

READING COMPREHENSION

PASSAGE

Is causing harm to the environment a crime ?

Crime can be defined best as a violation of the criminal law. Looking behind most criminal statutes, however, we can generally catch a glimpse of the concept of harm. Criminal activity, such as theft and assault, most of us would agree, is harmful to others. Some crimes, however, such as drug abuse, prostitution, gambling, and pornography, are sometimes referred to as "victimless crimes" or social order offences because the harm, they cause is not readily identifiable at the individual level. Statutes outlawing social order offenses are rooted in the notion of social harm—that is, although no one who participates in prostitution, say, runs to the police to file a complaint (unless they are robbed, or in some other way directly victimized). Lawmakers recognize that the act somehow lessens the quality of social life. Prostitution, many lawmakers argue, is harmful to the family and (in the case of heterosexual prostitution) demeans the status of women in society.

Today, a whole new class of criminal offences is emerging based upon the notion of environmental damage. In what may be the best known environmental catastrophe to date, the Exxon Valdez, a 1,000-foot supertanker, ran aground in Alaska in 1989 and spilled 11 million gallons of crude oil over 1,700 miles of pristine coastline. Animal life in the area was devastated. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reported decimation to salmon spawning grounds, the death of 580,000 birds (including 144 bald eagles), and the demise of an unknown, but presumably vast amount of sea life. The initial cleanup involved over 10,000 people and cost more than \$1 billion. Damages were estimated as high as \$5 billion.

While the Valdez incident is still near the forefront of national consciousness, environmental crimes of all proportions are a common occurrence. Such crimes range from ecological terrorism, like that waged against Kuwait by Saddam Hussein, to small-scale recycling offences which are frequently committed (sometimes unknowingly) by individual citizens. As ecological awareness continues to expand, new prohibitions are legislated and previously unheard-of offences created. Today, a highly concerned society stands increasingly ready to define abuse of the environment in criminal terms. As a consequence, words like "curbside criminals," "recycling police," and "garbage crime" are becoming commonplace. The state of Pennsylvania, for example, recently enacted a recycling law which mandates stiff sanctions, including fines and jail sentences for violators. Under the law, what had formerly been routine daily activities (throwing out the trash) become criminal offences unless properly conducted (plastics and glass separated from paper products, and lawn clippings and yard trash appropriately bagged).

While human beings have insulted the environment since before the dawn of history, it has only been in this century, as our dependence on the planet has become progressively obvious, that such activities have been ascribed criminal status. Hence, the question: What taken-for-granted aspects of our contemporary everyday lives will become subject to criminal sanctions in the twenty-first century?

1. What, according to the author, is a social order offence :

- A. An act whereby damage to the individual and the family is not heavy.
- B. An act whereby the harm caused is not economic in nature.
- C. An act whereby the harm caused is not identifiable at the individual level.
- D. An act which reinforces the taken-for-granted aspects of contemporary everyday lives.

2. Endangering the environment, as per the passage, has been accorded the criminal status because :

- A. the harmful effects on the environment have considerably affected life around.

- B. man's dependence on the earthy resources has become more pronounced.
- C. nature's fury and wrath is feared the most.
- D. the gap between the haves and have-nots has widened.

3. The Valdez incident mentioned in the passage :

- A. was an accident caused in circumstances which were unforeseen.
- B. was bloated by the media and the environmentalist crusaders.
- C. was an environmental catastrophe resulting in a massive economic loss.
- D. was not punishable under the existing code of law.

4. A fallout of the Valdez incident, as made out by the passage, is :

- A. the spread of the ecological awareness.
- B. legislation of new prohibitions and creation of offences unheard of.
- C. the measures worked out for promoting aquatic life.
- D. All except (C).

5. Abuse of the environment is categorised as a criminal activity because :

- A. there is widespread pressure created by groups committed to preserve environment and ecology.
- B. the climate has undergone a sea change and has become unpredictable.
- C. judicial activism was on the wane and formulation of laws and extending them to human activities had become imperative.
- D. people had to be shaken from their slumber and made to come out of the taken-for-granted mindset.

6. The author has dealt the passage in a manner that is :

A. effective B. imposing C. eulogising D. illogical

7. A suitable title for the passage could be :

- A. Environmental Conservations.
- B. Environmental Abuse Is A Crime.
- C. Crusade For Environmental Preservations – A Fad.
- D. Laws Are Not Effective To Curb Environmental Misuse.

8. Which of the following, if true, would go against the author's contention as conveyed in the passage ?

- A. Nature has her own ways in decimating and replenishing the resources present in earth.
- B. A sound legislation would be an effective check on man's exploits of environment.
- C. The taken-for-granted mindset of man needs to be changed.
- D. None of the above.

9. The passage is, at best, an extract from :

- A. the representation of an NGO lobbying for ecological preservations.
- B. the thought provoking article in a magazine on Nature and Environment.

- C. a directive given by the administration about the duties of a citizen to preserve the ecology and the consequences in case of default.
- D. the excerpts of a petition challenging the law to treat abuse of environment as crime.

10. All of the following, as per the passage, is false except that :

- A. the Valdez incident did not arouse the required awareness in people.
- B. social order offences are harmful to its victims.
- C. a strict and an effective law followed by an exemplary punishment will serve as a deterrent.
- D. Nature will cause havoc if man does not care for the environment.

Answer Keys

1.(C) 2.(B) 3.(C) 4.(D) 5.(D) 6.(A) 7.(B) 8.(A) 9.(B) 10.(C)

FILL IN THE BLANKS

11. Have you got any photos your girlfriend?

- (a) about (b) between (c) of (d) which

ANSWER-C

12. is the girl in the blue dress?

- (a) Who (b) Whom (c) What (d) Which

ANSWER-A

13. is the name of the team in red?

- (a) What (b) Which (c) Who (d) Whom

ANSWER-A

14. likes to play pinball at the arcade?

- (a) Who (b) Whom (c) What (d) Which

ANSWER-A

15. For did Shelia make these cookies.

- (a) who (b) whom (c) which (d) what

ANSWER-B

16. of the names did you choose for the puppy?

- (a) What (b) Which (c) Who (d) Whom

ANSWER-B

17. completed the assignment?

- (a) Who's (b) Who (c) Whom (d) Which

ANSWER-B

18. the highest ranking official in the United States?

- (a) Who's (b) Whom (c) Who (d) What

ANSWER-A

SENTENCE IMPROVEMENT

19. People in this country annually spend more than a billion dollars a year on prescription drugs, and for most patients the medicines have only marginal effects, if any, on symptoms and does nothing to stop the underlying disease process that eats away at the brain.

- A. annually spend more than a billion dollars a year on prescription drugs, and for most patients the medicines have only marginal effects, if any, on symptoms and does nothing
- B. spend more than a billion dollars a year on prescription drugs, but for most patients the medicines have only marginal effects, if any, on symptoms and do nothing
- C. annually spend more than a billion dollars a year on prescription drugs, but for most patients the medicines are having only marginal effects, if any, on symptoms and do nothing

- D. annually spend more than a billion dollars on prescription drugs, but for most patients the medicines has only marginal effects, if any, on symptoms and are doing nothing
- E. are spending greater than a billion dollars a year on prescription drugs, and for most patients the medicines have only marginal effects, if any, in symptoms and do nothing

Answer – B

20. The Cricket Board has constituted a three-member committee to investigate the case of the missing batsman that fled the team hotel in Amsterdam to go to London and has subsequently applied for political asylum there.

- A. to investigate the case of the missing batsman that fled the team hotel in Amsterdam to go to London and has subsequently applied for political asylum there.
- B. for investigating the case of the missing batsman, who fled the team hotel in Amsterdam to go to London and subsequently applied for political asylum there.
- C. to investigate the case of the missing batsman, having fled the team hotel in Amsterdam to go to London and subsequently applying for political asylum there.
- D. to investigate the case of the missing batsman, who fled the team hotel in Amsterdam to go to London and subsequently applied for political asylum there.
- E. for investigating the case of the missing batsman, who has fled the team hotel in Amsterdam to go to London and is subsequently applying for political asylum there.

Answer – D

21. The banned Rebel Party today dismissed allegations levelled by the opposition members on the nexus between them and the dissidents, saying that they did not have any relations with the dissidents.

- A. on the nexus between them and the dissidents, saying that they did not have any relations with the dissidents.
- B. on the nexus between it and the dissidents, saying that they did not have any relations with the dissidents.
- C. on the nexus between it and the dissidents, saying that it did not have any relations with the dissidents.
- D. about the nexus between them and the dissidents, saying that it did not have any relations with the dissidents.
- E. for the nexus between it and the dissidents and said that it did not have any relations with the dissidents.

Answer – C

22. Indonesia's Mount Merapi volcano has killed 191 people since it began erupting late last month, leading to the declaration of an emergency in the country.

- A. has killed 191 people since it began erupting late last month, leading to the declaration of an emergency in the country
- B. killed 191 people since it began erupting late last month, leading to the declaration of an emergency in the country.
- C. has killed 191 people since it began erupting late last month, which has lead to the declaration of an emergency in the country.
- D. had killed 191 people since it began erupting late last month, leading to the declaration of an emergency in the country.
- E. has been killing 191 people since it began erupting late last month, leading to the declaring of an emergency in the country.

Answer – A

23. It's very important for CEOs, board members, and other nonfinancial executives to internalize the principles of value creation because doing it allows them to make independent, courageous, and even unpopular business decisions.

- A. because doing it allows them to make independent, courageous, and even unpopular business decisions
- B. because doing that allows them to make independent, courageous, but even unpopular business decisions
- C. because doing so allows them to make independent, courageous, and even unpopular business decisions
- D. because doing so allow him to make independent, courageous, and even unpopular business decisions
- E. because doing these allows them to make independent, courageous, as well as unpopular business decisions

Answer – C

24. Empirical analysis of specific acquisition strategies offer limited insight, largely because of the wide variety of types and sizes of acquisitions and due to the lack of an objective way to classify them by strategy.

- A. offer limited insight, largely because of the wide variety of types and sizes of acquisitions and due to the lack of an objective way to classify them by
- B. offer limited insight, largely due to the wide variety of types and sizes of acquisitions and also due to the lack of an objective way to classify these acquisitions by
- C. offer limited insight, largely because of the wide variety of types and sizes of acquisitions and the lack of an objective way to classify these acquisitions by
- D. offers limited insight, largely because of the wide variety of types and sizes of acquisitions and the lack of an objective way to classify these acquisitions by
- E. offers limited insight, largely because of the wide variety and types or sizes of acquisitions and the lack of an objective way to classify them by

Answer – D

25. Companies, investors, and governments must relearn the guiding principles of value creation if they are to defend against future economic crises.

- A. Companies, investors, and governments must relearn the guiding principles of value creation if they are to defend against future economic crises.
- B. Companies, investors, along with governments must relearn the guiding principles of value creation if it is to defend against future economic crises.
- C. Companies, as well as investors and governments, must relearn the guiding principles of value creation if they are to defend from future economic crises.
- D. Companies, investors, and governments must relearn the guiding principles of value creation if these are to defend from future economic crises.
- E. Companies, investors, and governments must relearn the guiding principles of value creation if future economic crises are to be defended.

Answer – A

26. The combination of growth and return on invested capital (ROIC) relative to its cost are what drive value.

- A. The combination of growth and return on invested capital (ROIC) relative to its cost are what drive value
- B. The combination of growth and return on invested capital (ROIC) relative to their cost is what drives value
- C. The combination of growth and return on invested capital (ROIC) relative to its cost is what is driving value
- D. The combination of growth as well as return on invested capital (ROIC) relative to its cost was what drove value
- E. The combination of growth and return on invested capital (ROIC) relative to its cost is what drives value

Answer – E

CRITICAL REASONING

27. Non-alcoholic contents of wine, such as flavanoids and resveratrol, serve as antioxidants that prevent the “free radicals” or the special type of molecules from damaging the vital body cells. The statement above would be weakened if it were true that

- A. The non-alcoholic contents of wine such as flavanoids and resveratrol do not act as anti-oxidants
- B. Flavanoids and resveratrol function as anti-oxidants and thus benefit the body
- C. Special type of molecules known as “free radicals” damage the cells in the body
- D. Wine also contains non-alcoholic chemicals along with the alcoholic chemicals
- E. Wine is very harmful if consumed in excess

Correct answer: a

28. It is said that it is very necessary for the girls to work out daily to stay fit and healthy as compared to the boys because, their more muscle mass helps them in burning calories faster and lose weight easily. The statement above would be weakened if it were true that

- A. Girls have more muscle mass as compared to the guys and hence they can lose weight easily and remain healthy
- B. It is not necessary for the guys to work out at all because they are very strong
- C. Guys are more active than girls and so they do not find it necessary to work out
- D. Girls should work out daily because they are not as strong as the guys
- E. Boys have more muscle mass and hence they burn more calories as compared to the girls and remain healthy

Correct answer: a

29. Statistics show that in comparison to the deaths caused due to diseases like HIV, alcohol as well as accidents, suicides and murders, majority of them are dying because of tobacco consumption. The statement above would be weakened if it were true that

- A. More number of people are dying because of (HIV)human immune deficiency virus infection
- B. Tobacco is not consumed at all by any person in the world
- C. More number of people are addicted to alcohol consumption
- D. People prefer to consume tobacco rather than committing suicide
- E. You should not consume alcohol and tobacco if you do not want to harm your body

Correct answer: b

30. The place where the soil erosion takes place degrades the quality and the water holding capacity of the soil greatly since the upper layer of the soil that is very rich in nutrients is carried away by the agents of soil erosion. The statement above would be weakened if it were true that

- A. Wind and water cannot erode the soil at all
- B. The upper layers of the soil are very rich in nutrients
- C. Soil erosion degrades the quality of the soil to a large extent
- D. Soil erosion decreases the water holding capacity of the soil
- E. Wind and water are the major agents responsible for the large scale soil erosion

Correct answer: a

31. The main off-site effect of soil erosion is that, the deposition of the sediments and other pollutants into the streams of water pollute the sources of water to a great extent. The statement above would be weakened if it were true that

- A. The movement of sediment and associated pollutants into water do not cause sedimentation in the sources of water
- B. There is no off-site adverse effect of soil erosion
- C. Sedimentation improves the fertility of soil
- D. Soil erosion leads to sedimentation not only on land but also in water
- E. the deposition of the sediments and other pollutants into the streams of water pollute the sources of water

Correct answer: a

32. If the rate of rainfall is higher than the rate at which the water penetrates in the soil, the soil particles that are loosened by the rain drops move down the slope causing surface runoff. The statement above would be weakened if it were true that

- A. The rate of rain fall is slower than the rate at which the soil penetrates into the soil
- B. Surface runoff occurs when the rate of rain fall is faster than the rate at which the soil
- C. Rain drops lose the soil particles which results in easy soil erosion
- D. The soil particles that are loosened by the rain drops move down the slope causing surface runoff
- E. The rate of rain fall is not always more than the rate at which the soil penetrates into the soil

Correct answer: a

SPOT THE ERRORS

33. Don't talk to (A)/ her, she always (B)/ remains in temper (C)/ these days. (D)/ No error (E)

34. He does not like (A)/ this type of a man (B) / who does nothing but (C)/ find out fault in others. (D) / No error (E)

35. A first European (1)/ sailor came to India (2) / in modern times (3)/ was Vasco-da-Gama. (4)/ No error (5)

36. Mr. Pathak leads (1)/ a very busy life (2)/ so he goes every where (3)/ by a scooter. (4)/ No error (5)

37. Her mother (1) / forbade her (2)/ to go to circus (3) / late at night. (4)/ No error (5)

38. Mr. Sharma has a white (1)/ and a black dog (2)/ which guard (3)/ his house from robbers. (4)/ No error (5)

39. Only a few girls (1)/ were above ground (2) / the rest were (3) / under the ground. (4)/ No error (5).

40. Forty five students went (1)/ to the Church (2)/ yesterday to see (3)/ the stained glass there. (4)/ No error (5)

ANSWERS

33. (C) "IN A TEMPER" INSTEAD OF "IN TEMPER"

34. (B) TYPE OF MAN NOT TYPE OF A MAN (TYPE OF AND KIND OF KE BAAD NO ARTICLE)

35. (A) "THE FIRST" INSTEAD OF "A FIRST" THE + ORDINAL

36. (D) "BY SCOOTER" INSTEAD OF "BY A SCOOTER"

37. (C) "GO TO THE CIRCUS" INSTEAD OF "GO TO CIRCUS"

38. (E) NO ERROR

39. (D) UNDERGROUND INSTEAD OF UNDER THE GROUND

40. (E) NO ERROR