

CLAT-UG SAMPLE PAPER – 01

(Analysis)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Summary of the passage:

The passage discusses the **cycle of poverty**, where children born into poor families often remain poor due to lack of access to high-quality education. Research, such as the Abecedarian Project and preschool studies, shows that early childhood education improves cognitive skills, college attendance, earnings, employment, and reduces crime.

However, high-quality preschool is expensive and inaccessible to many families. To address this, **two-generation programs** combine early childhood education for children with support services for parents, such as job training, career counseling, and literacy programs. This approach helps families escape poverty more effectively than offering services to children or parents alone.

The passage highlights **Educare**, a successful two-generation program, which has high demand and integrates child education with parental support through the Centre for Working Families. While effective, the model favors parents who are proactive, raising concerns about reaching the most overwhelmed families.

Overall, the author presents the **two-generation approach as a promising, evidence-based strategy** for breaking the cycle of poverty, while acknowledging its limitations.

1. Author's main objective:

The passage discusses poverty and highlights the “two-generation” approach that involves both parents and children.

Answer: (a) To discuss an approach to addressing poverty involving both parents and children.

2. Conclusion from studies cited:

The studies (Abecedarian Project, pre-school studies) show that early education improves cognitive skills, college attendance, earnings, job holding, and reduces crime—benefits especially for children from poor families.

Answer: (d) Pre-school education has been found to benefit children from poor families throughout life.

3. Factors impacting the two-generation model:

The passage mentions that previous two-generation programs faded due to welfare reform focus (“work-first”) – government reform focus (A). It does **not** say parents do not benefit (B) or research doesn’t support it (C).

Answer: (a) Only (A)

4. **Meaning of “BREAKING” the cycle:**
The phrase “breaking the cycle of poverty” means ending the cycle. “Disrupting” or “ending” fits; “disclosing” and “relaxing” do not.
Answer: (b) Only (B) and (D)

5. About Educare:

- It has a waiting list → popular (A)
- Parents must enroll at Centre for Working Families → holistic benefits (B)
- Literacy training is done at the Centre, not directly at Educare → (C)

Answer: (b) Only (A) and (B)

6. Author’s view of two-generation model:

- The author notes it favors parents and not biased exactly.
- The author does not say it is financially unsustainable → (B)
- It can benefit parents and children → (C)

Answer: Only c.

7. **Tone of the passage:**
The author evaluates studies, explains programs, and presents advantages and drawbacks in a careful manner.

Answer: (c) Analytical

8. **Opposite of “VICIOUS” (as in “vicious cycle of poverty”):**
“Vicious” here means harmful, destructive. Opposites could be pleasant, compassionate, humane. Cruel is similar in meaning, so not opposite.

Answer: (d) Only (A), (B) and (D)

Summary of the passage:

The passage explains how **financial services make life costly for poor Americans**. Many low-income households do not have bank accounts because they cannot meet minimum balances or fear fees. Using cash, money orders, or pre-paid cards often incurs multiple fees, which can add up over time. While pre-paid cards and mobile banking are emerging as alternatives, they also have limitations: pre-paid cards often charge extra fees, and many poor people cannot afford smartphones or reliable mobile service, limiting access to mobile banking.

Overall, the passage highlights that **being unbanked or underbanked increases financial burdens**, and technological solutions may help, but are not yet fully accessible to the poor.

9. Why poor Americans avoid bank accounts:
The passage says many “cannot maintain the minimum balance” or fear “unexpected fees” - difficulty meeting bank requirements.
Answer: (c) Only C

10. Meaning of ‘RANKLE’ (used as “Other terms can rankle”):
‘Rankle’ means to cause irritation or annoyance.
Answer: (c) irk

11. Why mobile banking may be costly for the poor:
The passage notes that many poor people cannot afford smartphones or mobile service, making it hard to benefit from mobile banking.
Answer: (d) None of the given options

12. Opposite of “PROMISING” (used as “Mobile banking looks promising”):
‘Promising’ means showing potential or hope. Opposite: hopeless.
Answer: (a) hopeless

13. Pre-paid cards’ popularity:
The passage mentions pre-paid cards are growing because they reduce cheque-cashing costs, but it also notes they often charge many other fees, so convenience is limited and withdrawals may not be free.
Answer: (d) None of the given options

14. Meaning of ‘NUDGED’ (in context of financial products):
‘Nudged’ usually means pushed gently or encouraged.
Answer: (a) pushed

15. Suitable title:
The passage highlights how financial services make life expensive for the poor in the U.S., and discusses banking alternatives and challenges.
Answer: (c) Exploring A Rich Nation of Poor People

Summary of the passage:

The passage discusses the **ineffectiveness of disaster management in India**. Despite frequent natural and man-made disasters, the government often reacts late, provides relief inefficiently, and fails to learn from past experiences. Recurring floods in states like Bihar and Assam highlight poor preparedness, including lack of essential supplies, medical care, and coordination. Emergency response to accidents is also inadequate due to bureaucratic delays.

The author highlights **Public-Private Partnerships (PPP)**, such as EMRI, as a promising model. By combining **government funding** with **private-sector professionalism and NGO-like sensitivity**, PPPs can manage disasters more efficiently and ensure timely, competent assistance. The passage advocates **collaboration between government and private organizations** to improve disaster preparedness and response.

16. Author’s view of government’s reaction to disasters:
The passage criticizes the government for reacting late, blaming others, and having a poor disaster

management

system.

Answer: (d) The government is apathetic and has not managed to handle disasters effectively.

17. Statement not true:

- (a) The passage does not say man-made disasters occur more frequently than natural ones - **not true.**
- (b) PPP (like EMRI) has been cited as successful - true.
- (c) Floods occur every year in Bihar and Assam - true.
- (d) Learning from past disasters would help future preparedness - true.

Answer: (a) Man-made disasters occur more frequently than natural disasters.

18. Reason for lack of medical care at disaster sites:

The passage mentions **passersby are wary due to police/legal complications**, leading to delays—not transportation, training, or loss of supplies.

Answer: (d) None of the above.

19. “Worthwhile challenge for corporate and government”:

The author says combining **government funding with private professionalism and NGO sensitivity** to manage disasters is a worthwhile challenge.

Answer: (b) Their working together to manage disasters competently, keeping public interests in mind.

20. Pre-emptive actions avoided by policy planners:

The passage says **lessons are not drawn from each disaster, and knowledge is not stored for future action.**

Answer: (a) Drawing lesson from each disaster (and by extension storing knowledge for future use).

21. Author’s view about PPP:

The passage praises PPP for **professionalism, competent management, and efficiency**, while still relying on state funding.

Answer: (c) Public Private Partnership can provide the professionalism, competent management and output linked efficiency of a good corporate organization.

Summary of the passage:

The story is set on a cold, wet night in the parlour of Laburnum Villa, where Mr. White and his son, Herbert, are playing chess. Mr. White takes risky, unconventional moves, while his son plays carefully. Mrs. White sits nearby knitting, maintaining a calm presence. The family discusses the harsh weather and the remoteness of their house while waiting for a visitor.

Soon, Sergeant-Major Morris arrives. He tells the Whites about his time in India and shows them a strange mummified monkey’s paw. He explains that the paw is cursed: a fakir put a spell on it to demonstrate that

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fate rules people's lives, and whoever possesses it can make **three wishes**. He has already used his three wishes, and another man used his third wish to ask for death. Morris warns the family about the paw's dangers and even throws it into the fire, but Mr. White retrieves it. Despite repeated warnings, curiosity

and amusement lead the Whites to consider making wishes, though Morris advises them to wish for something sensible.

The story sets up a tense atmosphere of suspense, curiosity, and impending consequences, emphasizing the danger of interfering with fate.

22. Playing tendency of father and son:

The father takes risky and unusual moves in chess, putting his king in danger, while the son observes carefully. This shows the father **plays restlessly and is not hesitant to take hasty steps**, rather than losing intentionally or just playing to appease his son.

Answer: (c) The father was not hesitant to take hasty steps and was playing restlessly.

23. Inference from the first half of the story:

The Whites are expecting a visitor (Sergeant-Major Morris), and Mr. White complains about the location being remote and inconvenient. This implies they **were waiting for someone but lived in an isolated place**.

Answer: (b) The Whites were waiting for someone but their residence was in an isolated locality.

24. Mrs. White's words about her husband complaining:

When Mr. White complains about living in a remote area, Mrs. White soothes him, indicating she **wants him to stop grumbling because they have no choice but to stay there**.

Answer: (d) Mrs. White wanted her husband to stop grumbling as they had no choice but stay there.

25. Sergeant-Major Morris' attitude toward the paw:

The sergeant-major repeatedly warns about the paw's dangers, throws it into the fire, and seems anxious. This shows he **considers the paw dangerous and does not hold it in high regard**, rather than being mesmerized or wanting to use it again.

Answer: (a) He did not hold very high opinions about the paw and considered it to be a danger.

LEGAL REASONING

Summary:

Stamp duty is generally payable on the transfer of movable and immovable property and on corporate transactions like mergers, amalgamations, and slump sales. However, the Government of Himachal Pradesh historically collected stamp duty and registration fees when a public company converted into a private company, even though such a conversion does not involve a transfer of property between distinct entities—the company's legal existence remains continuous.

This position was challenged in **Reckitt Benckiser (India) Private Limited v. State of H.P.**, where the High Court ruled on 29 February 2020 that conversion of a public company to a private company does **not** attract stamp duty because no instrument of transfer exists, and hence compulsory registration is also

not required. The Court emphasized that the conversion mainly involves changing the name of the company to include “Private,” without transfer of assets.

26. Is Reckitt Benckiser liable to pay stamp duty?

- The company converted from a public to a private company.
- **Key point from the passage:** Conversion does **not involve transfer of property**; it’s just a change in name/status.
- The High Court ruled there’s **no entry in the Stamp Act Schedule** making such conversion chargeable.

Answer: (a) No, because there is no entry in the Schedule to the Indian Stamp Act, 1899.

Explanation: Since no property changes hands and no instrument of transfer exists, stamp duty does not apply.

27. Which is correct about Stamp Duty?

- The passage explains that:
 1. Stamp duty applies to all transactions specified in the Stamp Duty law.
 2. It applies to **transfer of movable and immovable property**.
 3. For corporate transactions like mergers, it applies when property transfers between **two entities**.

Answer: (d) All of the above.

Explanation: All three points are stated in the passage, so the answer includes all.

28. What was the position of Himachal Pradesh Government?

- They **collected stamp duty** even when a public company converted to private.
- Reason: They considered the **value of company property** as liable when the constitution of the company changed.

Answer: (a) That stamp duty is payable on the value of the property held by the company if there is a change in its constitution.

Explanation: They incorrectly treated the conversion like a transfer of property, even though legally there was none.



29. Which can be correctly attributed to the passage?

- Mergers and slump sales involve **transfer of property**, so they are liable to stamp duty.
- Stamp duty is regulated by **the Stamp Duty law**.
- Conversion from public to private **is not chargeable**.

Answer: (d) Both (a) and (b), but not (c).

Explanation: Only mergers/slump sales and legal regulation are correct; conversion does **not** fall under stamp duty.

30. Which is not chargeable under the Stamp Duty law?

- **Chargeable:** Merger, Amalgamation, Slump sale (because property transfers).
- **Not chargeable:** Dissolution of a company (no property is transferred; company just ends).

Answer: (d) Dissolution of company.

Explanation: Dissolution doesn't involve property transfer or creation of an instrument, so stamp duty does not apply.

The passage defines "**service**" as any activity made available to users, such as banking, insurance, transport, housing, entertainment, or supply of utilities. However, it **does not include services provided free of charge or personal services under a contract**.

Deficiency refers to any **fault, shortcoming, or inadequacy in service** in terms of quality, nature, or manner, as required by law or contract. Importantly, the deficiency **must relate to a service**; matters outside this definition do not qualify.

If a service is found deficient, compensation can be claimed. However, **abnormal circumstances beyond the service provider's control** (like natural calamities, power failure, etc.) do not constitute a deficiency, and the provider is not penalized.

31. Water supply failed due to a power breakdown. Will B succeed in claiming deficiency in service?

- **Key point:** The passage says **if abnormal circumstances beyond the control** of the service provider prevent proper service, they are **not penalized**.
- Here, the failure was due to a transformer burning (abnormal circumstance).

Answer: (b) No, since there was no deficiency in service on the part of A.



Explanation: A cannot be held liable because the failure was due to an external factor beyond his control.

32. Clothes stitched incorrectly but tailoring was free. Can A claim deficiency in service?

- **Key point:** The definition of service **excludes service rendered free of charge.**
- Here, the fitting was free.

Answer: (c) No, since A cannot claim deficiency in service for something he got for free.

Explanation: Even if the stitching was faulty, the law does not consider free services as “service” for deficiency claims.

33. Insurance claim delayed by 14 years. Will A succeed?

- **Key point:** Delay in service, especially in a paid service like insurance, **counts as deficiency.**
- Insurance agency has a contractual obligation to process the claim.

Answer: (a) Succeed in her claim.

Explanation: The delay in disbursing insurance money is a **deficiency in service**, and A can claim compensation.

34. Which is not a service according to the passage?

- Passage includes banking, insurance, transport, food, lodging, housing, entertainment, etc.
- **Excluded:** Service under a contract of personal services.
- Athlete’s contract to perform is **personal service**, not a general service to public.

Answer: (d) Athlete’s contract to perform.

Explanation: Personal services under contract are **not considered “service”** under the law.

35. Which cannot be attributed to the passage?

- Passage says:
 4. Free service is not “service.”
 5. Personal service is not “service.”

6. Deficiency to service.

7. But it **allows for abnormal circumstances**; services do **not have to be complete irrespective of circumstances**

Answer: (d) The services must be complete irrespective of the circumstances.

Explanation: This is incorrect because the law explicitly excludes liability for failures caused by **abnormal circumstances beyond control**.

Passage Summary: Standard Form Contracts and Exemption Clauses

- **Standardized contracts** are used when a person has to enter into many contracts (e.g., insurance policy, shares, railway tickets).
- **Special terms and conditions** in such contracts are **binding only if the acceptor is informed** of them **before or at the time of the contract**.
- **Protection for the weaker party:**
 1. **Reasonable notice** must be given (printed on ticket, signature, or verbally explained).
 2. **Notice must be contemporaneous** – cannot introduce exemption clauses after the contract (Olley v. Marlborough Court Ltd).
 3. **Terms must be reasonable** – unreasonable or public policy-violating terms are not enforceable.
 4. **Fundamental breach** – exemption clauses cannot excuse non-performance of core contractual obligations (e.g., dry cleaner losing clothes).
 5. **Strict construction** – ambiguous exemption clauses are interpreted in favor of the weaker party.

Question Explanations

36. Which is not a standardized form contract?

- Sale of goods is usually negotiated, not standardized.

Answer: (d) Sale of goods

37. Special terms not communicated on bus ticket:

- Terms must be brought to notice at the time of contract. Here, they weren't.

Answer: (a) No

38. Dry cleaner lost clothes despite exemption clause:

- Loss of clothes = fundamental breach; exemption clause cannot excuse it.
Answer: (c) Yes

39. Ambiguous exemption clause in insurance contract:

- Ambiguities favor the weaker party.
Answer: (b) In favour of weaker party

40. Correct principle from passage:

- Exemption notice must be given at the time of entering the contract.
Answer: (b) Notice must be contemporaneous

Passage Summary

- **Article 28(1):** No religious instruction in educational institutions **wholly maintained by the State**.
- **Article 28(2):** In **other institutions recognized or aided by the State**, no one can be forced to participate in religious instruction.
- **The Textbook Case (Aruna Roy v. Union of India, 2002):**
 - Comparative study of religions, their philosophy, and values is **not religious instruction**.
 - Teaching religion in this academic, value-based way **does not violate Article 28** or secularism.
- **Secularism:** Positive meaning – respect for all religions, non-discrimination based on religion.
- **Key distinction:**
 - Teaching **rituals or worship** = prohibited in state schools.
 - Teaching **religion academically for moral/cultural understanding** = allowed.

Question Explanations

41. Mandatory Hindu ‘Gita’ lectures in state school:

- The school is **wholly maintained by the State**, so **teaching religious texts mandatorily is prohibited**.
Answer: (b) Yes

42. If school is private but government-aided:

- Article 28(2) allows private/aided schools to teach religion **only if participation is optional**. Mandatory religious instruction would be problematic.
Answer: (d) None of the above (the closest correct reasoning: optional instruction is allowed)

43. Study of major religions (academic/comparative):

- Academic study of religions **does not violate Article 28**.
Answer: (b) No

44. “The Textbook Case” ruling:

- Comparative, value-based education about all religions **does not violate Article 28**.
Answer: (c) It held that requirement of “education about religions”, their basics, the values inherent therein and also comparative study of the philosophy of all religions is not violative of Article 28.

45. Government-aided madrasa:

- Article 28(2) permits religious instruction in **government-aided or recognized private schools**, so **it is valid**.
Answer: (a) No, madrasa is a community school aided by the government and it can impart religious education.

summary and explanation of the passage and questions on **Article 20(3) – Protection against self-incrimination:**

Passage Summary

- **Article 20(3):** No person accused of an offence can be **compelled to be a witness against himself**.
- **Compulsion:** Includes **physical duress, psychic torture, environmental coercion, overbearing interrogation methods**, etc. (Nandini Satpathy v. P.L. Dani).
- **Not compulsion:** Simply giving a **caution** that lying is an offence (Sampath Kumar v. Enforcement Directorate).
- **Waiver:** The accused **can voluntarily waive** this right.
- **Exceptions: Material objects, documents, signature specimens, fingerprints, blood samples** – not protected unless the document conveys personal knowledge of the accused.

- Search and seizure under a warrant - not violative.

Question Explanations

46. Compelled document conveying personal knowledge:

- If the document conveys personal knowledge relating to the crime, producing it under compulsion violates Article 20(3).
Answer: (a) Yes

47. Self-incriminating statement made voluntarily:

- Article 20(3) protects only against compelled self-incrimination. Voluntary statements do not violate Article 20(3).
Answer: (b) No, because it was made without any compulsion

48. Incriminating statement under psychic/environmental pressure:

- Severe interrogation conditions amount to compulsion under Article 20(3) (psychic torture, environmental coercion).
Answer: (d) Both (a) and (b)

49. Which cannot be attributed to passage:

- The passage clearly says immunity does NOT extend to production of material objects or specimens.
Answer: (b) The immunity granted to the accused extends to compulsory production of material objects...

50. Waiver of Article 20(3) protection:

- Article 20(3) can be waived voluntarily by the accused.
Answer: (a) Yes, such a right can be waived by the accused

Passage Summary

- Rights under Article 19(1)(d) & (e):
 1. Right to move freely throughout India.
 2. Right to reside and settle anywhere in India.
 3. These rights emphasize the oneness of India and allow citizens to live or travel anywhere.
- Restrictions under Article 19(5):
 1. Reasonable restrictions can be imposed in the interest of the general public or for protection of Scheduled Tribes.



2. Examples of upheld restrictions:

- Restricting prostitutes to specific areas.
- Restricting habitual offenders' residence.
- Restricting movement of persons with certain diseases (like AIDS).

• **Bandh / strike:**

1. Calling for a **bandh** (shutdown) is **not protected under Article 19(1)(a)** because it **threatens citizens' rights** to carry on their activities, violating Articles 19(1)(a), (b), (c), (d) and 21.
2. Difference: Bandh vs Hartal/Strike – bandh affects the fundamental rights of the public, not just a protest group.

Question Explanations

51. Law restricting outsiders from buying land in Himachal Pradesh:

- This is **valid** because it **protects Scheduled Tribes/indigenous communities**, which falls under **reasonable restriction under Article 19(5)**.
Answer: (b) No, since it comes under reasonable restriction under Article 19(5).

52. If there were no indigenous tribes or communities:

- Without tribes, **protection purpose vanishes**, so the restriction may **not be reasonable**.
Answer: (a) Yes, because the reason for the answer is the settlement of indigenous tribes in Himachal Pradesh.

53. Rounding up habitual offenders before elections:

- **Valid restriction:** Courts have upheld restrictions on habitual offenders for public safety and order.
Answer: (a) No, as restriction imposed on habitual offenders has been upheld.

54. Prostitutes forcefully removed from residence:

- **Valid action:** Courts allow restricting trade of prostitutes in residential areas to protect public interest.
Answer: (a) Yes, the action is valid.

55. Shiv Sena called for a bandh with threats to traders:



- **Violative of fundamental rights:** Threats and coercion affect others' rights to work and livelihood.

Answer: (a) Yes, it is violative of Articles 19(1)(a) (b) (c) (d) and 21.

LOGICAL REASONING

The **central issue** in the passage is:

The challenges posed by the depreciation of the Indian rupee amid global economic headwinds, and the difficult policy choices the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) must make to balance currency stability, inflation control, and economic growth.

In simpler terms:

- The **rupee is losing value** against major currencies.
- This is **not alarming in itself**, but the **rate of depreciation** and **underlying global and domestic factors** (like rising commodity prices, inflation, and foreign capital outflows) make it a concern.
- The **RBI faces trade-offs**:
 - Intervene to stabilize the rupee - risks depleting foreign exchange reserves.
 - Let the rupee depreciate - risks higher inflation and economic disruption.
- **Exports may not benefit** from a weaker rupee because global demand is stagnating.

So, the passage is **about the macroeconomic implications of rupee depreciation and the RBI's dilemma in handling it.**

61. Which of the following is the author most likely to agree with?

- The passage emphasizes that **depreciation itself is not alarming**, but the **rate and underlying macroeconomic factors** matter.
- **Answer: (b) Currency depreciation is not a reason for worry in itself, but if macroeconomic factors are not good, there may be a cause for concern.**

62. Based on the author's arguments, which of the following, if true, would reduce the decline in value of the rupee?

- The rupee is under pressure due to **high global interest rates** and **commodity price inflation**. Reducing these pressures would ease depreciation.
- **Answer: (c) A reduction in worldwide inflationary trends and the reduction of interest rates in developed country markets.**

63. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author's arguments?

- The author's argument rests on **global inflation and rising interest rates affecting the rupee**. If the Indian economy were **highly insulated from these effects**, the argument weakens.
- **Answer: (d) The Indian economy and currency are highly protected and have been insulated from the effects of global inflationary trends and the increase of interest rates in developed country markets.**

64. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the author's arguments for why Indian exports may not be able to take advantage of a falling rupee?

- The author notes that **global demand is stagnating**, limiting the benefits of a weaker rupee. A worldwide slowdown supports this.
- **Answer: (a) Economies across the world are witnessing a slowdown, and in such economies, demand for imports decreases substantially.**

65. Based on the author's arguments, which of the following must necessarily be true?

- The passage states that **if nothing is done, global interest rates + hardening inflation ~ fall in rupee value**.
- **Answer: (b) If nothing else is done, the rise of interest rates in developed country markets, coupled with hardening of inflationary trends across the world, will result in a fall in the value of the rupee against the dollar.**

66. Which of the following is the author most likely to agree with?

- The author stresses that **RBI faces trade-offs**: controlling depreciation vs. growth/inflation. Sole focus on the rupee may hurt the economy.
- **Answer: (a) The RBI must not focus solely on preventing the depreciation of the rupee, as that may result in negative impacts on other aspects of the economy.**

The **central issue** of the passage is:



The post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) aims to slow biodiversity loss globally, but its success depends on systemic policy changes, and its comprehensiveness is both a strength and a potential weakness if such changes cannot be implemented.

In simpler terms:

- Global biodiversity is declining rapidly, and past targets (Aichi Biodiversity Targets) largely failed.
- The GBF sets ambitious goals for 2030 and 2050.
- Achieving these goals requires systemic changes across public policy.
- The framework's holistic nature can drive real change **if implemented**, but without action, it may fail—there's **no fallback plan**.

Here are the answers based on the passage:

67. (b) Clarity of action plan for the society and government

- The passage mentions that the GBF's success requires systemic change, and if this cannot be implemented, there's no plan B. Lack of clear, actionable steps for society and policymakers is highlighted as a challenge.

68. (a) Systemic policy change is difficult to implement

- Some researchers advocate prioritizing one clear target because systemic change is hard to achieve.

69. (a) Implementation of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) allows no middle ground for success or failure

- The author notes that success requires systemic change, and if that change is not implemented, there is no alternative plan.

70. (c) The future of biodiversity conservation efforts at global level

- The passage focuses on post-2020 plans, their goals, and challenges, which relate to the **future of global biodiversity conservation efforts**.

71. (c) The holistic nature of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) can be a boon or a bane

- The passage explicitly says that the GBF's comprehensiveness is both a **strength and a weakness**.

The **central issue** of the passage can be summarized as:

"The POCSO Act, 2012, while aimed at protecting children from sexual offences, inadvertently criminalizes consensual romantic relationships among teenagers, raising concerns about the legal recognition of adolescent sexual autonomy and the efficient use of the justice system."

In simpler terms: **“Balancing protection of minors with respecting the rights and consensual relationships of adolescents under POCSO.”**

72. The statement says that minimizing prosecution of consensual romances will free up the system for real sexual assault cases. What strengthens this is the **desirability of speedy prosecution for actual sexual assault cases.**

Answer: (b) Speedy prosecution of sexual assault cases is desirable.

73. The author criticizes the POCSO Act for criminalizing consensual sexual activity among teenagers, calling it an infringement on young adults’ autonomy.
Answer: (a) Statutory rape does not violate the romantic and sexual autonomy of young adults.

74. The author repeatedly mentions that minor girls’ consent has **zero legal validity** under current law.
Answer: (d) Consent of minor girls have legal validity. — this is **incorrect**, so it does not represent the author’s view.

75. The Allahabad High Court is concerned with the **harassment of teenage lovers due to strict provisions of POCSO.**
Answer: (d) Harassment of teenage lovers by their families.

76. A major challenge in implementing POCSO, as highlighted by the author, is balancing law enforcement with **respecting adolescents’ and young adults’ rights BUT also explain them what is the consequence of such acts in short to counsel them .**
Answer: (c) Counselling of adolescents and young adults.

The **issue** or central theme of this passage can be framed as:

“Humans are naturally prone to focusing on negative news, and modern media exploits this psychological tendency by sensationalizing stories, creating a distorted perception of reality.”

In short: **“Why we are drawn to bad news and how media amplifies it.”**

This captures both the psychological aspect (negativity and availability bias) and the societal/media aspect (digital platforms promoting sensational news).

77. **Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author’s arguments?**
Answer: (b) Behavioural traits that helped us in the days when we were hunter-gatherers are no longer found in modern-day humans.

Reason: The author’s argument about negativity bias relies on the claim that traits from our hunter-gatherer days still influence modern humans. If these traits no longer exist, the core psychological explanation for why we are drawn to negative news collapses.





78. Which of the following is the author most likely to agree with?

Answer: (b) Contemporary media continuously exposes us to exciting news and information, which may be very unlike the kinds of things we usually encounter in our lives.

Reason: The passage argues that modern media exaggerates sensational or extreme events, which are very different from the mundane, predictable events of everyday life.

79. Based only on the author's statement that "we'd prefer having nice neighbours with boring lives", and the author's argument about the nature of news that modern media exposes us to, which of the following would the author be most likely to agree with?

Answer: (d) The news modern media exposes us to is very different from our day-to-day experiences.

Reason: The author contrasts the mundane "boring" lives we live with the sensationalized, extreme news fed to us, showing that news content is often very different from our real experiences.

80. The author's statements about negativity bias, if true, provide most support for which of the following conclusions?

Answer: (c) We are more likely to notice a story about increasing pollution levels than a story about improving educational levels in schools.

Reason: Negativity bias makes humans pay more attention to negative events than positive ones. Stories about pollution (negative) are more attention-grabbing than stories about improving education (positive), aligning with the author's argument.

