

# Importing a toxic work culture into India

## 1. Reading Comprehension:

What does the article suggest about the American work culture that multinational corporations bring to India?

- A) It is focused on improving ergonomic practices for employees
- B) It is influenced by Protestant values emphasizing hard work and long hours
- C) It prioritizes flexible working hours and mental health
- D) It was developed based on German sociological principles by Max Weber

## 2. Reading Comprehension:

According to the article, how has the American work culture impacted productivity and income levels?

- A) It has made Americans the richest and most productive people in the world
- B) It has led to the highest global growth rate in productivity since the 1970s
- C) It has resulted in longer working hours without leading the U.S. to the top income bracket globally
- D) It has reduced the working hours and increased the income of Americans

## 3. Logical Reasoning:

If the American work culture emphasizes long hours and increased output, why might multinationals encourage such a culture in India?

- A) To promote a better work-life balance for their employees
- B) To increase profit by maximizing productivity per employee
- C) To compete with European companies for top talent
- D) To align with traditional Indian work ethics and values

## 4. Logical Reasoning:

Considering Karl Marx's view on capitalism mentioned in the article, what might be a reason for consulting firms to impose strict deadlines and long hours?

- A) To foster a creative and collaborative work environment
- B) To reduce competition within the market
- C) To maximize profits by increasing the length and intensity of the working day
- D) To ensure employee satisfaction and retention

## 5. Vocabulary:

In the context of the passage, what does the term “cachet” most likely mean?

- A) A standard practice
- B) An indicator of wealth

- C) A mark of prestige
- D) A religious belief

## **Tackle the issue of adjournments, case pendency**

### **6. Reading Comprehension:**

According to the article, what is one of the main reasons for case pendency in Indian courts?

- A) Lack of public interest in legal matters
- B) Shortage of judges in proportion to the population
- C) Unavailability of proper court infrastructure
- D) Over-reliance on mediation as an alternative mechanism

### **7. Reading Comprehension:**

What is the purpose of the “judicial impact assessment” recommended by the Justice M. Jagannadha Rao Committee?

- A) To ensure new legislation is economically feasible
- B) To reduce the number of appeals in the Supreme Court
- C) To assess the potential increase in case load and resource needs from new legislation
- D) To enhance collaboration between the judiciary and the government

### **8. Logical Reasoning:**

Given the situation described, why might the judiciary’s reliance on “adjournments” be detrimental to rural and poor populations?

- A) Adjournments increase accessibility to legal resources
- B) Adjournments often delay the legal resolution process
- C) Adjournments provide more time for careful judicial decision-making
- D) Adjournments reduce the number of new cases filed in rural areas

### **9. Logical Reasoning:**

Why does the article suggest avoiding assigning additional charges to judges?

- A) To allow judges to specialize in a particular area of law
- B) To reduce judges' workloads and improve judgment accuracy
- C) To prevent judges from working on high-profile cases
- D) To increase the number of cases a judge can handle in a day

**10. Vocabulary:**

What does the term “valedictory” mean in the context of the President’s speech at the National Conference of District Judiciary?

- A) Preliminary
- B) Celebratory
- C) Closing
- D) Formal

## **Towards Europe**

**11. Reading Comprehension:**

What was one of the primary focuses of the German Chancellor Olaf Scholz's visit to India?

- A) Expanding defense cooperation
- B) Strengthening cultural ties
- C) Enhancing trade and reducing exposure to China
- D) Supporting peace initiatives in Ukraine

**12. Reading Comprehension:**

Which sector saw the launch of a new project during the Spanish Prime Minister’s visit to India?

- A) Automotive manufacturing
- B) Defense aircraft assembly
- C) Renewable energy infrastructure
- D) Financial technology

**13. Logical Reasoning:**

Why is it significant that India’s joint statements with Germany and Spain differed on the West Asian crisis?

- A) It highlights India’s neutrality on global issues
- B) It suggests that India tailors its diplomacy based on partner priorities
- C) It shows India’s support for European unity
- D) It implies that Spain and Germany have similar stances on international conflicts

**14. Logical Reasoning:**

How does India benefit from engaging with European countries individually as well as with the EU?

- A) It can better leverage geopolitical partnerships and diversify alliances

- B) It avoids involvement in international conflicts
- C) It can prioritize defense agreements over economic cooperation
- D) It promotes stronger EU integration

### 15. Vocabulary:

What does the term "bilateral" imply in the context of international relations?

- A) Agreements involving multiple countries
- B) Cooperation between two countries
- C) Conflict resolution
- D) Trade embargo

## Sun signs

### 16. Reading Comprehension:

What is Tamil Nadu's main objective in declaring heat as a State-specific disaster?

- A) To mitigate air pollution in urban areas
- B) To provide financial assistance to those affected by extreme heat
- C) To promote agricultural development
- D) To decrease humidity levels along the coastline

### 17. Reading Comprehension:

According to the article, why is Tamil Nadu especially vulnerable to extreme heat?

- A) Its low population density makes it difficult to control heat effects
- B) Its coastline experiences high humidity levels, causing wet-bulb temperature risks
- C) Its geographic location makes it prone to droughts
- D) Its forests are frequently affected by wildfires

### 18. Logical Reasoning:

How does Tamil Nadu's approach to extreme heat serve as a model for other states?

- A) It combines environmental awareness with welfare support systems
- B) It focuses exclusively on climate control technology
- C) It requires only limited funding and infrastructure
- D) It does not account for humidity in its heatwave strategy

### 19. Logical Reasoning:

What can be inferred about the impact of rising temperatures on vulnerable populations?

- A) They are likely to adapt quickly and avoid health risks
- B) They face increased risks of health issues and even death

- C) They are only at risk in rural areas with limited resources
- D) Rising temperatures have minimal impact on vulnerable groups

**20. Vocabulary:**

What does the term “clairvoyant” mean in the context of policy decisions mentioned in the passage?

- A) Unpredictable
- B) Extremely cautious
- C) Foresighted
- D) Influential

**Answer key on the next page**

# Answer key

## 1. Answer: B

**Explanation:** The article suggests that the work culture in American multinationals is influenced by Protestant values, especially Calvinism, which values hard work and long hours. This emphasis on a rigorous work ethic has historical roots linked to Protestantism.

## 2. Answer: C

**Explanation:** The article points out that although Americans work long hours, their income per capita is not the highest in the world, and other countries with fewer working hours rank higher in wealth and productivity.

## 3. Answer: B

**Explanation:** Multinationals may encourage long hours and productivity to increase profits. This approach aligns with the profit-driven culture of capitalism, aiming to achieve more output per employee.

## 4. Answer: C

**Explanation:** According to Marx's view on capitalism mentioned in the article, companies increase profit by extending work hours or increasing workload, thus imposing strict deadlines and long hours on employees.

## 5. Answer: C

**Explanation:** "Cachet" in this context refers to the perceived prestige associated with American work culture in multinational companies, even if the practices may not necessarily align with ergonomic or employee-friendly standards.

## 6. Answer: B

**Explanation:** The article highlights the shortage of judges relative to India's population as a significant factor in case pendency. The current ratio of 21 judges per million people is well below the recommended 50 per million.

## 7. Answer: C

**Explanation:** The "judicial impact assessment" aims to estimate the additional case load, resources, and infrastructure required for new legislation. This assessment is meant to ensure the judiciary is prepared to handle the impact of new laws.

## 8. Answer: B

**Explanation:** Adjournments prolong the legal process, often deterring rural and poor populations from seeking justice due to the anticipated delay in resolution.

## 9. Answer: B

**Explanation:** Assigning additional charges to judges increases their workload, which

may impact their ability to focus and lead to judgment errors, thereby causing further delays in case resolution.

**10. Answer: C**

**Explanation:** In this context, “valedictory” refers to the closing or concluding address delivered by the President at the end of the conference.

**11. Answer: C**

**Explanation:** The article mentions that Chancellor Scholz’s visit intensified discussions on trade and investment and that German businesses aim to reduce their exposure to China.

**12. Answer: B**

**Explanation:** During Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez’s visit, a new Airbus-Tata plant for assembling C-295 aircraft for the Indian Air Force was inaugurated, highlighting the defense sector.

**13. Answer: B**

**Explanation:** The difference in India’s statements with Germany and Spain shows that India adapts its diplomatic language based on the priorities of each partner nation, highlighting its tailored approach to international relations.

**14. Answer: A**

**Explanation:** By engaging with individual European countries and the EU, India can diversify its alliances, strengthen its geopolitical position, and tailor partnerships based on specific national interests.

**15. Answer: B**

**Explanation:** "Bilateral" refers to interactions or agreements between two countries.

**16. Answer: B**

**Explanation:** Tamil Nadu declared heat as a State-specific disaster to make people affected by extreme heat eligible for assistance from the State, addressing the impacts on vulnerable populations.

**17. Answer: B**

**Explanation:** Tamil Nadu’s vulnerability is partly due to its long coastline, which results in high humidity levels during summer, increasing the risk of reaching wet-bulb temperature levels where the body cannot cool itself.

**18. Answer: A**

**Explanation:** Tamil Nadu’s approach combines an understanding of environmental conditions with practical welfare measures, like rescheduling work hours and providing ORS packets, serving as a model for other states.

**19. Answer: B**

**Explanation:** Rising temperatures can severely affect vulnerable populations, causing health issues, organ stress, and even death, as the body struggles to regulate temperature.

**20. Answer: C**

**Explanation:** In this context, "clairvoyant" refers to policy decisions that are foresighted, predicting future needs based on current environmental signs to better prepare for extreme events.