that fear had gripped local markets and essential services were disrupted for days. The authorities, after Shahid's release on bail, issued a preventive detention order citing the need to prevent further disruption of civil life and maintenance of public order. What is the most legally sound conclusion?
- (a) The impact was local, so only law and order was affected.
 - (b) The detention is excessive since he was already granted bail.
 - (c) Preventive detention is justified as his actions disturbed the public order.
 - (d) The court should have cancelled his bail instead.
74. Radha ran a racket involving spiking food items with sedatives and robbing commuters in public trains. Despite being arrested three times, she was granted bail each time. The Railway Police documented a pattern of public panic, declining passenger traffic, and at least one death. After her release on bail, authorities issued a preventive detention order, stating that regular prosecution had failed to prevent recurrence and her actions posed a threat to public safety and order. What is the most appropriate legal assessment?
- (a) Detention is invalid unless new charges are filed.
 - (b) Bail conditions should be made stricter instead.
 - (c) Preventive detention is valid given the pattern and public disruption.
 - (d) The State should wait for conviction before acting.
75. Ajay, a 29-year-old street vendor, had been arrested in connection with five theft cases over the past four years, all involving pickpocketing in crowded market areas. Some cases were pending trial, while others ended in acquittal or were withdrawn. After his most recent arrest, he was granted bail by the magistrate. Days later, a preventive detention order was issued against him, describing him as a "habitual offender." The detention order cited only the number of FIRs and alleged that his activities disturbed public confidence in local law enforcement. However, the order did not point to any specific fresh conduct, nor did it explain how Ajay posed a current threat to public peace or why ordinary prosecution was inadequate. Ajay's counsel argued that the detention was a substitute for weak prosecutions. Which outcome best reflects the Supreme Court's reasoning?
- (a) Detention is valid since Ajay is a known offender.

- (b) The detaining authority must show how actions affect wider public order.
- (c) If someone is repeatedly arrested, detention is automatic.
- (d) Past cases are enough to justify detention.

Passage (Q.76-Q.80): The Supreme Court observed in a recent judgment that the right of an accused to file appeal against conviction is not only a statutory right but also a constitutional right.

A bench comprising Justice BV Nagarathna and Justice Satish Chandra Sharma observed: "That a right of appeal is an invaluable right, particularly for an accused who cannot be condemned eternally by a trial judge, without having a right to seek a re-look of the Trial Court's judgment by a superior or appellate court. The right to prefer an appeal is not only a statutory right but also a constitutional right in the case of an accused. This is because an accused has a right to not only challenge a judgment on its merits, namely, with respect to the conviction and sentence being imposed on him, but also on the procedural aspects of the trial."

"An accused can question procedural flaws, impropriety and lapses that may have been committed by the Trial Court in arriving at the judgment of conviction and imposition of sentence in an appeal filed against the same. It then becomes the duty of the appellate court to consider the appeal from the perspective of the accused-appellant therein to see if he has a good case on merits, and to set aside the judgment of the Trial Court and acquit the accused, or to remand the matter for a re-trial in accordance with law, or to reduce the sentence while maintaining the conviction or, in the alternative, to dismiss the appeal."

The Court made these observations while setting aside a High Court judgment which enhanced the sentence in *Suo Motu* revision while considering the convict's appeal. The Court held that *suo motu* revision power cannot be exercised to enhance the sentence in convict's appeal.

"In our considered view, the appellate court in an appeal filed by the accused cannot while maintaining the conviction enhance the sentence. While exercising its appellate jurisdiction, the High Court cannot act as a revisional court, particularly, when no appeal or revision has been filed either by the State, victim or complainant for seeking enhancement of sentence against accused."

[Extracted with revisions and edits from "Right To File Appeal Against Conviction Is Not Mere Statutory Right; Also A Constitutional Right Of Accused : Supreme Court", *LiveLaw*.]

76. Arvind was convicted by a sessions court for embezzlement and sentenced to four years' imprisonment. He filed an appeal before the High Court, raising two key grounds: first, that the prosecution's case lacked direct documentary proof, and second, that his trial lawyer was absent on three hearing dates when key prosecution witnesses were examined. The appellate court dismissed the appeal in a brief, two-page order, stating that the evidence was "strong" and that the trial court's conviction was "well reasoned." However, it made no reference to the procedural lapses alleged by Arvind, nor did it consider whether his absence of counsel on crucial dates had affected his ability to defend himself. Arvind then filed a special leave petition

alleging that his constitutional right to a meaningful appeal had been denied. What should have been the High Court's correct approach to Arvind's appeal?

- (a) Consider both factual and procedural errors raised.
- (b) Address only the evidentiary claims.
- (c) Ignore absence of counsel unless proven prejudicial.
- (d) Dismiss if evidence was strong.

77. Rina was convicted by a magistrate court for causing death by negligence after a traffic collision. She was sentenced to two years' imprisonment. In her appeal, she highlighted that her lawyer failed to appear during the cross-examination of key witnesses, including the investigating officer and the medical examiner. The trial court had proceeded without cross-examination and relied heavily on these testimonies. The High Court, upon review, acknowledged that these were serious omissions, but nonetheless chose to uphold the conviction and sentence, reasoning that the evidence was sufficient and the trial court had discretion to proceed in absence of defence counsel. Rina contended that the trial was procedurally flawed, and that her right to defend herself had been compromised, warranting a retrial. What would have been the more appropriate judicial response?
- (a) Ignore the lapse unless misconduct by trial court is proven.
 - (b) Maintain conviction since defence was absent voluntarily.
 - (c) Increase sentence due to seriousness of the charge.
 - (d) Order a re-trial to safeguard fairness.
78. Mahesh was convicted for robbery and sentenced to three years' imprisonment. He filed an appeal before the High Court, challenging both the conviction and the sentence, claiming he was wrongly identified and the sentence was disproportionate. The State did not file any appeal or revision seeking a higher sentence. While hearing Mahesh's appeal, the High Court upheld the conviction but suo motu increased his sentence to five years, citing the "gravity of the offence" and the rising trend of urban street crime. Mahesh's counsel objected, stating that the enhancement was beyond the court's power since the appeal was filed only by the accused and no notice had been issued by the State seeking enhancement. What is the correct constitutional and procedural position?
- (a) Sentence enhancement is valid once conviction is upheld.
 - (b) The court can increase sentence in serious cases.
 - (c) The appellate court has full discretion in sentencing.
 - (d) The court cannot enhance sentence in appeal filed only by the accused.
79. Faizal was convicted under charges of criminal trespass and wrongful restraint in a property dispute. He was sentenced to two years' imprisonment. In his appeal, Faizal argued that the trial court had relied on one-sided testimony and that the judge had frequently intervened in a biased manner during cross-examination. He also alleged that the final judgment did not properly explain how the essential ingredients of the offence were satisfied. The High Court, however, dismissed his appeal in a brief order that merely reiterated the trial court's reasoning and did not independently evaluate the procedural irregularities. Faizal claimed that he was denied a full and fair appellate review. What should the High Court have done in this situation?

- (a) Review both substance and procedure in detail.
 (b) Uphold the conviction as long as a trial was conducted.
 (c) Limit the review to sentencing only.
 (d) Focus only on strength of evidence.
80. Lalita, a small business owner, was convicted of cheating based solely on the testimony of a single complainant who alleged she took payment and failed to deliver goods. The trial court's judgment did not examine inconsistencies in the testimony or the absence of documentary evidence. Lalita appealed, arguing that the trial court had failed to appreciate that no contract or invoice was produced, and that the judge ignored these omissions in the final order. The High Court dismissed her appeal with a single line: "We find no error in the judgment under appeal." Lalita now argues that she was denied her right to appellate review and that the court failed to assess whether the conviction was based on proper reasoning. Which of the following is the most accurate conclusion?
- (a) Lack of documents doesn't matter if testimony is firm.
 (b) Appeals can be dismissed briefly if the trial seems sound.
 (c) The appellate court must evaluate the trial court's reasoning.
 (d) Appellate courts only check legality, not facts.

Passage (Q.81-Q.85): The Supreme Court recently observed that the offence under Section 387 of the Indian Penal Code doesn't require actual delivery of property; instead, putting a person in fear of death/grievous hurt for the purpose of extortion is sufficient.

Holding thus, the bench comprising Justices Sanjay Karol and Manoj Misra set aside the Allahabad High Court's decision, which had quashed the summons issued to the accused in connection with a complaint registered under Section 387 IPC (Putting a person in fear of death or of grievous hurt to commit Extortion).

The Court rejected the High Court's view that an offence under Section 387 IPC requires actual delivery of property. It clarified that extortion under Section 387 is complete as soon as the victim is put in fear of death or grievous hurt. Unlike Section 383, which defines extortion and necessitates the delivery of property, Section 387 does not require any transfer of valuable property for the offence to be established.

The case involved a criminal complaint under Section 387 IPC (extortion by threat of death/grievous hurt) filed by Appellant's proprietor, alleging that Respondent No.1 and his associates threatened him at gunpoint to either shut down his betel nut business or pay ₹5 lakh/month.

The Trial Court issued a summons, but the Allahabad High Court quashed the proceedings, holding that no extortion occurred since no money/property was actually delivered.

Aggrieved by the High Court's decision, the Appellant moved to the Supreme Court.

Setting aside the impugned decision, the judgment authored by Justice Karol observed that the High Court erred in applying the ingredients of Section 383 IPC, as the complainant/victim was put to fear of death on gunpoint pressurizing him to deliver Rs. 5 Lakhs per month, and such an overt act was sufficient to invoke Section 387 IPC despite there was no actual delivery of property.

“Putting a person in fear would make an accused guilty of an offence under Section 387 IPC; it need not satisfy all the ingredients of extortion provided under Section 383 IPC,” the court said.

“We are of the view that the instant case is not fit for quashing as the two essential ingredients for prosecution under Section 387 IPC, as discussed supra have been *prima facie* disclosed in the complaint, (a) that the complainant has been put in fear of death by pointing a gun towards him; and (b) that it was done to pressurize him to deliver Rs.5 lakhs. The High Court, while quashing, has wrongly emphasized the fact that the said amount was not delivered; it failed to consider whether the money/property was delivered or not, is not even necessary as the accused is not charged with Section 384 IPC. The allegations of putting a person in fear of death or grievous hurt would itself make him liable to be prosecuted under Section 387 IPC.”, the court added.

In this regard, the Court cited the case of *Somasundaram v. State*, where the accused threatened the victim to sign documents but killed him before compliance, still held guilty under Section 387.

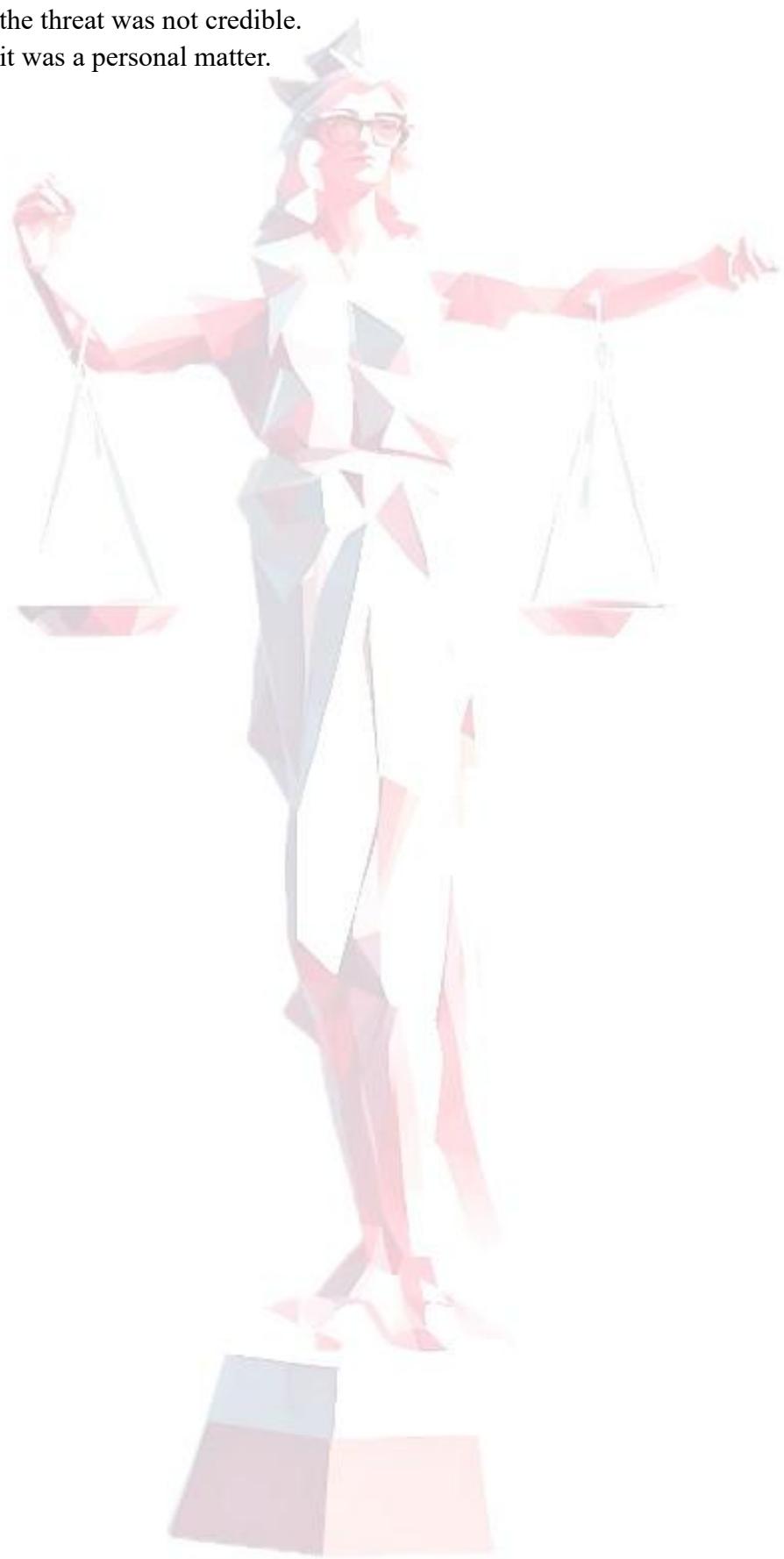
[Extracted with revisions and edits from “S.387 IPC |Actual Property Delivery Not Required; Offence Committed When Person Put In Fear Of Death/Grievous Injury : Supreme Court”, *LiveLaw*.]

81. Vijay owns a small transport company. One evening, two men entered his office, showed him a knife, and warned that unless he paid ₹10,000 weekly, his trucks would be torched and his staff harmed. Terrified, Vijay reported the matter to police immediately. He refused to pay and no money changed hands. The trial court took cognizance, but the accused moved the High Court, arguing that no extortion occurred as Vijay never paid the money. Which of the following is the most appropriate legal response?
 - (a) The case should be quashed since no money was delivered.
 - (b) The act of putting him in fear to obtain money supports prosecution.
 - (c) Extortion is complete only after money changes hands.
 - (d) No offence occurred unless an actual loss is proven.

82. Rupa, a local journalist, received an anonymous letter stating that if she didn't stop covering a local land scam, her family would be harmed. The letter demanded she pay ₹2 lakhs to a named person and “make peace.” She ignored it but later filed a complaint when someone was seen near her house with a knife. Police arrested the man named in the letter. The magistrate issued process, but the accused argued that since no demand was repeated and no money was paid, it was not a real threat. How should this case be viewed under the reasoning in the judgment?

- (a) Threats without action are not punishable.
(b) The threat must be verbal and in person to be actionable.
(c) No property changed hands, so there is no offence.
(d) The written threat with demand is sufficient to proceed.
83. Tanmay, a customer service executive at a logistics firm, was scheduled to work the night shift on Friday. Not wanting to miss a concert, he approached his colleague Raghav and said, "You better swap shifts with me, or I'll make sure our manager hears how you take breaks longer than allowed and ignore customer calls." Raghav, anxious about his professional reputation, refused and later filed a police complaint alleging extortion. He claimed Tanmay had used intimidation to coerce a benefit. During investigation, it was found that Tanmay made no demand for money or property, nor was there any indication of physical threat or harm. He had no weapon, made no gestures of violence, and didn't seek to deprive Raghav of any tangible possession or advantage, except for a shift swap. Does this situation amount to extortion?
(a) Yes, because there was intent to gain property.
(b) No, because there was no threat of death or grievous hurt.
(c) Yes, because verbal arguments may be criminal.
(d) Yes, because it involves a workplace dispute.
84. Rehan, a 38-year-old accountant, returned home one evening to find a folded piece of paper slipped under his door. The note, printed in block letters, read: "We know what you did. You'll regret it." The message bore no name, signature, or demand. Alarmed, Rehan installed a security camera and filed a police complaint the next day, insisting he had been targeted for extortion. He claimed he felt unsafe and believed someone was trying to manipulate or intimidate him into surrendering something, even if it wasn't stated explicitly. Investigators reviewed the note but found no mention of money, property, or any form of material gain. The police arrested a neighbor based on suspicion, but during court proceedings, the defense argued that although the note was unpleasant, it lacked any demand or coercive objective. Which factor most clearly establishes that this is not extortion?
(a) Anonymous messages are not admissible.
(b) The message wasn't signed.
(c) No demand for money or property was made.
(d) The threat didn't cause actual harm.
85. Anish, a 25-year-old graphic designer, ran into his former college friend, Rajat, at a local market. The two had a falling out the previous year when Rajat made fun of Anish during a public presentation. Still upset, Anish said loudly in the middle of the crowd, "You embarrassed me once. If I ever see your face again, I'll break your nose." The threat appeared genuine, and Rajat left the place visibly shaken. The next day, Rajat filed a police complaint alleging extortion, claiming that Anish had used fear to assert power over him. However, the FIR did not mention any demand for money, property, or favors. There were no witnesses claiming Anish sought any tangible gain—only that he issued a personal threat rooted in past resentment. Why does this situation not constitute extortion?
(a) Because there was no intention to gain anything in return.

- (b) Because there were no witnesses.
- (c) Because the threat was not credible.
- (d) Because it was a personal matter.



Logical Reasoning

Passage (Q.86-Q.90): Just two days before Israel's large-scale attack on Iran, the domestic news was around the ever-growing internal divisions between religious and secular populations of the country, the annual pride parades in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, depleting human resources for the continuation of the Gaza war, and how long the ultra-Orthodox Jews would evade compulsory military service. Also, people of the anti-war protest movement were debating whether to protest at the venue of Netanyahu's son's upcoming lavish wedding this week or not.

The issue of the ultra-Orthodox not serving in the army could have cost Netanyahu his government up until two days ago. They had threatened to bring down his government over a draft law which requires their young ones to report for mandatory military service or face legal punishment. Till late Thursday night, voting was underway in Israel's parliament to dissolve the Knesset. Netanyahu barely avoided the fall of his government by extending some more concessions to the religious factions. While all of this happened, under-trial Netanyahu had to stand in the dock facing accusations of bribery, fraud, and breach of trust at a court in Tel Aviv.

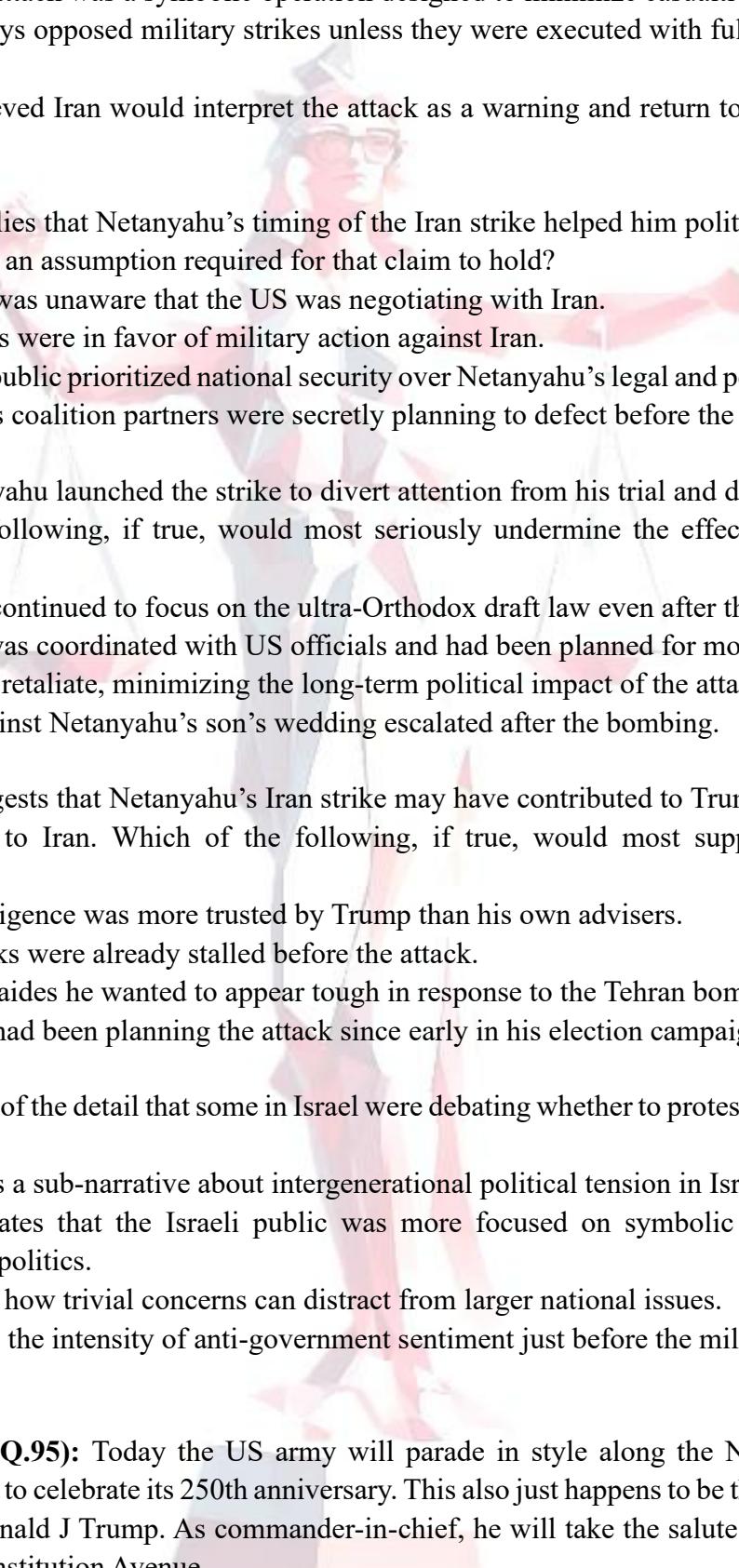
The Friday attack on Iran's nuclear programme, in which some residential buildings in Tehran were also hit, came as a complete surprise for the Israelis as much as for the rest of the world. There seems to be a long-term strategic plan behind such a move, and US President Donald Trump was party to it. After the attacks, he said he knew about the strikes and that "there were no surprises". The president also stated that he gave a 60-day ultimatum to Iran to "make a deal" and that "they should have done it".

The negotiations between Iran and the US were developing seriously as they held five rounds of nuclear talks, with the sixth one scheduled for Sunday. And Trump, numerous times, said he didn't want more death and destruction after Gaza, and would rather work with diplomacy with Iran. In fact, he discouraged Netanyahu from launching an attack on Iran two weeks ago.

With strong terms, requiring Iran to dismantle its nuclear programme and agree to inspections of its facilities, Trump thought he could reach a deal with Iran. We will only know in a few days what changed his mind about this strategy or how Netanyahu could prevail over the man who says he trusts nobody. It certainly seems a strategic victory for Netanyahu, who, since the 1990s, has been advocating a military response to Iran's nuclear ambitions.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from "Attacking Iran's nuclear programme won't bolster Israel's national security", *ThePrint*.]

86. Trump discouraged Netanyahu from launching a strike two weeks ago, repeatedly claimed to prefer diplomacy with Iran, and oversaw five rounds of talks. Yet, he later said there were "no surprises" about the Israeli attack and imposed a 60-day ultimatum. Which of the following, if true, would best resolve the apparent inconsistency in Trump's behavior?
 - (a) Netanyahu threatened to publicize US involvement in the attack unless Trump endorsed it.

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- (b) The Israeli attack was a symbolic operation designed to minimize casualties.
- (c) Trump always opposed military strikes unless they were executed with full Congressional approval.
- (d) Trump believed Iran would interpret the attack as a warning and return to the negotiating table faster.
87. The author implies that Netanyahu's timing of the Iran strike helped him politically. Which of the following is an assumption required for that claim to hold?
- (a) Netanyahu was unaware that the US was negotiating with Iran.
- (b) Most Israelis were in favor of military action against Iran.
- (c) The Israeli public prioritized national security over Netanyahu's legal and political troubles.
- (d) Netanyahu's coalition partners were secretly planning to defect before the strike.
88. Suppose Netanyahu launched the strike to divert attention from his trial and domestic dissent. Which of the following, if true, would most seriously undermine the effectiveness of that strategy?
- (a) The media continued to focus on the ultra-Orthodox draft law even after the strike.
- (b) The strike was coordinated with US officials and had been planned for months.
- (c) Iran did not retaliate, minimizing the long-term political impact of the attack.
- (d) Protests against Netanyahu's son's wedding escalated after the bombing.
89. The author suggests that Netanyahu's Iran strike may have contributed to Trump issuing a 60-day ultimatum to Iran. Which of the following, if true, would most support this causal connection?
- (a) Israeli intelligence was more trusted by Trump than his own advisers.
- (b) US–Iran talks were already stalled before the attack.
- (c) Trump told aides he wanted to appear tough in response to the Tehran bombings.
- (d) Netanyahu had been planning the attack since early in his election campaign.
90. What is the role of the detail that some in Israel were debating whether to protest at Netanyahu's son's wedding?
- (a) It introduces a sub-narrative about intergenerational political tension in Israel.
- (b) It demonstrates that the Israeli public was more focused on symbolic resistance than substantive politics.
- (c) It illustrates how trivial concerns can distract from larger national issues.
- (d) It highlights the intensity of anti-government sentiment just before the military strike.

Passage (Q.91-Q.95): Today the US army will parade in style along the National Mall in Washington DC to celebrate its 250th anniversary. This also just happens to be the 79th birthday of President Donald J Trump. As commander-in-chief, he will take the salute from a viewing platform on Constitution Avenue.

But this is not a mere vanity project, as some critics have claimed. History really matters to the US's 47th president. One of Trump's last acts before reluctantly leaving the White House in

January 2021 was to publish a report by his “1776 Commission”, created to “restore understanding of the greatness of the American Founding”. Deliberately, the commissioners included few university historians because universities were described as often being “hotbeds of anti-Americanism, libel, and censorship that combine to generate in students and in the broader culture at the very least disdain and at worst outright hatred for this country”.

The 1776 Commission demanded a return to truly “patriotic education”, declaring: “We must resolve to teach future generations of Americans an accurate history of our country so that we all learn and cherish our founding principles once again. We must renew the pride and gratitude we have for this incredible nation that we are blessed to call home.”

In this spirit, on 2 May this year, the president posted that he was renaming 8 May and 11 November respectively as “Victory Day for World War II and Victory Day for World War I” because “we won both Wars, nobody was close to us in terms of strength, bravery, or military brilliance”, and it was time for the US to “start celebrating our victories again!”

The parade on 14 June is also intended to raise the curtain on a spectacular nationwide celebration of the 250th anniversary of US independence, extending right across the country and culminating on 4 July 2026. According to the White House website, one feature will be a video history series that “tells the remarkable story of American Independence. It will highlight the stories of the crucial characters and events that resulted in a small rag-tag army defeating the mightiest empire in the world and establishing the greatest republic ever to exist.”

History on parade, indeed. As is often the case, Trump does start with a valid point. After he witnessed the extravaganza of Bastille Day in 2017, where French and American troops marched down the Champs-Élysées to celebrate the centenary of the US’s entry into the first world war, he was determined to stage a parade of his own. So what’s wrong with that? Shouldn’t countries be proud of their past?

OK (if you don’t mind the cost). But pride should be rooted in honesty, especially when Nato in Europe is engaged in a proxy war in Ukraine against Vladimir Putin, a systematic falsifier of history. And if we’re trying to be honest, world wars aren’t like the World Series with one country trumping all the others and winning almost single-handedly.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from “Trump is deeply obsessed with US history – but he has learned all the wrong lessons from it”, *The Guardian*.]

91. The author implies that Trump’s renaming of historical dates and staging of military parades is inconsistent with a serious approach to history. Which of the following, if true, would most support the existence of that inconsistency?
 - (a) French media praised Trump’s decision to emulate Bastille Day celebrations.
 - (b) The 1776 Commission’s report included factual errors about the Civil War and slavery.
 - (c) The new Victory Days received bipartisan support in Congress.
 - (d) Trump’s administration increased funding to university history departments.

92. The author criticizes patriotic parades that oversimplify historical victory claims (e.g., “we won both world wars”). Which of the following, if accepted, would most strengthen the ethical critique of such rhetoric?
- (a) Most Americans are unaware of Russia’s role in World War II.
 - (b) Accurate historical accounts show that both world wars involved multilateral cooperation and enormous allied casualties.
 - (c) Parades like Bastille Day in France include military and civilian participants.
 - (d) The US military had higher casualty rates in World War II than in World War I.
93. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the argument that the parade and renaming efforts have substantive historical or civic value?
- (a) The parade received record-breaking TV ratings, especially among older viewers.
 - (b) Veterans’ organizations were invited to participate in the events.
 - (c) Many schools chose not to incorporate the 1776 Commission’s curriculum into their teaching plans.
 - (d) The renaming of historical dates conflicted with international commemorations held on the same days.
94. The author compares Trump’s parade to the Bastille Day celebration. What is the main rhetorical function of this comparison?
- (a) To imply that Trump misinterprets the meaning of Bastille Day.
 - (b) To question whether it’s appropriate for democracies to hold military parades.
 - (c) To suggest that national pride through spectacle can be legitimate but must be grounded in truth.
 - (d) To ridicule the Americanization of foreign holidays.
95. Suppose historians agree that historical ignorance among Americans is growing. Which of the following, if true, would most seriously weaken the claim that Trump’s “patriotic education” efforts are a solution to this problem?
- (a) Many American high schools fail to teach the Constitution in full.
 - (b) Trump’s education policies included increased STEM spending and decreased humanities funding.
 - (c) The Commission included mostly conservative religious thinkers.
 - (d) The 1776 Commission’s materials discourage critical thinking by presenting historical events as moral absolutes.

Passage (Q.96-Q.100): In 1972, loyalist paramilitaries fired bullets into the home of a Catholic woman, Sarah McClenaghan. That night she was at home with her lodger, a Protestant, and her disabled teenage son, David. After forcing her son to get his mother’s rosary beads, proving that she was Catholic, a loyalist paramilitary raped Sarah. David was tortured. The gang then shot them both, David dying of his wounds.

I thought about David and Sarah as I watched rolling news of the pogroms in Ballymena. I thought about them in light of the lie that violence against women and girls has been imported to Northern Ireland via migrants or asylum seekers. It's always been here.

The rioters say they are acting to drive out foreigners who pose a threat to women and girls. The irony isn't lost on anybody with knowledge of the local area. Modern-day loyalist paramilitaries are reportedly involved with the violence. In the Belfast Telegraph this week, journalist Allison Morris reported that members of the South East Antrim Ulster Defence Association are among the rioters. "The organisation," she writes, "has been regularly named by our sister paper, the Sunday Life, as protecting sex offenders." Morris regularly faces death threats for her brave reporting.

The riots in Ballymena are about racism and nothing more. Hatred smothers every brick and petrol bomb thrown. Nobody causing trouble cares about women or children. There are no legitimate concerns at the heart of this. Local Facebook groups with links to the far right are asking for addresses to hit – Roma people are the main target of their ire. Flyers posted around towns and cities call for people to take a stand to protect "our women" and "our Christian values".

The trigger for the violence in Ballymena was the trauma and pain of a local family. Earlier in the week, two 14-year-old boys were arrested and charged with the attempted rape of a young girl. Romanian interpreters were required at court.

After the arrests, the alleged victim's family asked for support and solidarity from their local community. Hundreds did so, peacefully protesting to show the family that they weren't alone. Then came the violence. The chief constable of the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) said the victim of the alleged assault has been "further traumatised" by the rioting. Her family have publicly called for the violence to stop.

Women have never been safe in Northern Ireland. Generations bore the weight of the Troubles, running households and raising children with absent husbands. Hundreds were murdered in the conflict. During the peace talks that led to the Good Friday agreement, the Women's Coalition, a political party, described the 30-year conflict as an "armed patriarchy".

Northern Ireland isn't a place where women and girls are cherished. The PSNI recorded 4,090 sexual offences in Northern Ireland in 2023-24. Twenty-five women have been killed in five years, mostly by white men from Northern Ireland.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from "The Ballymena violence has nothing to do with 'protecting women'. It is racism, pure and simple", *The Guardian*.]

96. The rioters claim to be defending women and girls, but are involved in violent attacks and affiliated with groups that allegedly protect sex offenders. Which of the following best resolves this apparent contradiction?

- (a) The appeal to “protecting women” is a pretext used to legitimize xenophobia and mobilize violence.
- (b) The police have failed to enforce the law in working-class neighborhoods.
- (c) Local media has exaggerated the extent of the violence.
- (d) The protest was originally peaceful until outside agitators infiltrated.
97. The author argues that violence against women in Northern Ireland is not a foreign import. Which of the following assumptions underlies this conclusion?
- (a) Immigrants are more likely to be falsely accused of sexual crimes.
- (b) Historical violence in Northern Ireland included gender-based and sexual violence.
- (c) The recent rise in sexual offences is due to social media radicalization.
- (d) The PSNI has been unable to track data on gender-based crime for decades.
98. Suppose the two boys arrested for the attempted rape had not required Romanian interpreters. Based on the author’s argument, how would this most likely have affected the riots?
- (a) The event would not have been used as a justification for racist violence.
- (b) The riots would have expanded to include broader anti-immigrant demands.
- (c) The victim’s family would not have called for solidarity.
- (d) The community response would have shifted to criticizing local authorities.
99. What is the function of the author’s reference to the Women’s Coalition describing the Troubles as “armed patriarchy”?
- (a) To show that gender-based oppression has been intrinsic to both war and peace in Northern Ireland.
- (b) To emphasize that feminist movements are no longer relevant in post-conflict societies.
- (c) To show that the Troubles were rooted in disputes over gender roles.
- (d) To explain why the Good Friday Agreement excluded women’s concerns.
100. The passage notes that the initial protests were peaceful and requested by the victim’s family, but were followed by racist violence. Which of the following best clarifies the causal structure of this shift?
- (a) The family that initiated the protest withdrew their support after learning of the boys’ Romanian origin.
- (b) The PSNI failed to control the initial protest, allowing it to escalate.
- (c) The original protest was manipulated by actors using social media to promote anti-immigrant violence.
- (d) Political leaders encouraged the protests for electoral gain.

Passage (Q.101-Q.105): Despite global reductions in mercury emissions, mercury concentrations in Arctic wildlife continue to rise. A new study published in *Nature Communications* by researchers from Aarhus University and the University of Copenhagen reveals that ocean currents may be transporting legacy mercury pollution to the Arctic -- posing a long-term threat to ecosystems and human health.

"We've monitored mercury in Arctic animals for over 40 years. Despite declining global emissions since the 1970s, we see no corresponding decrease in Arctic concentrations -- on the contrary," says Professor Rune Dietz from Aarhus University.

Mercury released into the atmosphere from sources like coal combustion and gold mining can remain airborne for about a year. However, once it enters the ocean, it can persist for over 300 years. This means that even with current emission reductions, the Arctic may continue to experience elevated mercury levels for centuries.

Mercury's Fingerprint in Arctic Wildlife The researchers analyzed over 700 environmental samples -- including tissues from polar bears, seals, fish, and peat -- from across Greenland collected over the past 40 years. By examining the composition of six common mercury isotopes, they identified distinct regional differences that align with ocean current patterns.

"These isotope signatures act like fingerprints, revealing the sources and transport pathways of mercury," explains Senior Researcher Jens Søndergaard from Aarhus University.

For example, central West Greenland is influenced by Atlantic inflow via the Irminger Current, while other regions are dominated by Arctic Ocean currents.

Mercury is a potent neurotoxin. In Arctic top predators like polar bears and toothed whales, concentrations are now 20-30 times higher than before industrialization. This poses serious health risks not only to wildlife but also to Indigenous communities that rely on marine mammals for food.

"Mercury affects the immune system, reproduction, and possibly sensory functions in animals, which can impact their survival," says Professor Christian Sonne from Aarhus University.

The findings have significant implications for the UN's Minamata Convention on Mercury, which aims to reduce global mercury pollution. The study offers a potential explanation for why mercury levels in Arctic biota remain high despite falling atmospheric emissions.

"Transport of mercury from major sources like China to Greenland via ocean currents can take up to 150 years," says Rune Dietz. "This helps explain the lack of decline in Arctic mercury levels."

[Extracted with revisions and edits from "Toxic tides: Centuries-old mercury is flooding the arctic food chain", *ScienceDaily*.]

101. The study explains persistent mercury levels in Arctic wildlife despite global emission reductions. Which of the following most accurately reflects the causal explanation presented?
 - (a) Arctic ecosystems have recently started generating their own mercury due to biological processes.

- (b) The lack of data prior to the 1970s makes trend detection unreliable.
(c) Mercury emissions have declined only in developed countries, not globally.
(d) Ocean currents transport long-residence mercury from lower latitudes over time, explaining the continued accumulation in Arctic ecosystems.
102. Which of the following, if true, would most challenge the effectiveness of the Minamata Convention in addressing Arctic mercury levels in the near future?
(a) The Convention focuses mainly on limiting air-borne mercury, not oceanic reservoirs.
(b) Arctic mercury exposure in wildlife continues to rise despite global compliance.
(c) Enforcement of the Convention varies widely across countries.
(d) The largest current emitters of mercury are not signatories to the Convention.
103. Which of the following conclusions is most strongly supported by the isotope analysis discussed in the passage?
(a) All mercury found in the Arctic today originated from sources within the last 10 years.
(b) The specific pattern of mercury isotopes can identify not just the region of origin but also the industrial source.
(c) Ocean currents influence where and how mercury accumulates in Arctic food webs.
(d) Mercury isotopes mutate over time, making long-term tracking difficult.
104. The researchers argue that mercury in Arctic wildlife primarily originates from historic emissions transported via ocean currents. Which of the following is an assumption necessary for this conclusion?
(a) Local sources of mercury in the Arctic are not significant enough to account for observed concentrations.
(b) Ocean currents flow faster today than they did in the pre-industrial era.
(c) Polar bears and seals do not metabolize or excrete mercury.
(d) Indigenous communities have changed their dietary patterns in recent decades.
105. Suppose that, contrary to the study's findings, mercury concentrations in Arctic wildlife had declined at the same rate as global emissions since 1970. Which of the following would most plausibly follow?
(a) Ocean currents are not a significant pathway for mercury transport.
(b) The Minamata Convention has already achieved its long-term goals.
(c) Isotopic analysis is unnecessary for understanding mercury distribution.
(d) Mercury levels in mid-latitude oceans must be rising rapidly.

Passage (Q.106-Q.110): Americans have gained some hope that the worst of President Donald Trump's volatile trade war might be in the rearview mirror.

Consumer sentiment surged 16% this month to a preliminary reading of 60.5, the University of Michigan said in its latest survey released Friday. That was the first increase in sentiment since December, rising from the near-record lows of the spring when American consumers and businesses grew pessimistic in the thick of Trump's tariff blitz.

This month's uptick in sentiment was largely attributed to trade tensions easing from a fever pitch in April.

"Consumers appear to have settled somewhat from the shock of the extremely high tariffs announced in April and the policy volatility seen in the weeks that followed," said Joanne Hsu, the survey's director, in a release. "However, consumers still perceive wide-ranging downside risks to the economy."

Still, sentiment is about 20% below December, and Americans could become jittery again if trade tensions flare up.

So far, the Trump administration has made little progress in its trade negotiations, reaching some agreements with the United Kingdom and China. Trump still has more than a hundred trade deals to broker in less than a month, before his massive "reciprocal" tariffs go back into effect on July 8.

Trump's "Liberation Day" tariffs were the sharpest escalation in US import taxes on data going back 200 years, economists have told CNN. The tariffs went into effect briefly on April 9, before Trump announced they'd be delayed until early July.

Most of Trump's trade policy is also in question by the courts, after a federal judge ruled that the president's use of emergency powers to enact his hefty tariffs is unlawful. A federal appeals court earlier this week ruled that most of Trump's tariffs can take effect while legal challenges play out, while fast tracking a resolution in the coming months.

The toll of Trump's trade war on Americans' attitudes toward the economy raised questions on what it means for consumer spending, the lifeblood of the US economy. Consumer sentiment has weakened notably, but that hasn't been a good predictor of future spending in recent years, so investors and economic policymakers have been watching spending data closely to see if that remains the case this time around.

In April, consumer spending rose just 0.2% from the prior month, according to Commerce Department data, a sharp retreat from March when spending advanced 0.7% as Americans front-loaded purchases, especially of cars.

It's too soon to conclude that Americans are pulling back their spending in the face of persistent uncertainty and expectations of higher inflation because of Trump's tariffs. But that could come about if the US labor market, which is holding steady so far, suddenly deteriorates.

Economists point to the labor market as the main driving force behind spending. If Americans remain employed and their wages are beating inflation, then they will likely continue to spend.

[Extracted with revisions and edits from “Consumer sentiment surges in first improvement since December”, CNN.]

106. The article suggests that a key reason for April's 0.7% spike in consumer spending was Americans "front-loading" purchases in anticipation of higher tariffs. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken this explanation?
- (a) Overall consumer sentiment remained at historically low levels in April.
 - (b) Inflation expectations dropped slightly in early May.
 - (c) Durable goods orders in March had been unusually low, creating pent-up demand.
 - (d) Auto sales — which comprised a large part of the April increase — were promoted heavily by manufacturers through discounts and financing incentives.
107. The author claims that consumer sentiment is an unreliable predictor of spending in recent years. Which of the following assumptions is necessary for this claim?
- (a) Economists have consistently overestimated the importance of consumer confidence.
 - (b) Consumer spending is more closely tied to actual income and employment data than sentiment measures.
 - (c) The University of Michigan's sentiment survey has methodological flaws.
 - (d) Consumers often misreport their true financial expectations.
108. Which of the following, if true, would most support the argument that legal ambiguity around the tariffs undermines their long-term effectiveness?
- (a) Courts historically defer to executive power in national security-related trade issues.
 - (b) Businesses are unwilling to make long-term supply chain changes unless tariffs are seen as permanent.
 - (c) Investors tend to treat tariff announcements as noise unless backed by formal legislation.
 - (d) Other countries have continued their own tariffs despite US legal challenges.
109. Which of the following statements, if made by the same author, would most directly contradict the assertion that consumer sentiment improved in June because trade tensions had eased?
- (a) Consumers remained deeply pessimistic in areas unaffected by international trade.
 - (b) Reports of strong GDP growth had a greater effect on confidence than trade news.
 - (c) Most of the tariff measures are set to take effect in July, not June.
 - (d) Fewer than 5% of survey respondents mentioned tariffs as influencing their views.
110. Based on the passage, which of the following, if true, would most likely cause a decline in consumer spending in the next quarter?
- (a) Tariff measures are postponed once again.
 - (b) The Federal Reserve lowers interest rates to support lending.
 - (c) Employment remains strong, but consumers delay purchases to build savings.
 - (d) The labor market weakens significantly, and wages begin to fall relative to inflation.

Quantitative Techniques

Passage (Q.111-Q.115): Sunrise Hotel has a total of 180 rooms, categorized into Suites, Deluxe, and Standard rooms, in the ratio 3:2:4. During a busy holiday weekend, the hotel saw a high volume of bookings. Specifically, 90% of the Suites, 75% of the Deluxe rooms, and 80% of the Standard rooms were booked in advance. However, not all went smoothly—some last-minute cancellations occurred. Approximately 7.4% of the Suite bookings, 10% of the Deluxe bookings, and 14% of the Standard bookings were cancelled and the rooms remained unoccupied.

To maintain goodwill and maximize occupancy, the hotel offered complimentary upgrades. Precisely 34% of the Deluxe bookings that remained after cancellations were upgraded to Suites at no additional charge. The room tariffs were fixed at ₹8,000 for a Suite, ₹5,000 for a Deluxe, and ₹3,000 for a Standard room.

111. How many rooms were originally allocated to each of the three categories?
 - (a) 60 Suites, 40 Deluxe, 80 Standard
 - (b) 54 Suites, 36 Deluxe, 90 Standard
 - (c) 45 Suites, 30 Deluxe, 105 Standard
 - (d) 30 Suites, 60 Deluxe, 90 Standard

112. What percentage of the total rooms were actually occupied after considering cancellations and upgrades?
 - (a) 63.9%
 - (b) 68.3%
 - (c) 71.7%
 - (d) 74.2%

113. What was the final distribution of occupied rooms in each category after all adjustments?
 - (a) 50 Suites, 18 Deluxe, 55 Standard
 - (b) 49 Suites, 19 Deluxe, 55 Standard
 - (c) 47 Suites, 21 Deluxe, 55 Standard
 - (d) 48 Suites, 20 Deluxe, 55 Standard

114. What percentage of the total occupied Suite rooms were from upgraded Deluxe bookings?
 - (a) 15%
 - (b) 18%
 - (c) 22%
 - (d) 25%

115. By what percentage did the hotel's actual revenue fall short of the revenue it would have earned if all 180 rooms were fully occupied?
 - (a) 26.2%
 - (b) 28.8%

- (c) 30.0%
- (d) 31.5%

Passage (Q.116-Q.120): A company has a total of 5700 employees working across four departments: Production, Selling, Advertisement, and Accounting. The number of employees in the Production, Selling, and Accounting departments are in the ratio 1:4:3. The Advertisement department constitutes exactly one-fifth of the total employees. Within departments, the male-to-female ratio in Production is 5:1, and in Accounting, it is 7:2. The total number of women in the Selling and Advertisement departments combined is 1440, and the number of women in Advertisement is 1120 fewer than that in the Selling department.

116. What is the number of employees in the Selling department?
 - (a) 1600
 - (b) 1800
 - (c) 2000
 - (d) 2280
117. What is the number of women in the Advertisement department?
 - (a) 160
 - (b) 200
 - (c) 240
 - (d) 280
118. What is the average of male employees in the Selling department and female employees in the Accounting department?
 - (a) 660
 - (b) 675
 - (c) 690
 - (d) 705
119. If 10% of the employees in the Accounting department quit and the male-to-female ratio remains unchanged, how many women employees left the company?
 - (a) 22
 - (b) 38
 - (c) 44
 - (d) 56
120. The company decides to transfer 10% of male employees from each department to a new office. What is the total number of male employees who were not transferred?
 - (a) 3404
 - (b) 3406
 - (c) 3411
 - (d) 3443

Rough Work



CLAT COMMUNITY

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

