

CLAT-UG SAMPLE PAPER – 03
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

What is immediately needed today is the establishment of a World Government or an International Federation of Mankind. It is the utmost necessity of the world today, and all those persons who wish to see all human beings happy and prosperous naturally feel it keenly. Of course, at times, we all feel that many of the problems of our political, social and cultural life would come to an end if there were one government all over the world. Travellers, businessmen, seekers of knowledge and teachers of righteousness know very well that great impediments and obstructions are faced by them when they pass from one country to another, exchange goods, get information, and make an effort to spread their good gospel among their fellow-men.

In the past, religious sects divided one set of people against another; colour of the skin or construction of the body set one against the other. But today, when philosophical light has exploded the darkness that was created by religious differences, and when scientific knowledge has falsified the theory of social superiority and when modern inventions have enabled human beings of all religious views and of all races and colours to come in frequent contact with one another, it is the governments of various countries that keep people of one country apart from those of another. They create artificial barriers, unnatural distinctions, unhealthy isolation, unnecessary fears and dangers in the minds of the common men who by their nature want to live in friendship with their fellow-men. But all these evils would cease to exist if there were one Government all over the world.

1. What is the urgent need of the world today?

- (a) The establishment of an international economic order
- (b) The establishment of a world government
- (c) The creation of a cultured international social order
- (d) The development of healthy relations among the various countries of the world.

2. What was the factor that set one man against another?

- (a) Material prosperity of certain people in the midst of grinding poverty.
- (b) Superior physical strength of some persons.
- (c) Colour of the skin or construction of the body.
- (d) Some people being educated and other illiterate.

3. The theory of racial superiority stands falsified today by the?

- (a) Scientific knowledge.
- (b) Ascendancy of a people who were heretofore considered of inferior racial stock.
- (c) Achievements of the so-called inferior races in every field of life.

(d) Precedence given to physical prowess which the so-called inferior races possess and the so-called superior races lack

4. What will the World Government be expected to do?

- (a) It will bring about universal happiness and prosperity.
- (b) It will end all wars for all times to come.
- (c) It will bring about a moral regeneration of mankind.
- (d) It will kill the satan that is in a man.

5. Which of the following problems has not been mentioned in the passage as likely to be solved with the establishment of the World Government?

- (a) Social problems
- (b) Political problems
- (c) Cultural problems
- (d) Economic problems.

6. What do the governments of various countries do to keep people of one country apart from those of another?

- (a) They create artificial barriers.
- (b) They foster unhealthy isolation.
- (c) They create unnecessary fears and dangers in the minds of the people
- (d) All of them.

7. The most appropriate title of the above passage may be

- (a) The Evils Nurtured by National Governments
- (b) The Unity of the World
- (c) The Need for a World Government
- (d) The Role of Religion in the Modern Times.

Pick out the most appropriate equivalent (SYNONYM) of the following words as used in the above passage:

8. RIGHTEOUSNESS

- (a) Rectitude
- (b) Religiosity
- (c) Requirement
- (d) Scrupulousness.

9. ISOLATION

- (a) Seclusion
- (b) Separation
- (c) Antagonism
- (d) Disruption.

Pick out the most appropriate word most nearly the opposite in meaning (ANTONYM) of the following words as used in the above passage:

10. PROSPEROUS

- (a) Adverse
- (b) Advanced
- (c) Retarded
- (d) Impecunious.

11. IMPEDIMENTS

- (a) Handicaps (b) Obstructions (c) Hindrances (d) Supports.

12. SUPERIORITY

- (a) Seniority (b) Juniority (c) Inferiority (d) Urbanity.

One of the main reasons of corruption in elections today is the lure of power which haunts the politicians so much that they feel no qualms of conscience in adopting any underhand method to come out successful.

The Watergate Scandal in the U.S.A. is an eloquent example to testify to the fact how even the top-level politicians can stoop to the lowest level in order to maintain themselves in power. Who does not remember how Adolf Hitler rode roughshod over all canons of electoral propriety to capture power?

In India also the record of the various political parties is not clean. Corruption thrives in elections because those in the field play on the psychology of the electorate. The voters are swayed by the tall promises of the candidates to whose machinations they fall an easy prey. They are also susceptible to fall an easy prey to the adulations of the politicians due to their illiteracy.

Besides, in the representative democracies today and particularly in big countries the constituencies are quite extensive obviating the possibility of corrupt practices being discovered. Anti-corruption laws are honoured more in their breach than in their observance. Even the code of conduct to be observed by the parties fighting the elections becomes a dead letter in as much as it is jettisoned out of existence and thrown unscrupulously overboard by the unfair politicians whose only aim is to maintain themselves in the saddle.

13. How does corruption thrive in elections?

- (a) The people themselves are corrupt.
(b) A sizable part of the society is corrupt.
(c) The politicians exploit the electorate psychologically.
(d) The politicians cheat the electorate economically.

14. Why, according to the author, do the voters fall an easy prey to the machinations of the politicians?

- (a) They want to sell their votes because of poverty.
(b) They are illiterate and do not understand what designs the politicians have at the back of their tall promises.
(c) They are coward and submit to the threats of physical violence held out by the cronies of the politicians.
(d) They are totally indifferent to what happens on the political horizon.

15. Why, according to the author, do corrupt practices indulged in elections go unnoticed?

- (a) Because vested interests shield those who indulge in corrupt practices.
- (b) Because constituencies are so small that the politicians take the electorate, whose number is very limited, into confidence.
- (c) Because the law enforcing authorities themselves are in collusion with the politicians.
- (d) Because the constituencies are so big that it becomes difficult to discover the corrupt practices.

16. What happens to the anti-corruption laws?

- (a) There is actually no such thing as anti-corruption laws.
- (b) Anti-corruption laws are certainly honoured but in a limited way.
- (c) Anti-corruption laws are honoured more in their breach than in their observance.
- (d) Anti-corruption laws are simply an eye wash just to hoodwink the masses.

17. To maintain themselves in the saddle' means?

- (a) To remain in state of preparedness
- (b) To be ready to run whenever danger is apprehended
- (c) To retain power in their hands by continuing in office
- (d) To play an unfair game.

18. Which one of the following may be the most appropriate title to the above passage?

- (a) Corruption in Public Life
- (b) Corruption in High Places
- (c) Politicians' Game of Power
- (d) Elections and Corruption.

Pick out the most appropriate EQUIVALENT of the following words taken from the above passage:

19. ELOQUENT

- (a) Flamboyant
- (b) Dazzling
- (c) Outspoken
- (d) Fluent.

20. STOOP

- (a) To bend
- (b) To yield to temptation
- (c) To injure
- (d) To inure.

What are the good parts of our civilization? First and foremost, there is order and safety. If today I have a quarrel with another man, I do not get beaten up merely because I am physically weaker and he can kick me down. I go to law, and the law will decide as fairly as it can between the two of us. Thus, in disputes between man and man, right has taken the place of might. Moreover, the law protects me from robbery and violence. Nobody may come and break into my house, steal my goods or run off with my children. Of course, there are burglars, but they are very rare, and the law punishes them whenever it catches them.

It is difficult for us to realize how much this safety means. Without safety these higher activities of mankind which make up civilization could not go on. The inventor could not invent, the scientist could not find out or the artist could not make beautiful things, Hence, order and safety, although they are not themselves civilization, are things without which civilization would be impossible. They are as necessary to our civilization as the air we breathe is to us; and we have grown so used to them that we do not notice them any more than we notice the air. Another great achievement of our civilization is that today civilized men are largely free from the fear of pain. They still fall ill, but illness is no longer the terrible thing it used to be. Not only do men and women enjoy better health, they live longer than they ever did before, and they have a much better chance of growing up.

Thirdly, our civilization is more secure than any that has gone before it. This is because it is much more widely spread. Previous civilizations were specialized and limited; they were like oases in a desert.

21. What is the first merit of our civilization?

- (a) Material advancement
- (b) Cultural advancement
- (c) Development of science
- (d) Order and safety.

22. The essential condition for the promotion of higher activities of life is

- (a) Dedication on the part of those who practise them
- (b) Economic freedom
- (c) Safety
- (d) State support.

23. What, according to the author, is the second merit of the present civilization?

- (a) Development of means of transport and communication
- (b) Freedom from drudgery
- (c) Freedom from the fear of pain
- (d) Mental enlightenment of the people.

24. The third merit of the present civilization, according to the author, is

- (a) The present civilization is founded on justice.
- (b) The present civilization has liberal outlook on life.
- (c) The present civilization is more widespread in the sense that large number of people are civilized now than ever before.
- (d) The present civilization is more secure than any that has gone before.

25. 'They were like oases in a desert'; what does this mean?

- (a) Previous civilizations were more attractive than the present civilization.

- (b) Previous civilizations were confined to a very limited area while barbarians were far larger in number.
- (c) Previous civilizations were short-lived.
- (d) Previous civilizations were nature based.

LEGAL REASONING

Sexual harassment at workplace is an affront to the fundamental rights of a woman, the Supreme Court remarked while upholding a High Court judgment that quashed a transfer of a woman bank employee. A woman employee of a Bank, who was holding the office of Scale IV in Indore branch was transferred to a branch in Jabalpur. She challenged the said transfer alleging that her reports about irregularities and corruption at her branch and her complaints against an officer who sexually harassed her, met with an order of transfer. The High Court allowed the writ petition and quashed the transfer order. While considering the bank's appeal, the Bench of Justice Dhananjaya Y. Chandrachud and Justice Ajay Rastogi, at the outset, noted the following principles to be adopted while examining the validity of a transfer order: An employee cannot have a choice of postings. Administrative circulars and guidelines are indicators of the manner in which the transfer policy has to be implemented. However, an administrative circular may not in itself confer a vested right which can be enforceable by a writ of mandamus. Unless an order of transfer is established to be mala fide or contrary to a statutory provision or has been issued by an authority not competent to order transfer, the Court in exercise of judicial review would not be inclined to interfere.

The Court noted that the employee had also levelled allegations specifically of sexual harassment against the Zonal Manager along with the report of rampant corruption in the bank. In this context, the Bench made these observations on the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013. It said: "Sexual harassment at the workplace is an affront to the fundamental rights of a woman to equality under Articles 14 and 15 and her right to live with dignity under Article 21 of the Constitution as well as her right to practice any profession or to carry on any occupation, trade or business. Clause (c) of Section 4(2) indicates that one member of the Internal Complaints Committee has to be drawn from amongst a non-governmental organization or association committed to the cause of women or a person familiar with issues relating to sexual harassment.

The purpose of having such a member is to ensure the presence of an independent person who can aid, advise and assist the Committee. It obviates institutional bias. The Bench said: There can be no manner of doubt that the respondent has been victimized. Her reports of irregularities in the branch met with a reprisal. She was transferred out and sent to a branch which was expected to be occupied by a Scale I officer. This is symptomatic of a carrot and stick policy adopted to suborn the dignity of a woman who is aggrieved by unfair treatment at her workplace. The order of transfer was an act of unfair treatment and is vitiated by mala fide.

26. Raju Bhai was an employee of a bank but had a lethargic attitude towards his work. The bank manager was not satisfied with his work and at times gave him an ultimatum. After few months, he had a huge fight with the bank manager as a result of which the

bank manager got furious and transferred him to another branch. Whether the judiciary can interfere with this decision of transfer?

- (a) Yes, because he was not good at his work.
- (b) No, because he did not report any incident of irregularity or corruption.
- (c) Yes, because the bank manager was unsatisfied with his work.
- (d) Yes, because he was transferred because of the anger of the bank manager.

27. Which of the following can be attributed from the above paragraph?

- (a) A woman can have posting of her choice if sexual harassment has been committed against her
- (b) Only employees who report corruption can have posting of their own choice.
- (c) Only women who are victims of sexual harassment and report corruption can have posting of their own choice.
- (d) None of the above.

28. Choose the correct answer.

Statement I: A writ of mandamus may lie for the enforcement of the guidelines or administrative circulars if employee is at fault.

Statement II: No writ of mandamus lies for the enforcement of the guidelines or administrative circulars if the women transferred is victim of sexual harassment.

- (a) Only Statement I is correct.
- (b) Only Statement II is correct.
- (c) Both Statements I and II are correct
- (d) Neither Statement I nor II is correct.

29. Choose the correct answer.

Statement I: Sexual harassment at workplace violates right to equality enshrined under the Constitution of India.

Statement II: Sexual harassment at workplace promotes discrimination on the basis of sex.

- (a) Only Statement I is correct.
- (b) Only Statement II is correct.
- (c) Both Statements I and II are correct.
- (d) Neither Statement 1 nor II is correct.

30. S was employed as a cashier at bank and was having sexual relationship with the bank manager. One day S committed serious financial errors. After knowing about the errors, the bank manager got furious and sexually harassed her at the bank, and gave her threats to get her transferred if she reveals to anyone. Further, she was transferred to another office by the bank manager because of the errors committed by her. The transfer was in

accordance with the guidelines requiring transfer in the case of errors committed by the employee. Whether the transfer is valid?

- (a) Yes, because S was transferred according to the guidelines.
- (b) No, because S was transferred since she was sexually harassed.

- (c) Yes, because S was having sexual relationship with the bank manager and his conduct would not amount to sexual harassment.
- (d) None of the above.

In modern constitutional democracies, it is axiomatic that citizens have a right to know the affairs of the government which, having been elected by them, seeks to formulate sound policies of governance aimed at their welfare. Democracy, therefore, expects openness and openness is a concomitant of a free society. Sunlight is the best disinfectant. But it is equally important to be alive to the dangers that lie ahead. It is important to realize that undue popular pressure brought to bear on decision-makers in the government can have frightening side-effects. In a government of responsibility like ours, where all the agents of the public must be responsible for their conduct, there can be few secrets. The people of this country have a right to know every public act, everything, that is done in a public way, by their public functionaries. They are entitled to know the particulars of every public transaction in all its bearing. The right to know, which is derived from the concept of freedom of speech, though not absolute, is a factor which should make one wary, when secrecy is claimed for transactions which can, at any rate, have no repercussion on public security.

The Right to Information (RTI) Act has been a powerful instrument in the hands of the people to ensure transparency in the decision-making process. There are a number of cases where this right has been used by the people to get better civic facilities, cut down red-tape and delay in decision making and punish the corrupt. State governments have taken steps to come out with a public service charter that fixed time limit to the government departments for providing service to the people. This is expected to address a number of grievances of the people arising from delayed delivery of public service which often lies at the root of corruption and inefficiency.

31. Aditya appeared for his 12th class Board Examination. When he got the marksheet he was disappointed with his marks. He thought that he had done well in the examination but his answer- books were not properly valued and that improper valuation had resulted in low marks. Therefore, he made an application for Inspection for under-evaluation of his answer books. The Board rejected the said request. Based on the author's reasoning in the passage above,

- (a) The request deserves to be rejected because the Board ensures complete fairness and uniformity to eliminate any chances of subjectivity.
- (b) If the request is accepted then it will create confusion and chaos subjecting the entire elaborate system of examinations to delay and disarray.
- (c) Opening the copies to public scrutiny would interfere with the Board's effective and efficient functioning.

(d) Copies should undergo proper inspection and re-evaluation. The right to information is a cherished right. Releasing the copy for scrutiny will bring in transparency and accountability.

32. Suppose a Writ Petition is filed with the aim to have effective implementation of the Right to Information Act. This petition is dismissed by the High Court. An appeal is filed against the judgment of the High Court. Based on the author's reasoning, what should be the decision of the Court?

- (a) The appeal needs to be dismissed; compliance of the Act is a prerogative of the Government.
- (b) The appeal must not be entertained because RTI Act is subject to the rider of public security.
- (c) The appeal must be accepted because the public possesses a precious right to know which can only be advanced when there is a proper compliance of the law.
- (d) If the appeal is entertained it will increase the compliance cost to the State. The expenditure on other social welfare measures consequently have to be reduced.

33. It is witnessed neither the Central Government nor the State Government is filling the vacancies for appointment of Commissioners in a timely manner. As a result, the functioning of RTI Act is still. This led to huge backlogs of appeals and complaints in many Commissions across the country. What, according to the author, would be the effect of not filling the vacancies?

- (a) Vacancies will not have any impact on the effectiveness of the RTI.
- (b) Vacancies can have debilitating impact on the proper implementation of the RTI.
- (c) Vacancies can be set off by managing the dockets of RTI cases; management of the cases is the key.
- (d) Vacancies need to be maintained; otherwise speedy resolution of cases can have frightening side effects on the government.

34. The Parliament has passed The Right to Information (Amendment) Bill which seeks to give the government powers to fix salaries, tenures and other terms and conditions of employment of Information Commissioners. Based on the inference drawn, what should be the author's stand on the Amending Act?

- (a) The Amending Act will be supported because it is aimed at streamlining the function.
- (b) The Amending Act will not be supported because right to know is an integral part of the right to life.
- (c) The Amending Act will be supported provided the government formulates the rules expeditiously.
- (d) The Amending Act will not be supported because it may undermine the law and the government can hire and fire independent Information Commissioners.

35. The Official Secrets Act and the National Security Act is sought to be repealed. Both the Acts contain provisions relating to official secrets. These statutes are time tested

legislations securing India's sovereignty and integrity. If this is true, then based on the author's reasoning in the passage above?

(a) Repealing Acts will be opposed because both the Acts are significant instruments in maintaining the external and internal security.

(b) Repealing Acts will be supported because right to know will become an absolute right, thus advancing democratic goals.

(c) Repealing Acts will be supported because RTI Act is paramount with respect to any security legislation.

(d) Repealing Acts will be opposed because it may undermine the security of the nation and RTI is not an absolute and unhindered right.

The men's rights activists claim that the anti-dowry laws are being frequently misused to harass and extort husbands. The high rate of suicide among married men in India is also attributed to harassment under these laws by the activists. The practice of giving dowry was first criminalised in 1961 under the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 and later Section 498A of the Indian Penal Code was introduced in 1983.

Section 498A of the Indian Penal Code which deals with cruelty to a wife states that whoever, being the husband or the relative of the husband of a woman, subjects such woman to cruelty shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years and shall also be liable to fine. For the purposes of this section, "cruelty" means:

"(a) Any wilful conduct which is of such a nature as is likely to drive the woman to commit suicide or to cause grave injury or danger to life, limb or health (whether mental or physical) of the woman; or.

(b) Harassment of the woman where such harassment is with a view to coercing her or any person related to her to meet any unlawful demand for any property or valuable security or is on account of failure by her or any person related to her to meet such demand."

Section 113B of the Indian Evidence Act, 1879 says that if a married woman committed suicide within seven years of marriage, it must be assumed by the court that her husband and his family abetted the suicide, especially if there was evidence of prior dowry demands.

Until July 2014, Section 498A of the Indian Penal Code allowed the police to arrest the persons mentioned in the complaint without a warrant or any investigation. The crime was non-bailable, so chances of getting bail were low and the husbands usually lost their jobs while in custody. On 2nd July, 2014, the Supreme Court of India in an order stopped automatic arrests under Section 498A. The Court directed the police to use Section 41 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, which contains a checklist, to decide whether an arrest is necessary. The Court also stated that in all arrests

the magistrate must examine whether further detention was necessary. There is also no provision of withdrawing a complaint in case of a reconciliation. However, an amendment to rectify this has been proposed.

Former Justice of Delhi High Court Shiv Narayan Dhingra has admitted that this law is being used by women to harass their husbands and in-laws. He has claimed that these laws assume that women are always truthful, and don't place much importance on evidence. He has termed misuse of these laws, legal terrorism.

36. Which of the following can be attributed to the above passage?

- (a) 90% of the times, women misuse the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961.
- (b) The complaints under Section 498A of the IPC can be withdrawn at the request of the complainant.
- (c) The Court directed the police to use Section 41 of the CrPC to decide if the arrest was necessary.
- (d) All of the above.

37. Reshma filed a police complaint against her husband, sister-in-law and father-in-law, under the Dowry Prohibition Act. Reshma's husband, Pratik, is a clerk with a private bank. Pratik's sister is to appear in class 12 board exams, and his father is mostly ill and bedridden. According to the information provided in the passage, how should the law allow the police to act on the complaint?

- (a) The police should go for an immediate arrest.
- (b) The police should launch an investigation to verify if the complaint were true.
- (c) The police should not arrest them if not necessary.
- (d) This is a family matter. The police should refer it to the family court.

38. Reshma filed a police complaint against her husband, sister-in-law and father-in-law, under the Dowry Prohibition Act. Reshma's husband, Pratik, is a clerk with a private bank. Pratik's sister is to appear in class 12 board exams, and his father is mostly ill and bedridden. The police sprang into action and arrested the accused immediately. As a result, Pratik lost his job, his sister failed in her exams and went into depression, and his father's health worsened. Pratik took this matter to the Supreme Court saying that the police did not follow the guidelines; hence, the responsible officers should be punished. According to the information provided in the passage, what guidelines did the police fail to follow?

- (a) The police failed to follow Section 41 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.
- (b) The police failed to launch a preliminary investigation to check if the complaint held any weight.
- (c) Under Section 113B of the Evidence Act, the police failed to take a senior citizen's health under consideration.
- (d) As per the Supreme Court's ruling, the police failed to consult a Magistrate first.

39. Sachin married Roma six years back and they have a 4-year-old son. One day, out of the blue, Roma leaves her husband's home and files a dowry harassment case against her husband and his relatives including the mother-in-law. Sachin and his mother get

arrested. Sachin's mother is 71 years old and is an asthma patient. He is trying hard to get her out on bail. Based on the information provided in the passage, would the police consider Sachin's plea?

- (a) No. Section 498A of the Indian Penal Code is a non-bailable offence.
- (b) Yes. The police have to follow the checklist given under Section 41 of the CrPC, before they can arrest.
- (c) No. Arrests couldn't have happened without any evidence.
- (d) Yes. Under the law, senior citizens are considered for bail until proven guilty.

It is clear that consent of a party to a contract gets vitiated when such consent was the result of coercion, undue influence, fraud, misrepresentation or mistake. The question now arises: what will be the consequences when the consent is not free, or in other words, whether the agreement in question can still be enforced under the law?

The answer lies in Sections 19 and 19A of the Indian Contract Act (ICA). Section 19 states that when the consent of a party to an agreement has been obtained by coercion, fraud or misrepresentation, the agreement would constitute a contract "voidable" at the option of such party. Knowingly making a false statement to a person with an intention to deceive him into entering into a contract constitutes fraud. Making a false statement while believing it to be true constitutes misrepresentation. Voidable means that the party whose consent was not free may either choose to enforce the contract as it is or may rescind the contract i.e. avoid the contract completely in case of which such contract will not bind either party and the resulting situation would be as if no contract had been entered at all.

Similarly, Section 19A of ICA makes a contract voidable when the consent has been obtained by exercising undue influence. In case of consent given by mistake, section 20 of ICA treats the contract to be void when both parties were under a mistake of fact. Also, an agreement, the terms of which are not certain, or capable of being made certain, is void.

Further, a contract involving a mistake of law is valid as per Section 21 of ICA. Section 22 of ICA states that a contract cannot be treated as voidable merely because either party was under a mistake of fact.

40. A obtains the consent of B to enter into an agreement by pointing a gun at B's girlfriend. The contract is voidable under?

- (a) Section 19 of the Indian Contract Act
- (b) Section 19A of the Indian Contract Act
- (c) Section 21 of the Indian Contract Act
- (d) Section 22 of the Indian Contract Act

41. 'X threatens to gun down 'Y, if he ('Y) does not sell his property worth Rs. 20,00,000 for Rs 1,00,000 only. As a consequence, 'Y agrees to sell it as demanded by 'X. Which of the following derivations is CORRECT?

- (a) There is a contract between 'X and 'Y'.
- (b) There is an agreement between 'X' and 'Y' which can be enforced by the court of law.
- (c) There is an agreement between 'X', and 'Y' which cannot be enforced by the court of law.
- (d) There is a contract between 'X' and 'Y' which is voidable at the option of 'Y'.

42. The directors of a company issued a prospectus stating that they had authority to run tramways with steam. The directors honestly believed that the board of trade would grant sanction to the company for the same. The board of trade, however, refused to grant the sanction to the company.

- (a) The directors are liable for fraud.
- (b) The directors are liable for misrepresentation.
- (c) Facts at hand are not sufficient to determine.
- (d) None of the above

43. A horse was bought for a certain price coupled with a promise to pay Rs. 500 more if the horse proved lucky.

- (a) This is a valid agreement.
- (b) This agreement is void due to uncertainty as it cannot be determined whether the horse brought good or bad luck to the buyer.
- (c) The agreement is partially void and partially valid.
- (d) None of the above

44. Which of the following is correct?

Statement I: Voidable means that the party whose consent was not free may either choose to enforce the contract as it is or may rescind the contract.

Statement II: An agreement, the terms of which are not certain, or capable of being made certain, is void

- (a) Only Statement I is correct.
- (b) Only Statement II is correct.
- (c) Both Statements I and II are correct.
- (d) Neither Statement I nor Statement II is correct.

The Indian Penal Code 1860 contains Section 292 which deals with the sale of obscene books, pamphlet, inter alia representation which shall be deemed to be lascivious or appeals to the prurient interest, which can include obscene advertisements.

Tests for Obscenity:

1. Hicklin's test - The Hicklin's test was laid down in English law in the case of Regina v. Hicklin. On application of Hicklin's test, a publication can be judged for obscenity based on the isolated part of the work considered out of the context. While applying the Hicklin's test the work is taken out of

the whole context of the work and then it is seen if that work is creating any apparent influence on most susceptible readers, such as children or weak-minded adults.

2. Roth Test - In 1957, a new test was developed by the US courts to judge obscenity in case of Roth v. United States. In this case it was held that only those sex-related materials which had the

tendency of exciting lustful thoughts were found to be obscene and the same has to be judged from the point of view of an average person by applying contemporary community standards. This test was sharper and narrower than the Hicklin's test as it does not isolate the alleged content but limits itself to the dominant theme of the whole material and checks whether, if taken as a whole, it has any redeeming social value or not.

Indian Courts on Obscenity: Indian Judiciary, for the first time, defined obscenity in the case of Ranjit D. Udeshi v. The State of Maharashtra. In this case, the Hon'ble Supreme Court observed that the test of obscenity is, whether the tendency of the matter charged as obscene is to deprave and corrupt those whose minds are open to immoral influences, but the test of obscenity must agree with the freedom of speech and expression guaranteed under our Constitution. Therefore, sex and nudity in art and literature cannot be regarded as evidence of obscenity without something more.

Rule 1: No person shall publish or cause to be published, or arrange or take part in the publication or exhibition of any advertisement which contains indecent representation of women in any form.

Rule 2: Any person who contravenes the provisions of Rule 1 shall commit an offence punishable with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to two years, and with fine which may extend to two thousand rupees.

45. Rajesh Bhagat is a prolific writer and very popular among the youth. Rajesh wrote a new book titled Revolution 2020. The book was published by a printing press run by Amitav Krishnan. The book was held by the court as obscene. Is Amitav liable?

- (a) Yes (b) No (c) Only Rajesh is liable (d) None of the above

46. Choose the correct answer.

Statement I: Sex and nudity in art and literature cannot be regarded as evidence of obscenity.

Statement II: Hicklin's Test was aimed to look at the work as whole before judging it to be obscene.

- (a) Only Statement I is correct. (b) Only Statement II is correct.
(c) Both Statements I and II are correct (d) Neither Statement I nor II is correct.

47. Which of the following cannot be attributed to the passage?

- (a) Roth's test was sharper and narrower than Hicklin's test.
(b) While applying Hicklin's test isolated part of the work is looked upon.
(c) In Roth's test work as a whole is looked upon.
(d) In the Ranjit Udeshi case, the Supreme Court held that a work will only be obscene if it is pornographic in nature.

48. In a movie based on real life, the lead actress was shown naked after her rape by the upper caste people in the village. Decide after applying the Hicklin's test.

- (a) It would be considered obscenity as the work is seen as isolated from the whole.
- (b) It would not be considered obscenity as the work will be seen as a whole.
- (c) It would be considered obscenity as the work showcases a naked woman on screen.
- (d) None of the above

49. In a movie based on real life, the lead actress was shown naked after her rape by the upper caste people in the village. Decide after applying the Roth test.

- (a) It would be considered obscenity as the work is seen as isolated from the whole.
- (b) It would not be considered obscenity as the work will be seen as a whole.
- (c) It would be considered obscenity as the work showcases a naked woman on screen.
- (d) None of the above.

Assume that the statements in the passages are the applicable law.

Quashing a case of cruelty that was filed against a man by his wife, the Bombay High Court said that if a married lady is asked to do household work for the family, it cannot be said that she is treated "like a maid servant". The Court was hearing an application by the husband and his parents seeking that proceedings against them are quashed. A First Information Report ("FIR") was filed against the trio in September 2020, around nine months after the marriage, alleging that they hounded the woman for money to purchase a car, harassed her mentally and physically and treated her like a maid servant.

Examining the evidence, the Court found that there was no merit to the woman's allegations. The Court said that though the FIR says that she was treated properly for about a month and then "like a maid servant", there are no details of what this meant. The Court added: "If a married lady is asked to do household work for the purpose of the family, it cannot be said that it is like a maid servant." The Court held that the mere use of the word harassment "mentally and physically" in the FIR is not sufficient to constitute an offence Section 498A of the Indian Penal Code ("IPC"), which punishes the husband, or a relative of the husband of a woman who subjects her to cruelty in any way.

It is interesting to note that Section 498A of the IPC also provides that if a married woman is actually treated like a 'maid servant', it would be an offence under that Section. [Extracted, with edits and revisions, from "If Wife Is Asked To Do Household Work, Does Not Mean She Is Treated Like Maid: Bombay HC", The Wire]

50. Ashwin and Ashima were married in February 2020. In March 2020, Ashwin asked Ashima to take care of all their household work, such as cooking, cleaning, and other domestic chores, as he was very busy with his professional responsibilities. Ashima claims that this amounts to treating her like a maid servant and constitutes an offence under

Section 498A of the IPC. Applying the Bombay High Court decision, is she likely to succeed?

- (a) Yes, since Ashwin had only asked Ashima to do their household work, and not for others.
- (b) No, since Ashwin had only asked Ashima to do their household work, and not for others.
- (c) Yes, since Ashwin had asked Ashima to do household work for themselves as well as others.
- (d) No, since treating a married woman like a maid servant would not amount to an offence under that Section.

51. In April 2020, Ashwin's friend Rakesh visits Ashwin and Ashima's home, and stays with them for a few days. During his visit, he is very mean to Ashima, and uses abusive language with her. He also threw a plate at her one evening when he was unhappy with the meal that she had prepared. Ashima now claims that Rakesh has committed an offence under Section 498A of the IPC. Is she likely to succeed?

- (a) No, since Rakesh's actions were perfectly justifiable for a man who does not get a well-cooked meal.
- (b) Yes, since Rakesh's use of abusive language and throwing the plate at Ashima clearly amount to cruelty.
- (c) No, since Rakesh is not her husband, nor is he related to Ashwin.
- (d) Yes, since Rakesh was staying at Ashwin and Ashima's home at the time of the incident.

52. Frustrated and upset with her marriage, Ashima applies for and is granted a divorce from Ashwin in November 2020. Since she and Ashwin had been friends for many years before they got married, she stays in touch with him. She moves into her own apartment and starts going to the office regularly at a new job. Ashwin is very upset at this and starts treating Ashima very cruelly. Ashima again claims that Ashwin has committed an offence under Section 498A of the IPC. Is she right?

- (a) Yes, since Ashwin has, as we are told, treated her cruelly.
- (b) Yes, since Ashwin has been her husband.
- (c) No, since Ashwin was understandably upset at Ashima's behaviour.
- (d) No, since she is no longer married to Ashwin.

53. Assume that the government passes a new law in January 2021, called the Protection of Rights of Married Women Act, 2021 (the "PoMWA"), according to which, asking a married woman to take care of household chores would be an offence. The PoMWA also provides that if a man commits such an offence, he would have to pay compensation to the woman. The PoMWA even applies to actions that were committed any time in the three years prior to the new law coming into force, and even if the man and woman involved in the matter were no longer married. Upon hearing about this new law, Ashima once again alleges that Ashwin has committed an offence under Section 498A of the IPC, and claims compensation under the PoMWA for his actions. Is she right, and will she succeed?

- (a) Ashima is right about Ashwin committing an offence under Section 498A of the IPC, but she will not get compensation under the PoMWA.

(b) Ashima will get compensation under the PoMWA, but she is not right about Ashwin committing an offence under Section 498A of the IPC.

(c) Ashima will get compensation under the PoMWA, and she is also right about Ashwin committing an offence under Section 498A of the IPC.

(d) Ashima will neither get compensation under the PoMWA, nor is she right about Ashwin committing an offence under Section 498A of the IPC.

54. Assume that in March 2021, the government changes Section 498A of the IPC. The effect of this change is that asking a married woman to do household chores — even for their own family — by herself would be considered cruelty, and therefore, an offence under the Section. Some days after this change comes into effect, Shamita, Ashima’s friend at work, tells her that her husband has been forcing her to do all the household work by herself. Ashima tells Shamita that her husband’s actions would amount to an offence under Section 498A of the IPC, even though Ashima herself has been unsuccessful in having Ashwin convicted under that Section in the past. Is Ashima’s advice to Shamita correct?

(a) Yes, since Section 498A has now been changed, and Shamita’s husband’s actions would now be an offence under the changed Section 498A.

(b) No, since Ashima has been unsuccessful in having Ashwin convicted under that Section in the past.

(c) Yes, since the passing of the Protection of Married Women Act has resulted in Shamita’s husband’s actions were made illegal.

(d) No, since Ashima is only Shamita’s friend, and only the married woman herself can file a complaint under Section 498A of the IPC.

LOGICAL REASONING

The essence of democratic inquiry and participation kindled through the RTI in the problem with the Jarawas started mainly after the construction of the Andaman Trunk Road in the 1970s. This road is a national highway which connects the southern part of the island i.e. Port Blair to the central and northern part of the Island. This highway cuts through the heart of Jarawa homeland which is approximately 50 kms away from Port Blair. After vehicles started operating on this road, the Jarawas who were isolated from the mainstream society were forced to interact with the civilized society. It must be mentioned here that even the Britishers had respect for these people and hence never interfered in their affairs and therefore they could continue their unique lifestyle without being aware of the political developments of the nation. By the decade of the 90s the Jarawas started to show up at the national highway and became a centre of amusement for the travellers.

Tourists would regularly stop their cars and offer them food and make them dance in return. One such incident was reported where a policeman made two naked Jarawa women dance for food. In fact, some incidents were reported where a group of male visitors abducted a female Jarawa and sexually harassed her. But the administration tried to cover up majority of these events as they did not want to hurt the tourism which generates a lot of revenue.

In January 2013 the Supreme Court put an "interim ban" on the movement of tourists but allowed only high officials to use the road and vehicles. which carry essential commodities for the Jarawas. But this ban was soon lifted after few months and again the tourist activities began which is continuing even till date. According to the practice, the vehicles go in a convoy which is led by a police escort vehicle and is also followed by one.

This, according to me, is more harmful to the Jarawa cause because a fleet of 70 to 80 vehicles is not only endangering their survival but at the same time is also causing rampant pollution. The Jarawas earlier never had to face the consequences of pollution, but now due to this crazy "human safari", the Jarawas are feeling the heat of civilization.

What was really disheartening to see was the fact that one of the Jarawamales was actually begging for food from the passing vehicles. The tourist activities have changed the traditional lifestyle of the Jarawas which was of hunting and gathering and now they are more dependent on begging and this has caused some serious health problems to them, leading to reduction in their population. We have heard about Animal Safaris but in these areas the tradition of "Human Safari" is going on. The Jarawas being oblivious to this fact have no other option but to dance to this cacophonous tune of the commercial world.

It is high time that a new right should be evolved from Article 21 of the Constitution i.e. the right to isolation. This "right to isolation" is very well within the ambit of Article 21 as for some people the only way to survive is to be isolated especially from the clutches of civilization as is in this case. The concept of isolation is a part and parcel of the right to life as the entire survival of the Jarawa tribe for centuries has been in isolation from the civilized world; therefore, it can easily be regarded as their inherent fundamental right which is the least that the government can do at this moment.

55. Which of the following views can be correctly attributed to the author of the above passage?

- (a) Sexual harassment against Jarawa Tribe of Andaman & Nicobar is a humanitarian crisis and should be dealt as first priority.
- (b) A part of revenue generated by the tourism industry in Andaman & Nicobar should be used to provide bare necessities to the Jarawas as the same disturbs their lifestyle.
- (c) Safeguards for Jarawas are detrimental to the tourism sector in Andaman & Nicobar.
- (d) Increasing tourist activities have affected the traditional lifestyle and population of the Jarawas and causing loss to their cultural identity.

56. "What was really disheartening to see was the fact that one of the Jarawa males was actually begging for food from the passing vehicles." Why does the author say so?

- (a) Because the Jarawas are more dependent on external factors than their traditional methods

(b) Because despite being the backbone of the tourism industry, Jarawas are forced to beg from the tourists.

- (c) Because national policies have been inefficient in providing employment opportunities to tribes in Andaman & Nicobar, leaving them with no option but to beg.
- (d) None of the above

57. Suppose, the Supreme Court in one of its judgments expands the ambit of Article 21 of the Indian Constitution making it inclusive of the "right to isolation", following which a law is enacted by the Parliament prohibiting any tourism activities and unpermitted human presence in the Jarawa region in the Andaman & Nicobar. Based on the above supposition, which of the following arguments has the author failed to consider?

- (a) This would have an adverse effect on the national economy, bringing down the tourism industry.
- (b) Over the time, the dependence of Jarawas has increased on their newly adopted way of life and getting back to the isolated and traditional living style would be difficult.
- (c) Right to isolation would give Jarawas an opportunity to establish their own control mechanism in the islands of Andaman & Nicobar.
- (d) Doing this would make their inclusion in mainstream economy strenuous.

58. What does the author intend to do, through the passage?

- (a) Draw a timeline of Jarawa history and contemporaneous changes in their lifestyles.
- (b) Raise concern about the encroachment in and detriments caused to traditionally isolated community of Jarawas.
- (c) Highlight policy shortcomings for the protection of Jarawa culture.
- (d) Put forward the Constitution as the only remaining saviour of the Jarawa culture.

59. The author argues that

A. Right to Isolation is part and parcel of the right to life under Article 21.

B. Right to Isolation is the fundamental right of the Jarawas.

C. Right to Isolation is the natural right of the Jarawas since they have been living in isolation from the civilised world for a very long time.

- (a) A and B are correct
- (b) A and C are correct
- (c) Only A is correct
- (d) B and C are correct

In India, the legal landscape surrounding online defamation is a subject of significant interest and debate. With the rise of social media, and online platforms, cases of online defamation have become increasingly common. Defamation refers to making false statements about someone that harm their reputation. Online defamation includes defamatory statements made on the internet, including social media, blogs, forums, and other online platforms.

One critical aspect of online defamation is determining the liability of intermediaries, such as social media platforms or websites, for defamatory content posted by users. Section 79 of the Information Technology Act, 2000, provides a safe harbor for intermediaries, stating that they are not liable for

third-party content if they act as intermediaries and follow due diligence in removing or disabling access to the content once notified.

However, determining whether an intermediary has fulfilled its due diligence obligations can be complex. The Indian judiciary has been actively interpreting this provision. One significant case is the *Shreya Singhal v. Union of India*, in which the Supreme Court clarified that intermediaries are required to act upon a valid court order or government directive for content removal, not upon private complaints.

The court also emphasized that the intermediaries should not take a proactive role in monitoring content, as this could potentially infringe on free speech. While the law provides a safe harbor, it does not absolve intermediaries from their responsibilities. Online defamation cases often involve a balancing act between the right to freedom of expression and the right to reputation.

The Indian legal system requires a careful examination of the content, context, and intent of the statements to determine whether they qualify as defamatory. Additionally, the plaintiff in an online defamation case must prove that the statement was false, damaging to their reputation, and made with a degree of fault, such as negligence or actual malice.

60. What is the primary focus of the passage?

- (a) The rise of social media in India.
- (b) The legal aspects of online defamation in India.
- (c) The role of intermediaries in online content.
- (d) The importance of free speech on the internet.

61. What is online defamation, as described in the passage?

- (a) Making harmful statements about someone in person.
- (b) False statements made on the internet that harm someone's reputation.
- (c) Online harassment.
- (d) A form of political activism.

62. What is the significance of Section 79 of the Information Technology Act, 2000, as mentioned in the passage?

- (a) It defines defamation laws in India.
- (b) It provides safe harbor for intermediaries in cases of online defamation.
- (c) It regulates the content on social media platforms.
- (d) It allows private complaints against online defamation.

63. According to the Supreme Court in the *Shreya Singhal v. Union of India* case, under what circumstances should intermediaries act in response to content removal?

- (a) Upon receiving a private complaint.

(b) Upon a valid court order or government directive.

(c) Proactively to monitor content.

(d) Only if the content is found to be defamatory.

Children come in contact with the criminal justice system either as victims or witnesses to a crime or as children in conflict with law (CICL). As CICL, they could be alleged of, accused or recognised as having broken the law by committing a crime. According to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) Report 2021, India recorded a total number of 1,49,404 instances of crimes against children in 2021 - a rise of over 16 per cent from the previous year. In terms of percentage, the top categories under crime against children were kidnapping and abduction, followed by cases registered under the POCSO Act. Further, the NCRB report revealed that of the total cases, 53,874 were registered under POCSO Sections. Sexual offences against children shows a steady ascent, with 47,221 such cases being recorded in 2020, and 47,335 cases in 2019. In 2019, as many as 32,269 cases were registered across the country, while the 2021 report registered a decline of 3.5 per cent recording 31,170 cases.

The Criminal Justice system of any country broadly refers to agencies of the government charged with enforcing law, adjudicating crime, and correcting criminal conduct. The main objective of the criminal justice system is (deterrence, i.e., to punish the transgressors and the criminals' and to maintain law and order in the society. Globally, children and young people are routinely exposed to various forms of violence if they are before the criminal justice system. They are at risk of physical and psychological abuse, sexual assault, and other harms, including inadequate educational opportunities, poor and outdated vocational training. They face several challenges including mental, emotional, and behavioural disorders.

Children, who are victims of violence or exposed to violence during childhood, are more likely to have difficulty in school, abuse drugs or alcohol, act aggressively, suffer from depression or other mental health problems and engage in criminal behaviour as adults.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions from "Child Rights in the Criminal Justice System: Need for Law Reform" written by Dr. Asha Bajpai published in the Journal of the National Human Rights Commission, India],

64. Which of the following issues, children, who are victims of violence during childhood face in life, as per the author of the above passage?

(a) They may have difficulties in school

(b) They may abuse drugs or alcohol and suffer from mental health problems

(c) They may act aggressively and engage in criminal behaviors

(d) All of the above

65. What is the primary objective of the criminal justice system as mentioned in the passage?

- (a) Rehabilitation of offenders
- (b) Punishment of the offenders
- (c) Reformation of the offenders
- (d) Protection of victims from the offender

66. The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) in India is responsible for:

- (a) Conducting forensic investigations of Records of Criminals
- (b) Maintaining a national database of fingerprints of Criminals
- (c) Compiling and analysing crime data
- (d) Maintaining a national database of enforcement of criminal laws

67. Which category had the highest number of cases under crimes against children according to the NCRB Report 2021?

- (a) POCSO
- (b) Kidnapping and abduction
- (c) Sexual Offences
- (d) All of the above

68. Which one of the following is the correct expansion of the term POCSO used in the passage?

- (a) Protection of Children from Sexual Offences
- (b) Prosecution of Criminals of Sexual Offences
- (c) Protection of Children & Women from Sexual Offences
- (d) None of the above

The post-truth era is, expectedly, marked by a discerning erosion of public trust in sources of information. Mass media — both traditional and new-age avatars — has borne the brunt of this mistrust. And for good reasons too. Social media, its most popular platform, is a harbinger of falsity. It is thus encouraging to see that at least the old guard of the media ecosystem — the newspaper — continues to defy this discouraging trend. A pan-India survey of media consumption by Lokniti found that print media remains the most trusted source of information. The finding is consistent with the heartening surge in public endorsement of the reliability of newspapers since the pandemic. An earlier survey, which attempted to examine the impact of the lockdown on ‘reading patterns’, had found that the number of readers who used to spend over an hour on newspapers every day had risen to 38%, up from 16% in the pre-lockdown period.

The increased trust in newspapers is because the lockdowns coincided with the dissemination of the crudest kinds of misinformation about the pandemic in India and around the world and newspapers played a pivotal role in exposing these lies. But that is where the good news ends — for the print media, at least. Among other things, the data collated by the survey found deepening footprints of social media in rural and urban constituencies while television continues to dominate the screen. These developments are consistent with global trends that reveal that the newspaper industry is

struggling to contain the migration of readers and revenue to other formats, especially digital media. Ironically, the pandemic, which saw a resurgence in collective trust in newspapers,

adversely affected the print media as traditional advertisers, reeling under the economic fallout of Covid-19, cut back on advertisements. But the crisis in print precedes the pandemic. Newspapers have been outpaced by speedier, but also spurious, sources of information. The dominance of the image over text as a cultural phenomenon is another formidable challenge. The print media's hopes of remaining competitive and profitable must, therefore, centre on using this collective trust as a form of capital. Survival strategies, especially the revenue model, must be re-explored and the emphasis shifted to in-depth analyses of news as well as eye-catching layouts now that newspapers are slower to reach news to the audience. [Extracted, with edits and revisions, from "Good news: Editorial on print media remaining the most trusted source of information", *The Telegraph*]

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

- (a) The Covid-19 pandemic was an unmitigated disaster for the newspaper industry.
- (b) The Covid-19 pandemic had negative as well as positive effects on the newspaper industry.
- (c) The Covid-19 pandemic only had good effects on the newspaper industry.
- (d) The Covid-19 pandemic had no effect at all on the newspaper industry.

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

- (a) Social media is a reliable source of true and accurate news and information.
- (b) Social media is a highly unreliable source of news and information and should not be trusted.
- (c) Social media is a good way for people to stay connected with each other.
- (d) Social media is a speedier source of information than newspapers.

71. Which of the following would be an effective way of making print media more competitive?

- (a) Slowing down the process of print media production.
- (b) Using more expensive printing methods that achieve better print quality, even if it results in newspapers becoming more expensive.
- (c) Only publishing newspapers on alternate days.
- (d) Developing ways of ensuring that print media can reach readers more speedily.

72. Based on the author's arguments, which of the following, if true, would have resulted in the weakening, rather than deepening of public trust in newspapers since the pandemic?

- (a) Newspapers were very careful in ensuring they reported accurate and true news during the lockdowns.
- (b) Newspapers played a leading role in exposing lies and misinformation spread during the lockdown.
- (c) Newspapers actively disseminated misinformation during the lockdowns and made no efforts to expose lies spread by others.
- (d) Newspapers alerted the public to the fact that a number of sources were spreading crude forms of misinformation during the pandemic.

73. What would be the impact on the readership and revenues of the print media if the image were not dominant over text as a cultural phenomenon?

- (a) Print media would not suffer as much of a reduction in readership and revenue as readers shifted to other formats.
- (b) Print media would suffer a greater reduction in readership and revenue as readers shifted to other formats.
- (c) There would be no impact on the readership and revenues of the print industry.
- (d) There would be an increased demand from readers that newspapers carry more images and less text.

74. How does the author suggest newspapers can overcome the problem of being outpaced by speedier sources of information?

- (a) They offer direct means by which newspapers can become faster to publish and deliver to readers.
- (b) They encourage a complete and immediate shift to digital media as a way of ensuring newspapers are not outpaced by other sources of information.
- (c) They offer ways to reduce production costs, which would offset the losses caused by readers shifting allegiance to faster sources of information.
- (d) They offer alternative means for newspapers to become competitive and profitable, but do not solve the problem of how newspapers can become faster sources of information.

Students decide to attend college for several reasons. These reasons include career opportunities and financial stability, intellectual growth, a time for self-discovery, norms, obligations, and social opportunities. Outside demands in society, such as technology changes, and increased educational demands also drive the need for more students to attend college. The students then spend the next few years trying to discover a path and find their way so they can become successful. The transition to college presents students with many new challenges, including increased academic demands, less time with family members, interpersonal problems with roommates and romantic interests, and financial stress. Competitive academic work and uncertainty about future employment and professional career were also noted as sources of stress.

The transition to college represents a process characterized by change, ambiguity, and adjustment across all of life's domains. The transition towards independence and self-sufficiency has been characterized as 'stress-arousing' and 'anxiety-provoking' by many college students. Failure to accomplish and develop these characteristics of development and maintain independence may result in life dissatisfaction. Emerging adulthood has also been noted to augment college students' vulnerability to stress.

Many students experience their first symptoms of depression and anxiety during this time, but a growing problem is that college campuses do not have enough resources to help all of these students. It has been noted that 75% to 80% of college students are moderately stressed and 10% to 12% are severely stressed.

75. What according to you is the objective of the study of the present paragraph?

- (a) To map the various stages of pressure points of adulthood in the process of education.
- (b) To narrate the anti-family agenda in the current education system.
- (c) To pinpoint the obstacles targeted against meritorious students.
- (d) All of the above

76. Which factors as per the author cause more stress amongst college students?

- (a) Pressure from parents and society towards greater educational needs and increased competitive academic work.
- (b) Failure to develop successful romantic interests, financial constraints and interpersonal issues with room-mates.
- (c) Failure to adapt to the transition to college life and to adjust various life domains in tune with needs and requirements of college life.
- (d) Inability to manage time constraints and the uncertainty pertaining to their future.

77. Which of the following fall closest to the underlying assumption in the present study?

- (a) Problem-solving ability amongst college students is negatively associated with symptoms of depression and anxiety.
- (b) Students lean towards unhealthy coping skills in order to try to lower the stress that they experience.
- (c) Romantic interest is an anti-dote for stress amongst the students in the colleges.
- (d) Stress is subjective for each student.

78. Suggest a suitable title for the paragraph from amongst the given titles:

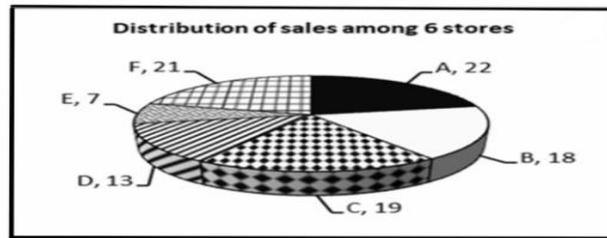
- (a) Triumph and Turbulence of College Education System
- (b) Negative impact of College Education System
- (c) Negligence of Stress Management by parents
- (d) Unemployment and Mental Instability

79. With reference to the above paragraph, which of the following offers the most plausible solutions as a coping up mechanism for college students?

- (a) Individual students should approach counsellors for coping up with stress.
- (b) Keeping in view that large number of students are experiencing stress, colleges must take steps reduce course curriculum and peer pressures.
- (c) College authorities shall provide access to counseling and every student experiencing stress must engage in some form of coping mechanism to alleviate stress.
- (d) The students must learn to differentiate between short term and long-term stress.

MATHS

XIX. Directions for Questions: The following pie-chart shows the percentage of books sold by six stores A, B, C, D, E and F in a week. (Total number of books sold by these 5 stores = 12000)



80. Find the ratio of the average number of books sold by C and D together and number of books sold by A.

- (a) 13 : 22 (b) 8 : 11 (c) 17 : 22 (d) None of these

81. What is the average number of books sold by A, C and E?

- (a) 5760 (b) 2080 (c) 1860 (d) 1920

82. If next month, number of books sold by B increased by 10% and that by F decreased by 20%, find the total books sold by B and F together.

- (a) 4476 (b) 4392 (c) 4284 (d) 4120

83. Find the difference between the angles made by A and B together and that of D and E together.

- (a) 72 (b) 68.4 (c) 75.6 (d) None of these

Directions (Qs. 84- 87): Refer to the following table and answer the questions that follow.

Percentage of Population in Poverty

		1983	1987-88	1993-94	1999- 2000
1.	Bihar	52.22	52.13	54.96	42.60
2	Rajasthan	34.461	35.15	27.41	15.28
3	Uttar Pradesh	47.07	41.46	40.85	31.15
4	Orissa	65.29	55.58	48.56	47.15
5	Madhya Pradesh	49.78	43.07	42.52	37.4
6	Andhra Pradesh	28.91	25.86	22.1	15.7
7	Tamil Nadu	51.66	43.39	35.03	21.12
8	Kerala	40.42	31.79	25.43	12.7
9	Karnataka	38.24	37.53	33.16	20.0

10	West Bengal	54.85	44.72	35.66	27.02
11	Gujarat	32.79	31.5	24.2	14.0
12	Haryana	21.37	16.64	25.05	8.74
13	Maharashtra	43.44	40.41	36.86	25.02
14	Punjab	16.18	13.2	11.77	6.16
	All 14 states	43.8	39.9	36.25	26.43
	All India	44.48	38.86	35.97	26.10

Note: Rankings are to be done in reverse order, i.e., the lower the poverty percentage, the higher the rank. (e.g., Haryana will be ranked 8th in 1983).

84. If States are ranked on the basis of least poverty levels and the best state is ranked at No. 1, while the worst state is ranked at No. 14, which State will rank at No. 7 in the year 1993-94?

- (a) Karnataka (b) UP (c) Haryana (d) Tamil Nadu

85. Cumulative poverty rating is defined as the sum of the ranks of a State over the four time periods shown. Which State shows the highest cumulative poverty rating over the period?

- (a) Bihar (b) MP (c) Punjab (d) Orissa

86. The state which has the best poverty alleviation record in terms of percentage change in the number of poor people in the State in 1983 to 1999-2000 is

- (a) Punjab (b) Haryana (c) Madhya Pradesh (d) Cannot be determined

87. State A is said to dominate State B, if it has a better percentage of population in poverty as compared to State B. By how many States is Bihar dominated for all the four years shown in the table?

- (a) 12 (b) 11 (c) 0 (d) 1

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE INCLUDING CURRENT AFFAIRS

The Global Gender Gap Report 2025 reveals that the overall global gender parity score currently stands at 64.1%, representing a slight decline that has led to slipping two places in the rankings compared to the previous year. Despite remarkable progress in women's educational attainment, with nearly 97.1% parity achieved due to improved female literacy and tertiary education enrolment, these advances have not translated proportionately into economic participation or leadership roles. The report highlights that women's workforce participation remains at 40.7%, with earned income parity only reaching 29.9%, and women occupy less than 30% of senior leadership positions globally. This persistent gap underscores that educational gains alone are insufficient without supportive policies and systems that address structural barriers, wage

disparities, and underrepresentation in political and economic decision-making roles. Furthermore, political empowerment remains a significant challenge, with women's parliamentary representation declining in several regions and ministerial roles falling below 6%. The report urges governments, organizations, and societies worldwide to implement gender-responsive policies and create stronger support systems to enhance women's economic and political participation.

Only through such comprehensive, targeted measures can the global community accelerate progress toward closing these entrenched gaps and achieve inclusive growth that benefits all. Current trajectories suggest that, at the present rate of change, global gender parity will not be realized for another 123 years, emphasizing the urgency of intensified efforts to promote equality across all sectors and leadership levels for sustainable development and societal resilience.

88. What is India's rank in the Global Gender Gap Report 2025?

- (a) 121st (b) 129th (c) 131st (d) 148th

89. According to the Global Gender Gap Report 2025, who is the top-ranked country for the 16th consecutive year?

- (a) Finland (b) Norway (c) Sweden (d) Iceland

90. Which organization publishes the Global Gender Gap Report?

- (a) World Health Organization (WHO) (b) World Economic Forum (WEF)
(c) United Nations Women (UN Women) (d) International Labor Organization (ILO)

91. Which South Asian country performed best in the Global Gender Gap Report 2025?

- (a) Nepal (b) India (c) Sri Lanka (d) Bangladesh

92. Which country ranked last in the Global Gender Gap Report 2025?

- (a) Pakistan (b) Maldives (c) Yemen (d) Afghanistan

The Three-Language Formula is an educational policy introduced in India in 1968, aimed at promoting national integration while preserving regional linguistic diversity. According to this formula, students are required to learn three languages: the first language is usually the mother tongue or regional language; the second language is Hindi in non-Hindi speaking states or another modern Indian language or English in Hindi-speaking states; and the third language is typically English or another modern Indian language, varying by the region.

The policy has been incorporated into various educational frameworks including the National Education Policy. It balances the linguistic plurality of India by encouraging multilingualism, allowing students to communicate within and beyond their states.

The formula also seeks to strengthen national unity, promote respect for linguistic diversity, and prepare students for global engagement. Challenges in implementation have arisen due to regional

opposition, especially in southern India, but recent policies emphasize flexibility in language choices and the use of mother tongue as the medium of instruction up to certain grades to enhance learning outcomes. The Three-Language Formula remains a cornerstone of India's language and education policy, fostering cultural inclusiveness and unity in a diverse linguistic landscape.

93. Which commission initially recommended the Three Language Formula?

- (a) Radhakrishnan Commission (b) Mudaliar Education Commission
(c) Kothari Commission (d) Ramamurti Committee

94. Which state has notably rejected the Three-Language Formula?

- (a) Kerala (b) Tamil Nadu (c) Karnataka (d) West Bengal

95. Which article of the Indian Constitution allows states to adopt their official languages?

- (a) Article 343 (b) Article 345 (c) Article 356 (d) Article 370

96. How many languages are currently recognized in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution?

- (a) 22 (b) 14 (c) 18 (d) 25

97. Which language was the first in India to be granted the status of a "Classical Language" in 2004?

- (a) Sanskrit (b) Telugu (c) Kannada (d) Tamil

The 2027 Census of India is set to be a landmark exercise as it will be the 16th national census. Scheduled to begin on April 1, 2026, and conclude by February 28, 2027, the census will be conducted in two key phases: the Houselisting and Housing Census, followed by Population Enumeration. The Houselisting phase will gather detailed data on housing conditions, amenities, and household assets across India. The subsequent Population Enumeration phase will collect comprehensive demographic, socio-economic, and cultural information for each individual residing in the country. A significant feature of the 2027 Census is the reintroduction of caste enumeration, the first since 1931, which is intended to provide important data for policy making and allocation of resources. Preparations for the census have already begun, including a pre-test exercise in November 2025 to evaluate data collection methods, technology, training, and logistics, ensuring smooth execution. Over 34 lakh enumerators and supervisors, along with about 1.3 lakh census officials, will be deployed nationwide to carry out this massive administrative task. The census also introduces a self-enumeration option, allowing citizens to submit their information digitally during a designated period. This census will play a crucial role in shaping India's future policies, governance, and electoral boundaries, reflecting its social fabric and population dynamics more accurately than ever before. It represents a significant step forward in using modern technology for national data collection and governance planning.

98. The Indian Census is conducted under the guidance of which Union Ministry?

- (a) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- (b) Ministry of Finance
- (c) Ministry of Home Affairs
- (d) Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation

99. The first full digital census in India is scheduled to be conducted in which year?

- (a) 2025
- (b) 2026
- (c) 2031
- (d) 2027

100. The process of "Delimitation," which involves redrawing the boundaries of Lok Sabha and State Assembly constituencies, is primarily based on population data obtained from the census. Which constitutional body is responsible for conducting this exercise?

- (a) The Parliament of India
- (b) The Delimitation Commission
- (c) The Ministry of Home Affairs
- (d) The Supreme Court of India

101. Which constitutional amendment froze the allocation of seats in the Lok Sabha based on the 1971 Census population figures until the first census after 2026?

- (a) 42nd Amendment Act of 1976
- (b) 87th Amendment Act of 2003
- (c) 92nd Amendment Act of 2003
- (d) 44th Amendment Act of 1978

102. Which commission used the 1931 Census data to recommend 27% reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBCs)?

- (a) Kothari Commission
- (b) Sarkaria Commission
- (c) Justice Rohini Commission
- (d) Mandal Commission

BRICS is a group of countries consisting originally of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa, formed to promote cooperation and development among emerging economies. Recently, BRICS expanded to include new members such as Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates, bringing the total membership to eleven countries. The group serves as a forum for political and economic coordination among these Global South nations, aiming to enhance collaboration in diverse areas like trade, investment, finance, and sustainable development. BRICS countries also work together on global issues such as climate change, health, and security, seeking to reform international institutions to better represent emerging economies.

The group's financial architecture includes the New Development Bank and the Contingent Reserve Arrangement, which provide funding and financial stability mechanisms independent of Western-dominated global financial institutions. BRICS holds annual summits where leaders discuss common priorities and set an agenda for deeper partnership. The expansion and inclusive approach of BRICS reflect its growing influence as a collective voice of developing countries on the world stage. This grouping plays an important role in shaping global governance and fostering south-south cooperation for sustainable growth.

103. Who is credited with coining the term "BRIC" before South Africa joined the group?

- (a) Jeffrey Sachs (b) Jim O'Neill (c) Paul Krugman (d) None of the above

104. The BRICS has expanded to include a New Development Bank. Where is its headquarters located?

- (a) Moscow, Russia (b) New Delhi, India
(c) Shanghai, China (d) Brasilia, Brazil

105. Where was the 17th BRICS Summit held in July 2025?

- (a) Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (b) Kazan, Russia
(c) New Delhi, India (d) Shanghai, China

106 What was the theme of the 17th BRICS Summit in 2025?

- (a) BRICS Partnership for Global Stability, Shared Security and Innovative Growth
(b) Strengthening Multiculturalism for Just Global Development and Security
(c) Strengthening Global South Cooperation for a More Inclusive and Sustainable Governance
(d) Economic Cooperation and Trade

107. Where is the headquarters of the New Development Bank (NDB) located?

- (a) Moscow, Russia (b) Beijing, China
(c) New Delhi, India (d) Shanghai, China

The massive 8.8 magnitude earthquake that struck Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula on July 29, 2025, vividly underscores the intense seismic and volcanic activity in the Pacific Ring of Fire. Kamchatka, a remote region in the Russian Far East, lies at the junction where the Pacific Plate is subducting beneath the Eurasian Plate—a tectonic boundary responsible for frequent, powerful earthquakes and numerous active volcanoes. The recent earthquake, one of the strongest in the area since a 9.0 magnitude quake in 1952, triggered widespread tsunami warnings across the Pacific Ocean.

Waves up to 4 meters high were recorded in some locations, while a locally extreme 19-meter wave splash was observed on Shumshu Island. Fortunately, despite moderate structural damage to about 900 homes, an airport terminal ceiling collapse, power outages, and around 2,700 evacuations, the region experienced relatively few serious injuries. The robust construction standards and preparedness of the locals helped mitigate what could have been a far more devastating event. Kamchatka's approximately 150 active volcanoes and frequent seismic upheavals make it a critical area for disaster preparedness, highlighting the broader vulnerability of populations living around the Pacific Ring of Fire. This zone, stretching from the Americas to Asia-Pacific, is home to about 75% of the world's active and dormant volcanoes and experiences roughly 90% of the earth's earthquakes. The earthquake's occurrence on a subduction zone interface reveals the ongoing tectonic process that dominates the region's geological landscape, posing continuous risks. This event serves as a potent reminder not only of Kamchatka's volatile natural conditions but also of

the global challenge posed by such geophysical hazards, emphasizing the need for enhanced disaster management, early-warning systems, and resilient infrastructure in vulnerable regions worldwide.

108. What instrument is used to record the motion of the ground during an earthquake?

- (a) Seismometer (b) Anemometer (c) Barometer (d) Altimeter

109. The theory that describes the release of stress built up along a fault is known as:

- (a) Plate Tectonic Theory (b) Continental Drift Theory
(c) Elastic Rebound Theory (d) Theory of Relativity

110. Which scale is used to measure the intensity of an earthquake based on the effects it has on people and structures?

- (a) Richter scale (b) Moment Magnitude scale
(c) Mercalli scale (d) Logarithmic scale

111. Which type of seismic wave is the fastest and can travel through solids, liquids, and gases?

- (a) S-wave (b) P-wave (c) Surface wave (d) Love wave

112. What is the point on the Earth's surface directly above where an earthquake originates?

- (a) Epicenter (b) Focus (c) Seismic center (d) Fault line

The U.S. imposed a steep tariff hike on Indian exports in 2025, with duties reaching up to 50%, severely impacting India's economy. This tariff escalation led to a sharp 37.5% decline in Indian exports to the U.S. within five months, falling from \$8.8 billion in May to \$5.5 billion in September 2025. Key sectors such as textiles, gems and jewelry, leather, chemicals, and agri-food suffered the most, with some industries like gems and jewelry experiencing export drops close to 60%. The tariffs not only hindered export competitiveness but also exposed India's dependence on low-cost labor and limited research and development capacities, highlighting structural vulnerabilities. The decline in exports has resulted in job losses, especially in labor-intensive sectors, and widened India's trade deficit with the U.S., reaching a 13-month peak of \$32.15 billion in September. Comparatively, competing countries like China and Vietnam faced lower tariffs (30% and 20%, respectively), which gave them a competitive edge over India. This situation stresses the urgent need for India to diversify its export markets, reduce overreliance on low-cost manufacturing, and shift towards a knowledge-driven and innovation-led economy. The Indian government has responded with export support packages, faster duty remission, and measures to support MSMEs, while also seeking diplomatic engagement and WTO consultations to address tariff concerns. The U.S. tariff hike remains a significant challenge and serves as a wake-up call for India to strengthen its export base, enhance R&D capabilities, and embed self-reliance in its economic growth strategy.

113. In August 2025, the United States announced an additional penalty tariff on Indian goods, bringing the total tariff on many products to what percentage?

- (a) 15% (b) 25% (c) 40% (d) 50%

114. Which Indian city, known as a major hub for diamond cutting and polishing, is heavily impacted by the 50% U.S. tariffs on gems and jewelry?

- (a) Mumbai (b) Chennai (c) Tiruppur (d) Surat

115. Which country is the largest single destination for India's merchandise exports by value?

- (a) China (b) United Arab Emirates (UAE)
(c) United States (USA) (d) Netherlands

116. Which service sector in India continues to be a vital contributor to the country's foreign exchange earnings and has shown consistent resilience and growth in 2025?

- (a) Information Technology (IT) (b) Financial Services
(c) Tourism (d) Professional Consulting

117. The IMF's October 2025 report upgraded India's growth forecast for 2025. What was the revised growth forecast?

- (a) 5.5% (b) 6.2% (c) 6.6% (d) 6.85%

118. What is the name of the new parliament building inaugurated in India?

- (a) Sansad Bhavan (b) Central Vista
(c) Parliament House (d) New Parliament Building

119. Which country recently joined the BRICS alliance in its expansion?

- (a) Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, UAE, and Saudi Arabia
(b) Argentina, Brazil, China, India, and Russia
(c) Germany, France, and Japan
(d) United States, Canada, and Mexico

120 Who was honored with the 43rd Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2025?

- (a) Narendra Modi (b) Priyanka Chopra
(c) Oscar Piastri (d) Droupadi Murmu