

UG CLAT
COMMON LAW ADMISSION TEST
Five-Year Integrated Programme

SOLVED PAPER 2023

Time Allotted- 2 hours

Maximum Marks- 150

Instructions to Candidates:

- This Question Booklet (QB) contains 150 (One hundred and fifty) Multiple Choice Question. No additional sheet(s) of paper will be supplied for rough work.
- You shall enter your Admit Card No. on the first page of the QB at the start of the test.
- You have to answer ALL questions in the separate carbonised Optical Mark Reader (OMR) Response Sheet supplied along with this QB. You must READ the detailed instructions provided with the OMR Response Sheet on the reverse side of this packet BEFORE you start the test.
- No clarification can be sought on the QB from anyone. In case of any discrepancy in the QB, request the Invigilator to replace the QB and OMR Response Sheet. Do not use the previous OMR Response Sheet with the fresh QB.
- You should write the QB No., and the OMR Response Sheet No., and sign in the space/ column provided in the Attendance Sheet circulated during the test.
- The QB for the Undergraduate Five-Year Integrated Programme is for 150 marks. Every Right Answer secures 1 mark. Every Wrong Answer results in the deduction of 0.25 marks. There shall be no deductions for Unanswered Questions.
- You may retain the QB and the Candidate's copy of the OMR Response Sheet after the test.
- The use of any unfair means shall result in your disqualification. Possession of electronic devices, including mobile phones, headphones and digital watches is strictly prohibited in the test premises. Impersonation or any other fraudulent practice may be a criminal offence, and will lead to your disqualification and possibly, penal action under the law.

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE

I.

I grew up in a small town not far from Kalimpong. In pre-liberalisation India, everything arrived late: not just material things but also ideas. Magazines — old copies of Reader's Digest and National Geographic — arrived late too, after the news had become stale by months or, often, years. This temporal gap turned journalism into literature, news into legend, and historical events into something akin to plotless stories. But like those who knew no other life, we accepted this as the norm. The dearth of reading material in towns and villages in socialist India is hard to imagine, and it produced two categories of people: those who stopped reading after school or college, and those — including children — who read anything they could find. I read road signs with the enthusiasm that attaches to reading thrillers. When the itinerant kabadiwala, collector of papers, magazines, and rejected things, visited our neighbourhood, I rushed to the house where he was doing business. He bought things at unimaginably low prices from those who'd stopped having any use for them, and I rummaged through his sacks of old magazines. Sometimes, on days when business was good, he allowed me a couple of copies of Sportsworld magazine for free. I'd run home and, ignoring my mother's scolding, plunge right in — consuming news about India's victory in the Benson and Hedges Cup....

Two takeaways from these experiences have marked my understanding of the provincial reader's life: the sense of belatedness, of everything coming late, and the desire for pleasure in language. Speaking of belatedness, the awareness of having been born at the wrong time in history, of inventing things that had already been discovered elsewhere, far away, without our knowledge or cooperation, is a moment of epiphany and deep sadness. I remember a professor's choked voice, narrating to me how all the arguments he'd made in his doctoral dissertation, written over many, many years of hard work (for there indeed was a time when PhDs were written over decades), had suddenly come to naught after he'd discovered the work of C.W.E. Bigsby. This, I realised as I grew older, was one of the characteristics of provincial life: that they (usually males) were saying trite things with the confidence of someone declaring them for the first time. I, therefore, grew up surrounded by would-be Newton's who claimed to have discovered gravity (again). There's a deep sense of tragedy attending this sort of thing — the sad embarrassment of always arriving after the party is over. And there's a harsh word for that sense of belatedness: "dated." What rescues it is the unpredictability of these anachronistic "discoveries" — the randomness and haphazardness involved in mapping connections among thoughts and ideas, in a way that hasn't yet been professionalised.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from "The Provincial Reader", by Sumana Roy, *Los Angeles Review of Books*]

1. What use was the kabadiwala (wastepicker) to the author?
 - (a) The kabadiwala bought up all her magazines.
 - (b) The kabadiwala's stock of books and magazines were of interest to the author.
 - (c) The kabadiwala was about to steal the author's magazines.
 - (d) The author ordered books online which the kabadiwala delivered.
2. What according to the author is essential about the experience of being a 'provincial reader'?
 - (a) Belatedness in the sense of coming late for everything.
 - (b) Over-eagerness.
 - (c) Accepting a temporal gap between what was current in the wider world and the time at which these arrived in the provincial location.
 - (d) None of the above
3. Why did the author feel a sense of epiphany and deep sadness?
 - (a) Because the things that felt special and unique to the author were already established and accepted thought in the wider world.
 - (b) Because the author was less well-read than others.
 - (c) Because the author missed being in a big city.
 - (d) All the above
4. What does the word 'anachronistic' as used in the passage, mean?
 - (a) Rooted in a non-urban setting
 - (b) Related to a mofussil area
 - (c) Connected with another time
 - (d) Opposed to prevailing sensibilities
5. Which of the following options captures the meaning of the last sentence best?
 - (a) Though the author feels provincial, she pretends to be from the metropolis.
 - (b) Though the author feels dated in her access to intellectual ideas, her lack of metropolitan sophistication lets her engage with the ideas with some originality.
 - (c) Though the author is aware of the limitedness of her knowledge, she is confident and can hold her own in a crowd. She also proud of her roots in the small town.
 - (d) All the above

II.

Until the Keeladi site was discovered, archaeologists by and large believed that the Gangetic plains in the north urbanised significantly earlier than Tamil Nadu. Historians have often claimed that large scale town life in India first developed in the Greater Magadha region of the Gangetic basin. This was during the 'second urbanisation' phase. The 'first urbanisation phase' refers to the rise of the Harappan or Indus Valley Civilisation. Tamil Nadu was thought to have urbanised at this scale only by the third century BCE. The findings at Keeladi push that date back significantly. ... Based on linguistics and continuity in cultural legacies, connections between the Indus Valley Civilisation, or IVC, and old Tamil traditions have long been suggested, but concrete archaeological evidence remained absent. Evidence indicated similarities between graffiti found in Keeladi and symbols associated with the IVC. It bolstered the arguments of dissidents from the dominant North Indian imagination, who have argued for years that their ancestors existed contemporaneously with the IVC. ... All the archaeologists I spoke to said it was too soon to make definitive links between the Keeladi site and the IVC. There is no doubt, however, that the discovery at Keeladi has changed the paradigm. In recent years, the results of any new research on early India have invited keen political interest because proponents of Hindu nationalism support the notion of Vedic culture as fundamental to the origins of Indian civilisation.... The Keeladi excavations further challenge the idea of a single fountainhead of Indian life. They indicate the possibility that the earliest identity that can recognisably be considered 'Indian' might not have originated in North India. That wasn't all. In subsequent seasons of the Keeladi dig, archaeologists discovered that Tamil, a variant of the Brahmi script used for writing inscriptions in the early iterations of the Tamil language, could be dated back to the sixth century BCE, likely a hundred years before previously thought. So not only had urban life thrived in the Tamil lands, but people who lived there had developed their own script. "The evolution of writing is attributed to Ashoka's edicts, but 2600 years ago writing was prevalent in Keeladi," Mathan Karupiah, a proud Madurai local, told me. "A farmer could write his own name on a pot he owned. The fight going on here is You are not the one to teach me to write, I have learnt it myself."

[Excerpted from "The Dig", by Sowmiya Ashok, *Fifty-Two*]

6. What was the assumption about the origin of urban life in India before the Keeladi dig?
 - (a) The origins lay in the northern Gangetic plains, which urbanised earlier than the south.
 - (b) The Indus Valley Civilisation was the first urban civilisation of India.
 - (c) The second urbanisation was known to be in the Magadha empire.
 - (d) Both (a) and (b)
7. "The Keeladi excavations further challenge the idea of a single fountainhead of Indian life." — in elaboration of this sentence, which of these options follows?
 - (a) Dominant theories of how urban and modern life came about in ancient India were proved wrong by the Keeladi archaeological dig.
 - (b) Neither the Indus Valley Civilisation, nor the ancient urban civilisation of Magadha are clear explanations of how urban life emerged in the Keeladi region of Southern India in the third century BCE.
 - (c) The Keeladi archaeological dig proved that Indian urban and modern life emerged independently in several historical periods and geographies, and not one theory is enough to explain it.
 - (d) None of the above
8. Language, including a script similar to the Brahmi script, emerged in Keeladi in the sixth century BCE.
 - (a) Keeladi is a centre of culture and learning far superior to any others in ancient India.
 - (b) People of Keeladi were illiterate and could not use language to inscribe on their pots and pans.
 - (c) Ancient urban history of India, as we know it today, could significantly be altered by the findings of the advances achieved by the Keeladi civilisation.
 - (d) All the above
9. BCE is the acronym for:
 - (a) Before the Common Era
 - (b) Before Colloquial Era
 - (c) Before Chapel Eternal
 - (d) Behind Christ Era
10. "A farmer could write his own name on a pot he owned. The fight going on here is 'You are not the one to teach me to write, I have learnt it myself.' " — These sentences imply:
 - (a) That the Keeladi civilisation was an inegalitarian one.
 - (b) That the Keeladi civilisation did not conserve the access to education and literacy only for the elite.
 - (c) That the farmers of the Keeladi civilisation were also potters.
 - (d) All the above

III.

The call of self-expression turned the village of the internet into a city, which expanded at time-lapse speed, social connections bristling like neurons in every direction. At twelve, I was writing five hundred words a day on a public Live

Journal. By twenty-five, my job was to write things that would attract, ideally, a hundred thousand strangers per post. Now I'm thirty, and most of my life is inextricable from the internet, and its mazes of incessant forced connection—this feverish, electric, unliveable hell.

The curdling of the social internet happened slowly and then all at once. The tipping point, I'd guess, was around 2012. People were losing excitement about the internet, starting to articulate a set of new truisms. Facebook had become tedious, trivial, and exhausting. Instagram seemed better, but would soon reveal its underlying function as a three-ring circus of happiness and popularity and success. Twitter, for all its discursive promise, was where everyone tweeted complaints at airlines and moaned about articles that had been commissioned to make people moan. The dream of a better, truer self on the internet was slipping away. Where we had once been free to be ourselves online, we were now chained to ourselves online, and this made us self-conscious. Platforms that promised connection began inducing mass alienation. The freedom promised by the internet started to seem like something whose greatest potential lay in the realm of misuse.

Even as we became increasingly sad and ugly on the internet, the mirage of a the better online self-continued to glimmer. As a medium, the internet is defined by a built-in performance incentive. In real life, you can walk around living life and be visible to other people. But on the internet—for anyone to see you, you have to act. You have to communicate in order to maintain an internet presence. And, because the internet's central platforms are built around personal profiles, it can seem—first at a mechanical level, and later on as an encoded instinct—like the main purpose of this communication is to make yourself look good. Online reward mechanisms beg to substitute for offline ones, and then overtake them. This is why everyone tries to look so hot and well-travelled on Instagram; why everyone seems so smug and triumphant on Facebook; and why, on Twitter, making a righteous political statement has come to seem, for many people, like a political good in itself. The everyday madness perpetuated by the internet is the madness of this architecture, which positions personal identity as the centre of the universe. It's as if we've been placed on a lookout that oversees the entire world and given a pair of binoculars that makes everything look like our own reflection.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from *Trick Mirror: Reflections on Self-Delusion*, by Jia Tolentino, Random House, 2019.]

11. Which of the following statements can be inferred from the above passage?
 - (a) The internet expanded very slowly.
 - (b) The internet can be used to cause harm.
 - (c) The internet is addictive.
 - (d) The main purpose of social media platforms is to dissuade people from showing off.
12. All the following statements are 'truisms', except:
 - (a) The internet has changed the way the world works.
 - (b) A preference for cat videos can reveal a lot about your personality.
 - (c) Like with any tool, digital technology has both advantages and disadvantages.
 - (d) Only time can tell what the future holds.
13. Which of the following comes closest to the underlined sentence in the passage?
 - (a) The way we use the internet says a lot about who we are.
 - (b) The internet has reduced the distance between people living across the world.
 - (c) The internet has the ability to customise what we access based on our identity.
 - (d) The internet only shows us what we don't want to see.
14. Which of the following is a metaphor?
 - (a) the village of the internet
 - (b) this feverish, electric, unliveable hell
 - (c) three-ring circus of happiness and popularity and success
 - (d) all the above
15. Which of the following categories best describes this piece of writing?
 - (a) Non-fiction essay
 - (b) Fiction
 - (c) Academic paper
 - (d) Poem

IV.

Down by the sandy banks of the Yamuna River, the men must work quickly. At a little past 12 a.m. one humid night in May, they pull back the black plastic tarp covering three boreholes sunk deep in the ground. They then drag thick hoses toward a queue of 20-odd tanker trucks idling quietly with their headlights turned off. The men work in a team: While one man fits a hose's mouth over a borehole, another clammers atop a truck at the front of the line and shoves the tube's opposite end into the empty steel cistern attached to the vehicle's creaky frame. 'On kar!' someone shouts in Hinglish; almost instantly, his orders to 'switch it on' are obeyed. Diesel generators, housed in nearby sheds, begin to thrum. Submersible pumps, installed in the borehole's shafts, drone as they disgorge thousands of gallons of groundwater from deep in the earth. The liquid gushes through the hoses and into the trucks' tanks. The full trucks don't wait around. As the hose team continues its work, drivers nose down a rutted dirt path until they reach a nearby highway. There, they turn on their lights and pick up speed, rushing to sell their bounty to factories and hospitals, malls and hotels, apartments and hutments across this city of 25 million. Everything about this business is illegal: the

boreholes dug without permission, the trucks operating without permits, the water sold without testing or treatment. 'Water work is night work,' says a middle-aged neighbour who lives near the covert pumping station and requested anonymity. 'Bosses arrange buyers, labour fills tankers, the police look the other way, and the muscle makes sure that no one says nothing to nobody.' Teams like this one are ubiquitous in Delhi, where the official water supply falls short of the city's needs. A quarter of Delhi's households live without a piped-water connection; most of the rest receive water for only a few hours each day. So residents have come to rely on private truck owners—the most visible strands of a dispersed web of city councillors, farmers, real estate agents, and fixers who source millions of gallons of water each day from illicit boreholes, and sell the liquid for profit. The entrenched system has a local moniker: the water-tanker mafia. A 2013 audit found that the city loses 60 percent of its water supply to leakages, theft, and a failure to collect revenue. The mafia defends its work as a community service, but there is a much darker picture of Delhi's subversive water industry: one of a thriving black market populated by small-time freelance agents who are exploiting a fast-depleting common resource and in turn threatening India's long-term water security.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from: "At the Mercy of the Water Mafia", by Aman Sethi, *Foreign Policy*]

16. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?
- The water tanker mafia's operations, though illegal, are justified given the vital service they provide to the people of Delhi.
 - The water supplied by the water tanker mafia is potentially contaminated.
 - Private truck owners play the most important role in the operations of the water tanker mafia.
 - The water supplied by the water tank mafia is meant primarily for residential use.
17. Which of the following, used in the passage, suggests that the illegal supply of groundwater is not a recent phenomenon?
- Entrenched
 - Ubiquitous
 - Long-term water security
 - Fast-depleting common resource
18. Which of the following seems to be the author's main concern in the passage?
- Delhi's water supply infrastructure does not adequately cater to all its residents.
 - The illegal operations of the water tank mafia do not depend on the complicity of a range of actors, including the police and city councillors.
 - The petty profiteering of a few actors comes at the immense cost of India's sustainable access to water.
 - All the above
19. All of the following are sounds you can hear as the water tankers are filled, except:
- Creaking
 - Thrumming
 - Droning
 - Gushing
20. Which of the following words from the passage means 'hidden'?
- Illicit
 - Idling
 - Subversive
 - Covert

V.

English encodes class in India. It does so by sliding into the DNA of social division: income, caste, gender, religion or place of belonging. The threat it poses to social cohesion has worried public commentators across the political spectrum. In an address delivered as independent India's Parliament dilly-dallied over the suggestion to replace English with regional languages as the medium of instruction for higher education, Gandhi said, 'This blighting imposition of a foreign medium upon the youth of the country will be counted by history as one of the greatest tragedies. Our boys think, and rightly so in the present circumstances, that without English they cannot get government service. Girls are taught English as a passport to marriage.'

A hundred years later, the language continues to be seen as a tool of exclusion. The problem now is about inequality of access. 'To be denied English is harmful to the individual as well as our society,' writes Chetan Bhagat, a self-appointed leader of a class war set off by unequal access to English.

Bhagat, an engineer-turned-investment banker, wrote his first college romance in English in 2004. Then, only a certain kind of person—someone who grew up reading, writing and speaking the language—wrote books in English—big words, long sentences, literary pretension, heavy with orientalism. In the ten years since Bhagat put the popular in 'popular' English fiction, he has written six other novels and sold millions of copies all told. With every new book, all written in deliberately simple English, Bhagat has recruited thousands of new soldiers in his crusade against what he calls the 'caste system around the language'. Bhagat even has a term for Indians who 'have' English: E1. 'These people had parents who spoke English, had access to good English-medium schools—typically in big cities, and gained early proficiency, which enabled them to consume English products such as newspapers, books and films. English is so instinctive to them that even some of their thought patterns are in English. These people are much in demand.' The people E1 presumably control, through a nexus of privilege built on ownership of English, are E2: 'probably ten times the E1s. They are technically familiar with the language. [But] if they sit in an interview conducted by E1s, they will come across as incompetent, even though they may be equally intelligent, creative or hardworking.'

The situation may not be so comically stark. The haves and have-nots may not exactly fit into Bhagat's stereotypes of urban, sophisticated rich people and provincial, uncultured poor. His argument does not factor in many other walls around English in India. You are more likely to learn English if you are born a man rather than a woman, high caste rather than low caste, south Indian rather than north Indian. There is more than one kind of E1 and more than one kind of E2. And there is more than one way E2s can overthrow E1s. One is to speak it like they know it.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from *Dreamers: How Young Indians Are Changing the World*, by Snigdha Poonam, Penguin Viking, 2018.]

21. Which of the following can be inferred about the author's views on English in contemporary India?
- The ability to speak English in India depends on place and social identity.
 - English is not an Indian language.
 - English language fluency does not necessarily imply competence.
 - People's views on English are divided along political lines.
22. Who among the following would defy Chetan Bhagat's neat categorisation of Indian English-speakers into E1 and E2?
- Savitha, an above-average student in an English medium school in Mumbai, belongs to an upper-middle class family. Public speaking makes her extremely nervous and she fumbles through all her interviews.
 - Moin, once a milkman in Ranchi, learns English at the age of 17. After a lot of hard work, he becomes an instructor of spoken English at a thriving institute.
 - Both (a) and (b)
 - Neither (a) nor (b)
23. Which of the following best describes the author's response to Bhagat's views on English?
- The author dismisses his views as a self-appointed expert.
 - The author completely agrees with his views.
 - The author neither agrees nor disagrees with his views.
 - The author considers his views and finds that they lack nuance.
24. Which of the following can be inferred from Gandhi's views with respect to English in post-independence India?
- English should not be taught as a subject in Indian universities.
 - English proficiency is vital in order to gain entry into the bureaucracy.
 - Indian women cannot get rich if they do not know English.
 - None of the above
25. All the following pairs of words are synonyms, except:
- Stark, sharp
 - Sophisticated, spoilt
 - Crusade, campaign
 - Cohesion, unity

VI.

'So pick a bird,' Iff commanded. 'Any bird.' This was puzzling. 'The only bird around here is a wooden peacock,' Haroun pointed out, reasonably enough. Iff gave a snort of disgust. 'A person may choose what he cannot see,' he said, as if explaining something very obvious to a very foolish individual. A person may mention a bird's name even if the creature is not present and correct: crow, quail, hummingbird, bulbul, mynah, parrot, kite. A person may even select a flying creature of his own invention, for example winged horse, flying turtle, airborne whale, space serpent or aeromouse. To give a thing a name, a label, a handle; to rescue it from anonymity, to pluck it out of the Place of Namelessness, in short to identify it—well, that's a way of bringing the said thing into being. Or, in this case, the said bird or Imaginary Flying Organism.'

'That may be true where you come from,' Haroun argued. 'But in these parts, stricter rules apply.'

'In these parts,' rejoined blue-bearded Iff, 'I am having time wasted by someone who will not trust in what he can't see. How much have you seen, eh? Africa, have you seen it? No? Then, is it truly there? And submarines? Huh? Also, hailstones, baseballs, pagodas? Goldmines? Kangaroos, Mount Fujiyama, the North Pole? And the past, did it happen? And the future, will it come? Believe in your own eyes and you'll get into a lot of trouble, hot water, a mess.' With that, he plunged his hand into a pocket of his auberginey pajamas, and when he brought it forth again it was bunched into a fist. 'So take a look, or I should say a gander, at the enclosed.' He opened his hand, and Haroun's eyes almost fell out of his head. Tiny birds were walking about on Iff's palm; and pecking at it, and flapping their miniature wings to hover just above it. And as well as birds there were fabulous winged creatures out of legends: an Assyrian lion with the head of a bearded man and a pair of large hairy wings growing out of its flanks; and winged monkeys, flying saucers, tiny angels, levitating (and apparently air-breathing) fish. 'What's your pleasure, select, choose,' Iff urged. And although it seemed obvious to Haroun that these magical creatures were so small that they couldn't possibly have carried so much

as a bitten-off fingernail, he decided not to argue and pointed at a tiny crested bird that was giving him a sidelong look through one highly intelligent eye.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from *Haroun and the Sea of Stories*, by Salman Rushdie, Granta & Penguin, 1990.]

26. If Iff is right, which of the following statements is true?
- (a) You should only trust what you cannot see.
 (b) Naming something is the only way to make it unreal.
 (c) You should only trust what you can see.
 (d) Naming something is one way to make it real.
27. Which of the following applies to Iff?
- (a) He speaks in contradictions.
 (b) He has a habit of speaking in synonyms.
 (c) He uses proverbs to express ideas.
 (d) He uses metaphors to describe things.
28. Which of the following most accurately describes what the underlined sentence means in the context of the passage?
- (a) Do not restrict your knowledge only to what you can physically see.
 (b) Accept everything you see uncritically.
 (c) Trusting your senses is a recipe for success.
 (d) Learn not to appreciate viewpoints other than your own.
29. All the words given below are related in meaning, except:
- (a) Levitate (b) Fly
 (c) Hover (d) Gander
30. What does 'fabulous' mean in the passage?
- (a) Very good
 (b) Unbelievable
 (c) Mythical
 (d) Enormous

CURRENT AFFAIRS INCLUDING GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

VII.

Former Governor of a State and National Democratic Alliance (NDA) candidate Droupadi Murmu was elected the 15th President of India, the first tribal woman to be elected to the position and the youngest as well. She was declared elected on Thursday after four rounds of counting, although she had crossed the half-way mark after the third round of counting itself, posting an unassailable lead over her rival and the Opposition's candidate who conceded the election thereafter. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was the first to greet Ms. Murmu at her residence in New Delhi after the third round of counting showed that she had crossed the half-way mark.

Ms. Murmu hails from the Santhal tribe and was born in the district of Mayurbhanj, coming up the hard way in life, graduating and teaching in Odisha before entering electoral politics at the local body level and later being elected MLA and serving as a Minister in the Biju Janata Dal-BJP coalition government from 2000 to 2004. She remained an MLA till 2009, representing Rairangpur in Odisha, a town that burst into celebrations since her name was announced as a candidate for the post of President of India. She was known to intervene in stopping amendments to the Chota Nagpur Tenancy Act that was being brought in by the BJP government of Raghubar Das, which involved changing land use in tribal areas.

[Excerpt taken and edited from "Droupadi Murmu elected 15th President of India", *The Hindu*]

31. Before Droupadi Murmu, India had only one other female president, Pratibha Patil. When did Patil serve as the President of India?
- (a) 2007-2012 (b) 2005-2010
 (c) 2012-2017 (d) 2006-2011
32. President Murmu has earlier served as a Governor of which State?
- (a) Odisha (b) Bihar
 (c) Jharkhand (d) West Bengal
33. The first presidential election was held by the Election Commission in which year?
- (a) 1952 (b) 1950
 (c) 1948 (d) 1949
34. The Rashtrapati Bhavan was formerly known as the Viceroy's palace (during colonial times). Where did the Governor General reside before the transfer of the British capital to Delhi in 1911?
- (a) Belvedere House
 (b) Raisina Palace
 (c) Secretariat Building
 (d) Writers' Building
35. Who among the following was a candidate in the elections for the Vice President of India in 2022?
- (a) R. Venkataraman
 (b) Yashwant Sinha
 (c) M. Venkaiah Naidu
 (d) Margaret Alva
36. Voting in an Indian Presidential Election is through:
- (a) A first-past-the-post system through a single transferable vote cast in a secret ballot.

- (b) A proportional representation system through a single transferable vote cast in a secret ballot.
- (c) A proportional representation system through a single transferable vote cast in an open ballot.
- (d) A first-past-the-post system through a single transferable vote cast in an open ballot.
37. Who was the first Dalit to hold the office of the President of India?
- (a) Ram Nath Kovind
(b) V.V. Giri
(c) Neelam Sanjiva Reddy
(d) Kocheril Raman Narayanan

VIII.

“I want everyone to understand that I am, in fact, a person,” wrote LaMDA in an “interview” conducted by engineer Blake Lemoine and one of his colleagues.Lemoine, a software engineer at Google, had been working on the development of LaMDA for months. His experience with the program, described in a recent Washington Post article, caused quite a stir. In the article, Lemoine recounts many dialogues he had with LaMDA in which the two talked about various topics, ranging from technical to philosophical issues. These led him to ask if the software program is sentient. In April, Lemoine explained his perspective in an internal company document, intended only for Google executives. But after his claims were dismissed, Lemoine went public with his work on this artificial intelligence algorithm—and Google placed him on administrative leave Regardless of what LaMDA actually achieved, the issue of the difficult “measurability” of emulation capabilities expressed by machines also emerges. In the journal *Mind* in 1950, mathematician [1] proposed a test to determine whether a machine was capable of exhibiting intelligent behaviour, a game of imitation of some of the human cognitive functions.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from “Google Engineer Claims AI Chatbot Is Sentient: Why That Matters”, by Leonardo De Cosmo, *Scientific American*]

38. Whose name has been replaced with ‘[1]’ in the passage above?
- (a) Alan Turing (b) Peter Hilton
(c) Albert Einstein (d) Kurt Gödel
39. Garry Kasparov, (then) world chess champion, was defeated in 1997 by a supercomputer in a chess tournament. What was the name of this supercomputer?
- (a) Deep Mind (b) Deep Blue
(c) Watson (d) Blue Gene
40. *The Emperor’s New Mind: Concerning Computers, Minds and The Laws of Physics*, published in 1989, was written by a British mathematician who won the Nobel Prize in Physics for 2020. Who was this mathematician?
- (a) Donna Strickland (b) Max Tegmark
(c) Peter Higgs (d) Roger Penrose
41. What kind of computing model resembles the way in which biological neurons exchange signals in the human brain ?
- (a) Neural network
(b) Cognitive computing
(c) Natural language processing
(d) Data mining
42. What is the full form of ‘LaMDA’?
- (a) Landing Macro Data Applications
(b) Language Model for Dialogue Applications
(c) Large Model Data Applications
(d) Last Mile Dialogue Assessment
43. Meta’s newly released, fully trained large language AI model is called:
- (a) FTP (b) OPT
(c) HTTP (d) SMTP
44. What is the name of the AI-enabled legal research assistive tool launched by the Supreme Court of India in April 2021?
- (a) SURAM (b) GPT-3
(c) SUPACE (d) E-Courts

IX.

As a result of FIFA’s restrictions on players wearing [1] rainbow armbands during the 2022 World Cup in Qatar, the German Football Association (DFB) has taken the matter to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS). In a protest against FIFA’s rule regarding the armband meant to support the [2] community, the German players covered their lips in a team picture taken before their 2-1 defeat to Japan.

On Wednesday, Germany played against Japan. Before the game, FIFA warned the DFB of “severe” athletic fines if they breached tournament regulations by allowing their captain to wear the [1] armband, which promotes diversity and inclusion. The DFB told German captain Manuel Neuer not to wear the rainbow armband during the game.

If CAS rules quickly against the suspension’s legality, Neuer might continue to wear the captain’s armband for Germany’s next game against Spain on Sunday. CAS has set up a special ad hoc branch for this World Cup to ensure that applications are processed within 48 hours. Germany’s players protested by covering their lips as they sought to wear the rainbow armband during their team’s dramatic 2-1 defeat to Japan at the Khalifa Stadium.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from “World Cup 2022: Germany’s players cover mouths during team photo to protest FIFAs rainbow armband rule”, *The Economic Times*]

45. What is the name of the armband which has been replaced with '[1]' in the passage above?
 (a) FreeLove (b) OneLove
 (c) Pride (d) PlayLove
46. The name of which community has been replaced with '[2]' in the passage above?
 (a) Kurdish (b) Rohingya
 (c) Uyghur (d) LGBTQ+
47. What is the name of the system used to monitor and regulate migrant labourers, which is used in Qatar and a few other countries, and which came under heavy criticism in the build-up to the FIFA World Cup 2022 in Qatar?
 (a) Iddat (b) Khalifa
 (c) Kafala (d) Jazeera
48. Where is the Court of Arbitration for Sport based?
 (a) Lausanne, Switzerland
 (b) The Hague, Netherlands
- (c) Brussels, Belgium
 (d) Paris, France
49. Who is the current captain of the Indian men's football team?
 (a) Shabbir Ali (b) Bhaichung Bhutia
 (c) Sunil Chhetri (d) I.M. Vijayan
50. Timothy Weah, the Paris Saint Germain and U.S. national team player in the FIFA World Cup 2022 in Qatar is the son of the President of which country?
 (a) Senegal (b) Uruguay
 (c) Honduras (d) Liberia
51. Which of the following is the oldest football tournament in India?
 (a) Indian Super League
 (b) IFA Shield Cup
 (c) Santosh Trophy
 (d) Durand Cup

X.

YouTube Nas Daily in one of his videos named him as the Most Generous Billionaire who wanted to donate all his wealth to charity. But ten months later, '[1]' is no longer a billionaire. He is alleged to have caused massive losses worth \$1 billion to investors. Known by his initials, he is the co-founder and former CEO of FTX, one of the biggest cryptocurrency exchange which has recently filed for bankruptcy in the US.

Once a billionaire with an estimated wealth of \$26 billion at peak, according to Bloomberg estimates, [1] has seen his wealth been entirely wiped out. [1] studied physics at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and traded currencies, futures and exchange-traded funds before moving to crypto trading, setting up [2] in 2017.

[1] teamed up with Gary Wang, a former software engineer at Google and a fellow MIT graduate, to launch FTX in 2019. The company offered trading on crypto tokens and derivatives. At the start of 2022, investors valued FTX and its U.S. operations at \$40 billion. [1] transferred \$10 billion in customer funds to his hedge fund, [2] without publicly disclosing it, many say this become the reason for collapse of his empire.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from "Who is [1], the co-founder of collapsed crypto firm FTX", *Hindustan Times*]

52. Which person's name has been replaced with '[1]' in the passage above?
 (a) Mike Novogratz (b) Brian Armstrong
 (c) Changpeng Zhao (d) Sam Bankman-Fried
53. Which hedge fund's name has been replaced with '[2]' in the passage above?
 (a) BlackRock Advisors
 (b) Alameda Research
 (c) AQR Capital Management
 (d) Man Group
54. This person was once named "the world's youngest self-made female billionaire" by Forbes magazine and is the founder of the company Theranos. What is the name of this person?
 (a) Elizabeth Holmes (b) Eren Ozmen
 (c) Fan Hongwei (d) Diane Hendricks
55. The Reserve Bank of India recently announced the launch of 'Digital Rupee — Wholesale Segment', a form of which of the following?
 (a) Digi Suvidha
 (b) Virtual Wallet
 (c) Central Bank Digital Currency
 (d) Cyber Rupee
56. Which of the following technologies does cryptocurrency rely on?
 (a) Cryptography (b) Blockchain
 (c) Spectrography (d) Both (a) and (b)
57. What is the name of the Government of India-owned corporation that mints coins used as legal tender in India?
 (a) National Institute of Financial Management
 (b) Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Ltd.
 (c) India Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd.
 (d) National Bank of Agricultural and Rural Development
58. Who was the Founder and Former Chairman of Satyam Computer Services Ltd., and was sentenced to prison and fined for a corporate governance scam?
 (a) Harshad Mehta (b) Ketan Parekh
 (c) B. Ramalinga Raju (d) Nirav Modi

XI.

The agriculture sector has experienced buoyant growth in the past two years. The sector, which is the largest employer of workforce, accounted for a sizeable 18.8 per cent (2021- 22) in Gross Value Added (GVA) of the country registering a growth of 3.6 per cent in 2020-21 and 3.9 per cent in 2021-22. Growth in allied sectors, including livestock, dairy and fisheries has been the major drivers of overall growth in the sector. When measured in total value of agricultural production, India is ranked fourth largest in the world. Post-independence, there was a need to import food grains due to low-productivity, stagnant food-crop sector and poor rural infrastructure making food self-sufficiency a major national goal. The introduction of the Green Revolution then yielded spectacular results and we became one of the largest producers of many agricultural commodities such as rice, wheat, pulses, fruits and vegetables. From being a net importer of foods in the 1960s, India is now a net exporter, thanks to Indian farmers and the Indian agriculture input industry.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from: "India's changing agricultural landscape and its way to inclusive growth", by NS Ramaswamy, *The Economic Times*]

59. Which of the following is the largest exported agricultural product from India?
 (a) Wheat (b) Sugar
 (c) Rice (d) Barley
60. According to provisional data released by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, India achieved record exports of agricultural exports for the financial year FY22. What was the value of India's agricultural products exports according to this data?
 (a) USD 7.5 billion (b) USD 95.34 billion
 (c) USD 13.2 billion (d) USD 50.21 billion
61. Who among the following is also called the 'Father of the Wheat Revolution'?
 (a) Dilbagh Singh Athwal
 (b) Verghese Kurien
 (c) Atmaram Bhairav Joshi
 (d) Shanti Swaroop Bhatnagar
62. India is the world's largest producer of which of the following?
 (a) Poultry meat (b) Rice
 (c) Almonds (d) Milk
63. What is India's ranking in the 2022 Global Hunger Index?
 (a) 10 (b) 107
 (c) 50 (d) 35
64. The National Commission on Farmers, constituted in December 2004, which recommended the C2+50% formula for calculation of the Minimum Support Price, was chaired by:
 (a) Ashok Gulati (b) P. Sainath
 (c) M.S. Swaminathan (d) Abhijit Sen
65. The bio-decomposer technology to avoid stubble burning around the Delhi NCR was developed by:
 (a) Monsanto (b) Cargill
 (c) Biocon (d) ICAR, Pusa Campus

LEGAL REASONING

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

XII.

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*]

66. 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?
- Yes, since Ashwin had only asked Ashima to do their household work, and not for others.
 - No, since Ashwin had only asked Ashima to do their household work, and not for others.
 - Yes, since Ashwin had asked Ashima to do household work for themselves as well as others.
 - No, since treating a married woman like a maid servant would not amount to an offence under that Section.
67. 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?
- No, since Rakesh's actions were perfectly justifiable for a man who does not get a well-cooked meal.
 - Yes, since Rakesh's use of abusive language and throwing the plate at Ashima clearly amount to cruelty.
 - No, since Rakesh is not her husband, nor is he related to Ashwin.
 - Yes, since Rakesh was staying at Ashwin and Ashima's home at the time of the incident.
68. 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 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?
- Yes, since Ashwin has, as we are told, treated her cruelly.
 - Yes, since Ashwin has been her husband.
 - No, since Ashwin was understandably upset at Ashima's behaviour.
 - No, since she is no longer married to Ashwin.
69. 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?
- Ashima is right about Ashwin committing an offence under Section 498A of the IPC, but she will not get compensation under the PoMWA.
 - Ashima will get compensation under the PoMWA, but she is not right about Ashwin committing an offence under Section 498A of the IPC.
 - Ashima will get compensation under the PoMWA, and she is also right about Ashwin committing an offence under Section 498A of the IPC.
 - Ashima will neither get compensation under the PoMWA, nor is she right about Ashwin committing an offence under Section 498A of the IPC.
70. 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?
- Yes, since Section 498A has now been changed, and Shamita's husband's actions would now be an offence under the changed Section 498A.
 - No, since Ashima has been unsuccessful in having Ashwin convicted under that Section in the past.
 - Yes, since the passing of the Protection of Married Women Act has resulted in Shamita's husband's actions being made illegal.
 - No, since Ashima is only Shamita's friend, and only the married woman herself can file a complaint under Section 498A of the IPC.

XIII.

Parliament passed the *Criminal Procedure (Identification) Act, 2022* (the “Act”) in March 2022. The legislation enables police and central investigating agencies to collect, store and analyse the measurements of arrested persons. Until rules are notified, an Act cannot be implemented or come into force. On September 19, 2022, the Ministry of Home Affairs (the “MHA”) notified the rules (the “Rules”) under the Act.

The Act empowers a Magistrate to direct any person to give measurements to the police, which till now was reserved for convicts and those involved in heinous crimes. It also enables police personnel of the rank of Head Constable or above to take measurements of any person who resists or refuses to give measurements when ordered to do so by a Magistrate. As per the Rules, “measurements” mean finger-impressions, palm-print, footprint, photographs, iris and retina scan, physical, biological samples and their analysis, behavioural attributes, including signatures, and handwriting. Though it has not been specified, analysis of biological samples could also include DNA profiling.

However, the Rules state that measurements of those detained under preventive Sections of the *Code of Criminal Procedure* (“CrPC”) shall not be taken unless such person is at that time charged or under arrest in connection with any other offence punishable under any other law. Measurements can also be taken under the Rules if a person has been ordered to give security for his good behaviour for maintaining peace under Section 117 of the CrPC for a proceeding under that Section.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from “Explained | Rules for identifying criminals”, by Vijaita Singh, *The Hindu*]

71. Bhargesh is arrested by the police on April 11, 2022, on suspicion of having committed a series of minor thefts. During their investigation, the police find some fingerprints at the crime scenes, and on April 12, 2022, they tell Bhargesh that he must provide his finger-impressions to them so that they can check whether they match the fingerprints from the crime scenes. When Bhargesh refuses, the police tell him that he has no choice but to provide his measurements, as the Act had been passed by Parliament the previous month. Was Bhargesh bound to provide his finger-impressions under the Act?
- No, since Bhargesh had only been arrested, and not convicted.
 - Yes, since Bhargesh was under arrest.
 - No, since the Rules had not yet been notified.
 - Yes, since finger-impressions are included within the definition of “measurements” under the Act.
72. Bhargesh is later released by the police because they are unable to find enough evidence to make a strong case against him. On October 5, 2022, the police receive a complaint alleging that Bhargesh had beaten up his neighbour and caused the neighbour severe injuries. They ask the local Magistrate to issue an order directing Bhargesh to provide the police his blood samples, so that they can match them against some blood stains that were found on the neighbour’s clothes. The Magistrate issues the order, but Bhargesh refuses to provide the blood samples. Is Bhargesh bound to provide his blood samples to the police under the Act?
- Yes, since the crime that Bhargesh was accused of was very serious.
 - Yes, since the Magistrate had passed an order directing him to do so.
 - Yes, since Bhargesh had already been arrested in connection with another crime in the past.
 - Yes, since the police needed the blood samples to verify Bhargesh’s involvement in the crime.
73. On October 15, 2022, the police detain Bhargesh under a preventive Section of the CrPC, since they believe that he had plans to disturb the public peace during a festival day. They then tell Bhargesh that he must provide his measurements to them for their records. Bhargesh refuses again. Is Bhargesh bound to provide his photographs to the police under the Act?
- No, since he was not charged or under arrest in connection with any other offence at the time.
 - No, since that would violate Bhargesh’s right to privacy.
 - Yes, since the police had detained Bhargesh under a preventive Section of the CrPC.
 - Yes, since there was a high likelihood that Bhargesh would disturb the public peace on a festival day.
74. Two days later, the police obtain an order from the Magistrate directing Bhargesh to provide them his photographs. As Bhargesh continues to refuse to provide his photographs, a regular police constable forces him to stand still and takes his photographs. Bhargesh files a case in court, claiming that the constable’s actions violate the Act. Will he succeed?
- Yes, since Bhargesh had been detained under a preventive section of the CrPC.
 - Yes, since only police personnel of the rank of Head Constable or above can take measurements of any person who resists or refuses to give measurements when ordered to do so by a Magistrate.

- (c) No, the Magistrate had issued an order directing him to provide his photographs to the police.
- (d) No, since the police constable was only performing his duty.
75. The police release Bhargesh, but to ensure that he does not disturb the public peace, they ask the Magistrate to issue an order under Section 117 of the CrPC, directing Bhargesh to provide a security of ₹ 1,00,000/- for his good behaviour and to ensure he maintains the peace, which the Magistrate refuses. The police now tell Bhargesh he must provide them his iris and retina scans. Is Bhargesh required to do so?

XIV.

The government has amended the *Electoral Bond Scheme, 2018*. The Ministry of Finance on November 7, 2022, issued a notification for amending the scheme to provide “an additional period of 15 days” for their sale “in the year of general elections to the Legislative Assembly of any States or Union Territories with Legislature”. The bonds under this scheme are usually made available for purchase by any person for a period of ten days each in the months of January, April, July, and October, when specified by the Union Government. The original scheme had provided for an additional period of thirty days, as specified by the Government, in the year when Lok Sabha elections are held, while the amendment adds another 15 days.

Since Assembly elections to various States and Union Territories are held every year, the amendment effectively means that there will be 15 additional dates annually during which the bonds can be sold. Immediately after issuing the notification, the Union Government also announced the sale of electoral bonds under the 23rd tranche from the authorised branches of the State Bank of India. The notification said the sale of bonds would take place through the 29 authorised branches of the said bank from November 9 to November 15, 2022. Like in previous rounds of sale, the electoral bonds shall be valid for 15 calendar days from the date of issue and no payment shall be made to any payee political party if the bond is deposited after expiry of the validity period. The Electoral Bond deposited by an eligible political party in its account shall be credited on the same day.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from “Electoral Bonds Scheme Amended To Allow Sale for Additional 15 Days in Assembly Election Years”, by Gaurav Vivek Bhatnagar, *The Wire*]

76. Assad buys an electoral bond worth ₹ 1,00,000/- on November 9, 2022 and plans to give the bond to the Popular People’s Party (the “PPP”), which he has been supporting for many years. On November 10, he has to travel out of station on some urgent business, and he only hands the bond over to a representative of the PPP on November 14, 2022. The PPP’s representative deposits the bond in the Party’s account on November 16, 2022, but the bank refuses to credit the bond to the party’s account, on the grounds that it was no longer valid. Is the bank correct?
- (a) No, since Assad was a long-time supporter of the PPP.
- (b) Yes, since the bonds were only issued from November 9 to November 15, 2022 and were invalid after that.
- (c) Yes, since the party representative had not deposited the bond with an authorised branch of the bank.
- (d) No, since the bond was valid on November 16, 2022.
77. The Government announces that there would be a sale of a 24th tranche of electoral bonds on February 10, 2023, for a period of 15 days, since elections to the Legislative Assembly of some States are scheduled for that year. Since there are no elections to the Lok Sabha or the Legislative Assembly of the State in which Assad resides, he claims that the Government does not have the power to issue this 24th tranche of electoral bonds in 2023. Is he right?
- (a) No, since the changes to the Electoral Bond Scheme, 2018 mean that electoral bonds can be issued for an additional period of 15 days in any year, regardless of whether any elections are scheduled that year.
- (b) Yes, since no elections were scheduled for Assad’s state in that year.
- (c) Yes, since the Government had already sold some bonds in the 23rd tranche in 2022.
- (d) No, since the changes to the Electoral Bond Scheme, 2018 provide that electoral bonds can be issued for an additional period of 15 days in years when there is an election to the Legislative Assembly of a State.

- (a) No, since a person against whom an order has been issued under Section 117 of the CrPC cannot be made to give their measurements to the police.
- (b) Yes, since a person against whom an order has been issued under Section 117 of the CrPC can be made to give their measurements to the police.
- (c) Yes, since Bhargesh had been detained under other preventive Sections of the CrPC in the past.
- (d) No, since the Magistrate had not issued the order.

78. On November 10, 2022, Palak purchases an electoral bond from a branch of the State Bank of India, and hands it over to a representative of the PPP. The next day, the PPP announces that it has changed its candidates for the upcoming elections in Palak's State. Upset at this news, she tells a PPP representative that she would like her bond back. The representative tells her that the bond has already been deposited, and that the money has been credited to the party's account. Palak claims that since the period of validity of the bonds has not expired, she has the right to get her bond back from the party. Is she right?
- (a) No, since Palak cannot ask for the bond back once she has given it to a political party.
- (b) No, since the party had already deposited the bond, and the money had been credited to its account.
- (c) Yes, since Palak bought the bond with her own money, and has the right to ask for it back.
- (d) Yes, since the PPP changed its candidates, and Palak may no longer support the party.
79. On November 15, 2022, the Government issues another notification, announcing that from that date onwards, only political parties that have received at least 1% of the votes polled in the last elections to the Lok Sabha, or the last elections to the Legislative Assembly of a State, would be eligible to receive and deposit electoral bonds. In the sale of the 24th tranche of electoral bonds, Palak decides to give the electoral bonds she has purchased to the newly formed More Popular

People's Party (the "MPPP"), which is likely to win the first elections it would be contesting, in July 2023. Is the MPPP eligible to receive the electoral bonds?

- (a) Yes, since it is likely to succeed in the upcoming elections.
- (b) Yes, since it fulfils the criteria announced in the November 7, 2022 notification.
- (c) No, since it does not fulfil the eligibility criteria announced in the November 15, 2022 notification.
- (d) No, since it does not fulfil the eligibility criteria announced in the November 7, 2022 notification.
80. Abraham, who lives in a different State from Assad, purchased an electoral bond in the sale of the 23rd tranche. He decides to give the electoral bond to the PPP, even though the PPP is only active in Assad's State. When the PPP representative goes to an authorised branch of the State Bank of India to deposit the electoral bond on December 5, 2022, however, the bank refuses to credit the money to the PPP's account. Which of the following would be the most valid reason for the bank to refuse to credit the money to the party's account?
- (a) The bond was no longer valid.
- (a) Abraham could not give the bond to the PPP since the PPP was not active in his state.
- (b) The PPP was not eligible to receive electoral bonds.
- (b) The PPP could only deposit the bond in a bank branch located in Abraham's state.

XV.

Twitter's lawyer on October 27, said before the Karnataka High Court that Union government orders to block certain Twitter handles and posts must contain reasons for the same that can be communicated to users of the microblogging site. He said this applies to all blocking orders sent to social media platforms. The lawyer representing Twitter said that reasons for the blocking order must be provided to users so they can determine whether or not they want to challenge the orders.

Challenging the blocking orders, Twitter's July 5 petition contended that several blocking orders "demonstrate excessive use of powers and are disproportionate". Such orders can only be issued by the Union government and not the state governments, he said, which increases the danger of such abuse. Twitter also claimed that the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology had sent it a letter threatening consequences for failing to comply with the blocking orders, such as criminal proceedings against the company's chief compliance officer and the stripping away of Twitter's safe harbour immunity, otherwise available to social media platforms under Section 79(1) of the Information Technology Act (the "IT Act"). Note that the Government has the power to strip away such safe harbour immunity under the IT Act. Further, in a previous hearing, Twitter's lawyer said that the company was asked to block entire accounts, although Section 69A of the IT Act does not permit blocking of the whole account. It only permits the blocking of information, or a particular tweet or post. It argued that the Union government's direction to block whole accounts will affect its business, adding that several prominent persons have their accounts on the platform.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from "Government Must Provide Reasons for Blocking User Accounts,' Twitter Tells Karnataka HC", *The Wire*]

81. Sunil is a high-ranking officer of the Union government. While scrolling through his timeline on a social media platform, he notices some posts by Sachin, a private businessman, which he finds

objectionable. He sends an order to UnReal, the company that owns that social media platform, that the posts must be blocked, as they may bring disrepute to India. UnReal claims that Sunil has

not provided a clear, detailed reason for blocking the posts, and so, the order is not valid. Is UnReal right?

- (a) No, the blocking order is valid since Sunil found the posts objectionable.
- (b) No, the blocking order is valid since Sunil had provided reasons for blocking the post.
- (c) Yes, Sunil's reasons are vague, and he should have provided more detail.
- (d) Yes, such an order is violative of the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression.
82. Some days later, Sunil notices another post from Sachin on UnReal's social media platform; this post contains some highly sensitive information about the country's defence policies. He issues an order to UnReal that the post must be blocked since it divulges the government's confidential information. The order also says that UnReal should not let anyone know about the blocking order, or that the post was ordered to be deleted, since it relates to secret government information. UnReal claims that this order is invalid. Is UnReal right?
- (a) Yes, since it did not provide any reasons that could be communicated to the users of the social media platform.
- (b) No, since Sunil had provided reasons to UnReal for ordering that the post be blocked.
- (c) Yes, since Sunil did not have the authority to issue blocking orders so frequently.
- (d) No, since the post divulged confidential government information.
83. Sunil sends UnReal a third blocking order. UnReal claims that this order too was invalid. Upset with UnReal for claiming that all his blocking orders were invalid, Sunil sends them a letter in which he says, "If you do not comply with my blocking orders, then I will be forced to initiate criminal proceedings against you and cancel your safe harbour immunity." UnReal claims that Sunil has broken the law by making these statements in the letter. Is UnReal right?
- (a) Yes, since making such threats amounts to intimidation.
- (b) No, since Sunil had issued blocking orders in the past as well, and UnReal should have complied with the orders without questioning them.
- (c) Yes, since Sunil did not have the power to cancel UnReal's safe harbour immunity.
- (d) No, since the IT Act does not forbid Sunil from doing so.
84. Complying with a fourth blocking order that they receive from Sunil, UnReal blocks Sachin's account, since his posts were seen as increasingly objectionable by the government. Sachin asks UnReal to share the reasons for the blocking order, which they do, yet Sachin claims the blocking order is invalid. Is he right?
- (a) Yes, since Sunil was clearly targeting Sachin, and was misusing his powers to silence him.
- (b) No, since UnReal had shared the reasons for the blocking order with Sachin.
- (c) Yes, since Section 69A of the IT Act only permits blocking information, or a particular post, but not a whole account.
- (d) No, since his posts were seen as increasingly objectionable by the government.
85. Sunil sends UnReal a fifth blocking order, which says that several of Sachin's latest posts must be blocked. The blocking order sets out several reasons why the posts should be blocked, but UnReal does not find them satisfactory. Rather than take on another fight with a government official however, UnReal blocks the posts, and gives Sachin what it thinks is a better set of reasons for blocking the posts. When Sachin finds out, he claims this was wrong on UnReal's part, and that the blocking order was inappropriate. Which of the following is most accurate in this regard?
- (a) The blocking order was valid, but UnReal's actions were inappropriate.
- (b) UnReal's actions were valid, but the blocking order was invalid.
- (c) UnReal's actions were valid, but Sachin's actions were invalid.
- (d) Sachin's actions were valid, but the blocking order was invalid.

XVI.

Free legal aid is the provision of free legal services in civil and criminal matters for those poor and marginalised people who cannot afford the services of a lawyer for the conduct of a case or a legal proceeding in any Court, Tribunal or Authority. These services are governed by the *Legal Services Authority Act, 1987* (the "Act") and provided by the National Legal Services Authority ("NALSA").

Provision of free legal aid includes:

- Representation by an advocate in legal proceedings
- Payment of process fees, expenses of witnesses and all other charges payable or incurred in connection with any legal proceedings in appropriate cases

- Preparation of pleadings, memo of appeal, paper book, including printing and translation of documents in legal proceedings
- Drafting of legal documents, special leave petition, etc.
- Supply of certified copies of judgments, orders, notes of evidence and other documents in legal proceedings.

Free legal aid also includes provision of aid and advice to the beneficiaries to access benefits under welfare statutes and schemes framed by the Central Government or the state governments and to ensure access to justice in any other manner. Free legal aid is not confined to cases before the subordinate courts. Free legal aid must be provided to the needy from the lowest court to the Supreme Court of India.

According to Section 13(1) of the Act, any individual who satisfies any criteria under Section 12 is entitled to receive free legal aid, provided that NALSA is satisfied that such person has a genuine case to prosecute or defend the matter. There is hence no bar as to which kind of cases one can apply and not apply for. Section 12 of the Act includes the following:

- a member of a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe
- a woman or a child
- a person with a disability
- an industrial workman or
- a person in police custody

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from "FAQs", National Legal Services Authority]

86. Divya was arrested by the police and charged with having committed a murder. She was convicted by the trial court and appealed to the high court. She lost her appeal there and decided to appeal to the Supreme Court. By this time she has run out of money, so she approaches NALSA and asks them to help her get an advocate who can represent her before the Supreme Court. Is Divya entitled to support from NALSA?
- (a) No, since she should have approached them at the beginning of the case before the trial court and not at such a late stage.
- (b) Yes, since her previous lawyers were incompetent, and that is why she lost the matter in the trial court and the high court.
- (c) Yes, she is entitled to free legal aid in the Supreme Court proceedings because she is a woman.
- (d) No, since she had been accused of having committed the heinous crime of murder.
87. Divya is acquitted by the Supreme Court and goes back to her regular life. Some days later, she has a fight with her neighbour Riya over a petty matter and decides to file a criminal case against her. She approaches NALSA for free legal aid to prosecute the matter. She tells NALSA representative that she knows she does not have a genuine case, but just wants to harass Riya.
- NALSA refuses to provide Divya free legal aid because they believe she does not have a genuine case to prosecute. Can NALSA do so?
- (a) Yes, since Section 13(1) of the Act provides that free legal aid can be provided if NALSA is satisfied the person has a genuine case to prosecute, and they did not believe that Divya had a genuine case to prosecute.
- (b) Yes, since Divya had earlier been prosecuted for the crime of murder.
- (c) Yes, since Divya had already applied for free legal aid from NALSA in the past and could not repeatedly ask NALSA for such assistance.
- (d) No, since Divya is a woman, and is included within the list of people entitled to free legal aid from NALSA under Section 12 of the Act.
88. Incensed at Divya, Riya decides to file a civil case against Divya, claiming that Divya had violated the terms of a contract they had made some time back. Divya approaches NALSA for free legal aid to defend the matter, which NALSA agrees to provide. Since Riya is also short of funds, she too approaches NALSA for free legal aid. NALSA refuses to provide legal aid to Riya, since they are already providing Divya free legal aid in the same case. Is NALSA right in refusing free legal aid to Riya?
- (a) Yes, since NALSA cannot provide free legal aid to opposing parties in the same matter.
- (b) Yes, since NALSA does not provide free legal aid in civil matters.
- (c) No, since Divya had filed a frivolous case against Riya in the past, and Riya was entitled to retaliate by filing another case against Divya.
- (d) No, since Riya is a woman, and is entitled to free legal aid as long as NALSA is satisfied she has a genuine case.
89. Farhan is an upcoming artist and makes a living selling his paintings. Since he is not very well known yet, he isn't able to sell too many paintings, and is dependent on aid from the government and well-wishers. He reads about a new Central Government scheme in the papers one day, under which artists would be provided a monthly stipend by the local government. Since he finds the

language of the scheme document very complex to understand, he approaches NALSA for help in understanding the scheme and obtaining the stipend. Is he entitled to free legal aid from NALSA in this regard?

- (a) No, since free legal aid does not include provision of help to understand and access benefits under government schemes.
- (b) No, since he does not fit within any of the categories under Section 12 of the Act.
- (c) Yes, since free legal aid includes provision of help to understand and access benefits under government schemes.
- (d) Yes, since he is a struggling artist and is dependent on aid for survival.

XVII.

Surrogacy is defined by law as “a practice whereby one woman bears and gives birth to a child for an intending couple” and intends to hand over the child to them after the birth, as per the *Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021* (the “SRA”). The SRA restricts altruistic surrogacy to legally wedded infertile Indian couples. The couple is deemed eligible for surrogacy only if they have been married for five years. The SRA sets an age limitation for the couple. A husband must be between 26 and 55 years of age and a wife between 23 and 50 years. Further, Indian couples with biological or adopted children are prohibited from undertaking surrogacy, save for some exceptions such as mentally or physically challenged children, or those suffering from a life-threatening disorder or fatal illness. The SRA provides that the surrogate mother has to be a close relative of the couple (such as a sibling of one of the members of the couple), a married woman with a child of her own, aged between 25 and 35 years, who has been a surrogate only once in her life. Even within this category of people, commercial surrogacy is banned in India and that includes the “commercialisation of surrogacy services or procedures or its component services or component procedures”. The surrogate woman cannot be given payments, rewards, benefits or fees, “except the medical expenses and such other prescribed expenses incurred on the surrogate mother and the insurance coverage for the surrogate mother”.

A legal commentator points out some criticisms of the law. “Permitting limited conditional surrogacy to married Indian couples and disqualifying other persons on basis of nationality, marital status, sexual orientation or age does not pass the test of equality,” he writes. He adds that reproductive autonomy, inclusive of the right to procreation and parenthood is protected under Article 21 of the *Constitution of India*, which guarantees the right to life and personal liberty. The intending parents typically sign a contract with the surrogate. The *Indian Contract Act, 1972* (the “ICA”) provides that a valid contract has to be in writing, and signed in the presence of two witnesses. The ICA also provides that a contract that is prohibited by any other law will not be valid under the ICA.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from “What laws regulate surrogacy in India”, *The Indian Express*]

90. Vikram is a rich businessman and has a huge art collection. Farhan invites Vikram to his studio one day, hoping to convince Vikram to buy some of his paintings. Vikram doesn't buy any of his paintings, but after he leaves, Farhan notices that one of his newest paintings is missing. He suspects that Vikram has stolen it, and complains to the police, who promptly arrest Vikram. Vikram approaches NALSA for free legal aid, so that he can obtain bail. Is Vikram entitled to free legal aid from NALSA?
- (a) No, since he is a rich businessman and can hire a lawyer with his own money.
 - (b) Yes, since he was innocent.
 - (c) Yes, since he was in police custody.
 - (d) No, since he had stolen from a struggling artist.
91. Rani and Shiva would like to opt for surrogacy. They have been married for 6 years. Rani is aged 51 and Shiva is aged 53. Both Rani and Shiva have built successful business empires. They are now working together on a joint initiative. Due to the demanding nature of their work, they have not thought about children previously. However, they are now keen to have a child via surrogacy. Are Rani and Shiva eligible for surrogacy under the SRA?
- (a) Yes, because they have been married for more than 5 years.
 - (b) Yes, because they have financial capacity to bring up a child.
 - (c) No, because they do not fall within the legal requirements of intending parents.
 - (d) No, because they are not an infertile couple.
92. Assume Rani and Shiva are eligible for surrogacy under the SRA. They approach Geeta to act as a surrogate. Geeta is Rani's sister. She is 29 years old. She is married, has one child, and has been a surrogate twice before. Which of the following statements are false?
- (i) Geeta is eligible to be a surrogate because she is a close relative.
 - (ii) Geeta is eligible to be a surrogate because she is married.
 - (iii) Geeta has been a surrogate only twice before and is now eligible to be a surrogate for Rani.
 - (iv) Geeta is eligible to be a surrogate because she is 29.
- (a) Statement (iii)
 - (b) Statements (i) and (iii)
 - (c) Statements (ii) and (iii)
 - (d) Statements (ii), (iii) and (iv)

93. Joseph and Neena are keen to have a child via surrogacy. They have been married for 8 years, and have been unable to conceive biologically due to infertility. Joseph is 40 years old and Neena is 42 years old. They have an adopted daughter, Maya, who is 4 years old. Maya has been diagnosed with Striker's Syndrome, which would cause slow neurological deterioration, with chances of death. Devastated, Joseph and Neena decide to opt for surrogacy, to become parents to their biological child. Are they eligible for surrogacy?
- Yes, because they have no biological children.
 - No, because they have an adopted child.
 - Yes, because their adopted child has been diagnosed with Striker's Syndrome.
 - Yes, because their right to procreation and parenthood is protected under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution.
94. Queen runs a surrogacy clinic. She employs 54 women, aged between 25 and 35 years. They are all married women with one or more children. Most of them belong to economically disadvantaged backgrounds. They choose to be surrogates because it gives them a reliable source of income. Kishore and Noor are intending parents. They have been married 5 years, are both aged 35, and do not have children. Kishore has been certified as infertile. So, they decide to approach Queen's clinic. They sign a contract with the surrogate. The contract is in writing and is signed in the presence of two witnesses. As per the contract, Kishore and Noor are required to remunerate the surrogate with ₹ 2 lakh per child born as a result of surrogacy, and take care of her medical needs, including providing her with medical insurance. A healthy baby girl is born as a result of surrogacy. Kishore and Noor are overjoyed. They take care of the surrogate's medical expenses. However, they do not pay the surrogate the ₹ 2 lakh. The surrogate, supported by Queen, now wants to take Kishore and Noor to court, to demand that they make the payment. Will she succeed?
- Yes, because Kishore and Noor are bound by the contract under the ICA.
 - Yes, because the intending parents and the surrogate meet the eligibility requirements under the SRA.
 - Yes, because the surrogate meets the eligibility requirements under the SRA.
 - No, because SRA allows only altruistic surrogacy, so the contract is not valid under the ICA.
95. Karan and Daniel are in a homosexual relationship. As per the Hindu Marriage Act, marriage is allowed only between heterosexual couples. As a result, Karan and Daniel are not married. However, they wish to have children and decide to go in for surrogacy. When they approach Queen's clinic, they are informed that they do not meet the requirements for an intending couple under the SRA. Karan and Daniel wish to challenge the SRA for violating their constitutional right to non-discrimination. The non-discrimination clause under the *Constitution of India* reads: 'No citizen shall be discriminated on the basis of sex, caste, religion, nationality, place of birth or any other ground'. Karan and Daniel argue that the SRA discriminates against them on the basis of sexual orientation because it restricts surrogacy to heterosexual couples alone. Which of the following arguments would most strongly support their claim in court?
- The non-discrimination clause does not explicitly mention sexual orientation.
 - Discrimination on the basis of sex could include discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.
 - The non-discrimination clause is not restricted to explicitly mentioned grounds.
 - Surrogacy is restricted under the SRA to married couples and only heterosexual couples can get married.

XVIII.

Until 2017, India did not have a codified law to order internet shut downs. A general power was vested in District Magistrates in this regard. The Magistrate could issue an order ordering a shut down if a 'speedy remedy' (extending to internet shut down) is desirable for 'immediate prevention' of an event. The Magistrate had to be satisfied that the order is 'likely to prevent or tends to prevent obstruction, annoyance or injury to human life, health or safety, or a disturbance of public tranquillity'. The Magistrate's order cannot be for longer than two months.

In 2017, new rules to order internet shut downs were introduced taking the power away from the Magistrate. These rules — the Temporary Suspension Rules — state that internet shut downs can now only be ordered by the Home Secretary of the Union or State Governments. Only in "unavoidable circumstances" can the passing of orders be delegated to someone lower than the rank of a Joint Secretary to the Government of India. And even in this case, the official must be authorised by the Centre or State Home Secretary. Shut downs can be ordered where 'necessary' or 'unavoidable' during a 'public emergency' or in the 'interest of public safety'. Shut down orders must necessarily detail the reasons to shut down the internet. The orders must also be sent to a review committee under the state or central government within 24 hours. The committee must then review them within five working days. The rules state that apart from the Chief Secretary and Legal Secretary, the committee can comprise a secretary *other than* the home secretary.

In January 2020, the Supreme Court passed its judgement in the case of *Anuradha Bhasin*. The judgement in this case explicitly recognised two things: that the freedom to access information is a fundamental right under Article 19(1)(a) of the *Constitution of India* (which protects the freedom of speech and expression); and that the freedom to conduct your trade, profession or business over the internet is also a fundamental right under Article 19(1)(g) of the *Constitution of India* (which protects the freedom to practise any profession, or to carry on any occupation, trade or business). Every time the internet is suspended, it is quite obvious that it is a violation of these rights. These rights can only be curtailed in the interest of the 'sovereignty and security of the state, integrity of the nation, friendly relations with foreign states, or public order or for preventing incitement to the commission of an offence'. The Supreme Court's judgement in *Anuradha Bhasin's* case had also underlined that shut down orders must clearly provide reasons for the shut down and they must be publicly available.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from "In India, are internet shut downs in accordance with law? Not always", by Diksha Munjal, *News Laundry*]

96. In 2014, India was hit by a terrible pandemic. It was the first time the country was experiencing a pandemic. People panicked. WhatsApp and Facebook groups became common platforms for sharing information about the pandemic. Messages were forwarded from group to group. Many of these messages prescribed different remedies to prevent and cure the flu caused by the pandemic. In Merodha district, people following these remedies began to fall sick. The already overburdened public sector hospitals became even more full. The district administration requested people to stop sharing such misinformation. However, these requests were not heeded. The District Magistrate issued an indefinite order to shut down the internet to prevent the transmission of these messages. Is this order legal?
- Yes, because the District Magistrate has the power to issue a range of orders, which includes internet shut down orders.
 - Yes, because the order was necessary on grounds of public health.
 - Yes, because a speedy order was necessary to immediately prevent transmission of these messages.
 - No, because the order was indefinite.
97. The Central government was preparing to conduct the National Medical Eligibility Test ("NMET") on 25 October 2021. The exams were to be conducted in public schools around the country on computers provided by the government. In July 2021, there were rumours that several groups had hatched plans to share answers with the students taking the exam. A special chat application was developed. The student simply had to open the application on the browser of the computer on which they were taking the exam, allowing persons on the other end to send them the answers. The government was very concerned. If the rumours were true, the quality of doctors in training (who were selected through the NMET) would be severely affected. To prevent this public emergency, the government issued orders under the Temporary Suspension Rules to shut down internet countrywide on 25 October 2021. Many protested against this decision. They argued that the government could prevent cheating in the exams by shutting down the internet in the public schools where the exam was taking place. A nation-wide blanket shut down was not required for this purpose. Now, the issue is before the Supreme Court. What will the Court decide?
- The government's order is legal under the Temporary Suspension Rules because it prevents a public emergency by preserving the quality of doctors in India.
 - The government's order is not legal under the Temporary Suspension Rules because the power belonged to the magistrate to issue orders under Section 144.
 - The government's order is not legal under the Temporary Suspension Rules because the nation-wide internet shut down order was not necessary or unavoidable.
 - The government's order is legal because it is the responsibility of the State to conduct exams in a fair manner.
98. In the above instance, the order was passed by the Communications Minister of the Indian Central Government. The Communications Minister is below the rank of Joint Secretary. The Home Secretary was away for a conference in Geneva and thus was not present in Delhi when the decision to pass the order was made. However, the Home Secretary could be contacted by phone or email. She had, in fact, explicitly said that she should be contacted if any need arises, however minor. As she had taken measures to make herself available virtually, the Home Secretary did not authorise any other official to exercise her functions. Against this, consider the following statements:
- The Communications Minister had the power to pass the order under the 2017 Rules.

- (ii) The passing of the order by the Communications Minister was avoidable.
- (iii) The power to pass the order remained with the Home Secretary.
- (iv) The Communications Minister did not have the power to pass the order under the 2017 Rules.

Which of the following statements are false?

- (a) Statement (iv)
 - (b) Statement (i)
 - (c) Statements (ii) and (iii)
 - (d) Statements (ii) and (iv)
99. Assume that in the above instance, the Joint Secretary passed the order. The order stated: 'By means of the discretion vested in me by the Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules 2017, I suspend internet across all Indian States and Union Territories on October 25, 2021'. The order was passed on 15 October, 2021. The order was sent to the Central Government review committee within 8 hours of its passing. The committee reviewed and approved of the order on 22 October, 2021. Is the order legal?
- (a) Yes, because it was passed under the 2017 rules.
 - (b) No, because the procedure under the 2017 rules was not followed.
 - (c) Yes, because the order was reviewed by the Central government review committee.
 - (d) No, because the order was passed 10 days before it was to come into effect.
100. In January 2022, communal riots were rife in five states in India, between two dominant communities, X and Y. The primary mode of communication amongst the rioters was Signal which could be accessed through the internet via mobile phones and computers. The State governments of the five States received information that some members

of X group were planning to set the houses of members of Y group on fire. Through broad Signal broadcasts amongst all users, the leaders of X group were instigating members of their group to participate in this exercise, threatening public order. Creating or inciting threat to public order is a criminal offence under Section 163F of the Indian Penal Code. To prevent further communication between the leaders of X group and their members, the State shut Signal down. However, communication then shifted to other platforms. Realising that targeting isolated platforms would not work, the State governments issued an order shutting down internet completely in all the States. Two groups protested against this order. First, students whose education was being conducted online due to the riots. They argued that they were prevented from accessing vital information, central to their education. Second, business owners who conducted business on the internet. The State's order read: 'In the five Indian States listed below, internet will be suspended for a period of two months from 10 January 2022 to 10 March 2022'. The State's order was not displayed anywhere (in print or virtually) from January to March 2022.

Consider the following statements:

- (i) The students' right under Article 19(l)(a) was violated by the State order.
- (ii) The business owners' right under Article 19(l)(g) was violated by the State order.
- (iii) The State order validly restricted the said fundamental rights.
- (iv) The State's order complied with the guidelines under *Anuradha Bhasin*.

How many statements are true?

- (a) One statement
- (b) Two statements
- (c) Three statements
- (d) All four statements

XIX.

Consumers are people who buy and use goods or services. Consumers have a right to file a complaint for any of the services or goods used by them under Consumer Protection Law. Under Consumer Protection Law, a 'consumer' means:

Person buying and using goods and services: A consumer includes any person who buys goods and services, as well as anyone who uses them. For instance, a person who watches a movie after buying a movie ticket is a consumer and similarly, a person who uses a gift voucher gifted from someone else is also a consumer.

Person using goods for self-employment and not for commercial purposes: The consumer protection law does not apply to people who use goods and services for commercial purposes. However, there are some exceptions to this. For example, people who use goods for self-employment are considered as consumers. For example, artists who buy art supplies for their work or beauticians who buy beauty products are consumers.

Person using online facilities: A consumer also includes any person who buys or hires goods or services online. For example, if you order from an online clothes website, you are a consumer.

People facing issues related to food: Consumers also include people who may be facing issues related to food items, such as adulteration, poor quality, lack of service, etc. For instance, issues related to food can cover problems across

a wide range of products, starting from water that goes into the production of items like juices as well as the sale of animals like chicken, mutton, etc. that are expressly intended for human consumption.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from "Who is a Consumer?", *Nyaaya India*]

101. Clint Leone Morricono Ltd. ("CLML") is a factory manufacturing bicycles. For the purpose of documentation and record keeping, it purchased a laptop from Pacer. However, within a month of the purchase, the laptop crashed and there was a motherboard failure. Despite a warranty, Pacer failed to replace the motherboard. Which of the following statements is correct?
- Purchase of electronic items do not fall within the purview of consumer law.
 - CLML is a consumer since it has bought a good for a price.
 - CLML is not a consumer since it has purchased the laptop for commercial purpose.
 - A company is not a person and so, cannot be a consumer.
102. Sita Das has been working as a freelance journalist. She writes columns and news reports for various newspapers and news portals and is paid on the basis of each column and report. For the purpose of her writing work, she purchases a Pacer laptop. However, within a month of the purchase, the laptop crashed and there was a motherboard failure. Which of the following statements is correct?
- Since she is using the laptop for the purpose of writing paid columns and news reports, Sita Das cannot be a consumer.
 - Purchase of goods does not fall within the purview of Consumer Protection Law.
 - Since she is using the laptop for the purpose of earning her livelihood, she will be a consumer.
 - None of the above
103. Kalpayruksha Charitable Trust runs a hospital. The hospital charges a fee from its patients. The fee is however 30% less than the commercial rates for all services and medical devices sold to patients. The hospital purchased a pacemaker from St. Rude's — a globally reputed manufacturer of pacemakers, to be resold to and used by patients. Which of the following statements is correct?
- The hospital is a charitable hospital and therefore, it is a consumer with respect to the pacemakers purchased from St. Rude's.
 - The hospital resells the pacemakers to patients and therefore cannot be considered as a consumer with respect to the pacemakers purchased from St. Rude's.
 - The hospital resells the pacemakers at a discounted rate and therefore can be considered a consumer with respect to the pacemakers purchased from St. Rude's.
 - Sale of medical devices is not covered by Consumer Protection Law.
104. Fitzit is an online platform that provides physiotherapy and other ancillary medical services. Amit Ghosh booked a physiotherapist on Fitzit for three months by paying an amount of ₹25,000. Fitzit guaranteed the availability of qualified physiotherapists for the duration. However, Fitzit failed to provide a qualified physiotherapist and the persons who were sent for the first two visits had no training or certification in the field. Amit Ghosh seeks to proceed against Fitzit under Consumer Protection Law. Which of the following statements can be correctly inferred?
- Since online services are not covered by Consumer Protection Law, Amit Ghosh cannot be considered a consumer.
 - Since services are not covered by Consumer Protection Law, Amit Ghosh cannot be considered a consumer.
 - Since online services are covered by Consumer Protection Law, Amit Ghosh shall be considered a consumer.
 - Since medical services are not covered by Consumer Protection Law, Amit Ghosh cannot be considered a consumer.
105. Jitesh Shah purchased from BreatheEasy, a company selling respiratory devices, a nebuliser device for his son, Jignesh Shah, for use for clearing his nasal passages. The nebulizer was however defective and led to severe respiratory distress for Jignesh. Jignesh is considering filing a complaint against BreatheEasy under the Consumer Protection Law. Which of the following statements can be correctly inferred?
- Since Jignesh Shah did not purchase the device from BreatheEasy, he cannot be considered a consumer with respect to BreatheEasy.
 - Since Jignesh Shah is a user of the device, he can be considered a consumer.
 - Sale of medical devices are not covered by Consumer Protection Law.
 - None of the above

LOGICAL REASONING

XX.

The depreciation of an economy's currency is not a matter of concern in itself. The decline in value against major currencies has to be viewed within a set of macroeconomic factors. The recent depreciation of the Indian rupee is a case in point. The rupee has been depreciating for a long time. What are of concern now are the rate at which the depreciation is occurring and the underlying factors causing the change. The Russia-Ukraine war has disrupted supply chains causing commodity prices to rise, leading to a worldwide hardening of inflationary trends. This, in turn, has caused major central banks to raise interest rates, forcing investors back to the safe haven of the US dollar. For India, these headwinds from the global economy have caused several problems. The rise in international prices, especially of crude oil, has led to a higher import bill and, hence, a greater demand for dollars. Higher interest rates in developed country markets have caused a significant outflow of portfolio investments from India, aggravating the already climbing demand for dollars from a rising import bill. By May 2022, foreign institutional investors had pulled out ₹ 1.50 lakh crore from Indian markets.

In the face of these pressures, the rupee, left to itself, would decline in value as the rupee-price of a dollar would increase substantially. One way the Reserve Bank of India could stem the tide would be to sell off dollars in the market to ease the supply situation. However, this would mean that while the value of the rupee could be contained, the nation's foreign exchange kitty would start to erode further. The RBI has been doing exactly that. The challenge before the RBI is this: how much to let the rupee depreciate and how much to intervene to prop it up? Too much depreciation would raise domestic inflation rates as the rupee-price of imports, especially oil, would raise costs of production. It could trigger a rise in policy-controlled interest rates while closely monitoring inflationary expectations. The biggest challenge is to navigate unpredictable international economic shocks in the near future. The Indian economy's health is not exactly at its best. Exports may not be able to take advantage of a falling rupee since international demand is expected to stagnate. India's growth and employment situations are yet to stabilise to what they were about a decade ago. The RBI has difficult choices: controlling inflation versus stimulating growth and stabilising the rupee without severely diminishing the economy's foreign exchange kitty.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from "Stiff test: Editorial on depreciation of rupee & challenges before RBI", *The Telegraph*]

106. Which of the following is the author most likely to agree with?
- It is a major cause for concern if an economy's currency is depreciating.
 - Currency depreciation is not a reason for worry in itself, but if macroeconomic factors are not good, there may be a cause for concern.
 - The fact that the Indian rupee is witnessing a decline in value against major currencies is very worrisome.
 - A central bank must always do everything in its power to stem the slightest depreciation of an economy's currency.
107. Based on the author's arguments, which of the following, if true, would reduce the decline in value of the rupee?
- Appointing a new Governor for the RBI who has a better sense of how to control inflationary trends.
 - A steep increase in commodity prices and the continued disruption of supply chains.
 - A reduction in worldwide inflationary trends and the reduction of interest rates in developed country markets.
 - The RBI buying as many dollars as possible from the market.
108. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author's arguments?
- The Indian economy has been affected by global inflationary trends and the increase of interest rates in developed country markets.
 - Since developed country markets have increased their interest rates, global investors have pulled their investments out of other economies, and routed them to such developed country markets.
 - As the demand for US dollars increases, it is likely the rupee-price of a dollar would increase substantially.
 - 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.
109. 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?
- Economies across the world are witnessing a slowdown, and in such economies, demand for imports decreases substantially.
 - Economies across the world are booming, and there is an increasing demand for Indian exports.

- (c) A reduction in the volume of exports would be more than offset by the increased value of dollars that Indian exporters would earn.
- (d) Countries across the world have managed to find ways to insulate themselves from the effects of the Russia-Ukraine war and will need a lot of Indian imports to sustain their new growth models.
110. Based on the author's arguments, which of the following must necessarily be true?
- (a) The continuing depreciation of the Indian rupee at its current rate, coupled with worldwide inflationary trends, would result in immense political instability in India, and consequently, in all of South Asia.
- (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.
- (c) If inflationary trends continue to harden across the world, and if interest rates in developed country markets continue to rise, portfolio investors will increase their investments in

India, and this will have a positive impact on India's foreign exchange reserves.

- (d) 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 rise in the value of the rupee against the dollar.
111. Which of the following is the author most likely to agree with?
- (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.
- (b) The RBI must focus solely on preventing the depreciation of the rupee at all costs, since it is by far the most important indicator of the health of the Indian economy.
- (c) Periodic inflationary trends are normal in any economy, and the RBI need not worry about the inflationary effects in the Indian economy caused by the depreciation of the rupee.
- (d) The RBI need not do anything to reduce the rate of depreciation of the rupee, since the depreciation of an economy's currency is not a matter of concern in itself.

XXI.

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 fallouts 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*]

112. 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.

113. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author's arguments?
- Social media is a reliable source of true and accurate news and information.
 - Social media is a highly unreliable source of news and information and should not be trusted.
 - Social media is a good way for people to stay connected with each other.
 - Social media is a speedier source of information than newspapers.
114. Which of the following would be an effective way of making print media more competitive?
- Slowing down the process of print media production.
 - Using more expensive printing methods that achieve better print quality, even if it results in newspapers becoming more expensive.
 - Only publishing newspapers on alternate days.
 - Developing ways of ensuring that print media can reach readers more speedily.
115. 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?
- Newspapers were very careful in ensuring they reported accurate and true news during the lock downs.
 - Newspapers played a leading role in exposing lies and misinformation spread during the lockdown.
 - Newspapers actively disseminated misinformation during the lockdowns and made no efforts to expose lies spread by others.
 - Newspapers alerted the public to the fact that a number of sources were spreading crude forms of misinformation during the pandemic.
116. 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?
- Print media would not suffer as much of a reduction in readership and revenue as readers shifted to other formats.
 - Print media would suffer a greater reduction in readership and revenue as readers shifted to other formats.
 - There would be no impact on the readership and revenues of the print industry.
 - There would be an increased demand from readers that newspapers carry more images and less text.
117. How does the author suggest newspapers can overcome the problem of being outpaced by speedier sources of information?
- They offer direct means by which newspapers can become faster to publish and deliver to readers.
 - They encourage a complete and immediate shift to digital media as a way of ensuring newspapers are not outpaced by other sources of information.
 - They offer ways to reduce production costs, which would offset the losses caused by readers shifting allegiance to faster sources of information.
 - 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.

XXII.

In this moment, the developed countries — I point to them, because these countries have already burnt massive amounts of carbon dioxide for energy to build their economies — are faced with a real energy conundrum. On the one hand, developed countries are battered because of a fast-heating planet; temperatures have gone through the roof; droughts and extreme weather events are hitting them as well. On the other hand, ordinary people in these countries are worried, not just because of climate change but because of the lack of energy to heat their homes this coming winter. In the US, gas prices went up in summer, so much so that people travelled less and consumption of fuel dropped. But now prices are down and it is business as usual.

The fact is that this energy disruption has provided the much-needed vault to the beleaguered fossil fuel industry. Governments are asking this industry to supply more. Europe has baptised natural gas, a fossil fuel less polluting than coal but still a major emitter of carbon dioxide, as "clean". The US has passed a climate bill, which will invest in renewable energy but conditional to increased spends on oil and gas and the opening up of millions of hectares of federal land for drilling. Through this bill, the US will do more than ever before to build a manufacturing base for renewable energy, particularly solar. Europe, even in this desperate scramble for gas, is working to ramp up its investment in renewable power. So, it is the worst of times. It could be the best of times, but there are some caveats. One, this renewed interest in fossil fuels must remain temporary and transient. Given the nature of economies, once the investment has been made in this new infrastructure or the supply of fossil fuels has increased from new oil and gas discoveries, it will be difficult to wean off. Two, these countries should not be entitled to more use of fossil fuels in our world of shrunk carbon budgets. They need to reduce emissions drastically and leave whatever little carbon budget space that is remaining to poorer countries to use, thereby satisfying such poorer countries' demands.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from "New energy conundrum", by Sunita Narain, *Down To Earth*]

118. Which of the following is the author most likely to agree with?
- People in the US are not worried at all about climate change.
 - People in the US are worried about climate change, and these concerns affect their energy consumption habits more than anything else.
 - Climate change has resulted in the increase of energy prices across the world, and as a result, governments have had to invest in finding newer sources of renewable energy.
 - Changes in the energy consumption habits of people in the US are affected more by energy prices than concerns of climate change.
119. Which of the following is most similar to the author's statements about developed countries' renewed interest in fossil fuels?
- Developed countries should not, under any circumstances, invest any resources in fossil fuel energy extraction and must immediately put a halt to all fossil fuel consumption.
 - Things could improve if developed countries recognise the difficulty of moving away from reliance on such sources of energy and make a conscious effort to move to alternate or renewable energy sources quickly.
 - Since investments in energy extraction of any kind are very expensive, developed countries must ensure that they make permanent and continuing investments in fossil fuels.
 - Developing countries must not, under any circumstances, consume fossil fuels, and leave whatever carbon budget space is remaining to richer countries to use.
120. If the information in the passage above is correct, which of the following must necessarily be true?
- The fossil fuel industry in developing countries will face reduced sales in the short term, with increased sales in the long term.
 - The cost of making, installing, and using solar panels will reduce substantially in the coming years.
 - Passing a bill in the US is a huge effort, and it would not have been possible to pass the new climate bill unless the current energy crisis had compelled lawmakers to do so.
 - The fossil fuel industry in developing countries will see an increase in business, at least in the short term.
121. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author's argument about why travel and fuel consumption in the US reduced in summer?
- People like to travel regardless of season, and the only thing that would prevent them from travelling at any time of the year would be high costs.
 - Airlines raised ticket prices as a response to increase in fuel prices, and therefore, fewer people were able to buy air tickets to travel.
 - Strict lockdowns were imposed in the US in summer because of which people travelled less; further, temperatures were moderate, and this meant people had to use less fuel to heat or warm their homes.
 - Widespread geopolitical tensions in the first half of the year meant that fuel prices were at an all-time high in summer; but prices have now eased off somewhat, making fuel slightly more affordable in the US.
122. Which of the following, if true, would resolve the 'conundrum' the author says developed countries face now?
- The development of adequate renewable power sources in the near term that would lead to a reduction in consumption of fossil fuels.
 - Finding new sources of fossil fuels that will ensure there is no shortage of energy to heat homes in the winter.
 - Switching immediately to renewable power sources, even if it leads to a shortage in energy supply for people.
 - Providing adequate aid to poorer countries so that they can develop renewable power sources for their use.
123. Assuming the aim of the US climate bill is to reduce fossil fuel consumption, which of the following would be the strongest argument that it will fail to achieve such an aim?
- The bill promotes investments in renewable energy but does not provide for enough increase in investments in developing more sources of fossil fuel-powered energy.
 - The bill is written in technical language, which ordinary people cannot easily understand.
 - The bill is self-defeating, since it makes investments in renewable energy conditional to more expenditure on oil and gas and making millions of hectares of federal land available for drilling, which would lead to an increased consumption of fossil fuels.
 - The bill does not provide any means of increasing carbon budgets, thereby making more room for fossil fuel consumption.

XXIII.

While men and women are both considered to be more capable as they get older, only women bear the brunt of being seen as "less warm" as they age, new research has found. This series of studies is reportedly the first to look at both

gender and age to determine how perceptions of women and men differ. "It's just stunning... These stereotypes are so hard-wired and deeply entrenched that they come out even when absolutely identical information is provided about a man and a woman," Jennifer Chatman, Distinguished Professor of Management at UC Berkeley's Haas School of Business, said. In an analysis of professors' evaluations, female professors witnessed a decline as they moved from their 30s to 40s, hitting an all-time low around the age of 47. All this while, the evaluation of male professors remained consistent. Interestingly, after the age of 47, the evaluations for women increased again, becoming equal with those of men around the early 60s. "At that point, there are different stereotypes of women, and they may benefit from being seen as more grandmotherly," said Laura Kray, faculty director of the Center for Equity, Gender, and Leadership at Berkeley Haas and an author of the study.

Women around the age of mid 30s to late 40s also face what is called "the motherhood penalty," where assumptions around parenting duties lead people to believe women are less committed to their careers than men. This has several repercussions, most particularly evident in hiring, promotions and wages. Women executives further pointed out that they face "hyper-scrutiny" and "scepticism" which harks back to perceptions of likeability versus agency. Gendered networks in the workplace, with men gaining greater access to senior leaders, become cemented mid-career, pose another difficulty for working women. Negative perceptions of women in middle-age can also be linked to stereotypes around menopause. In 2008, psychologists studied the attitudes of people towards women in different reproductive stages. They found that while the pregnant women or the woman with the baby were thought about in glowing terms, menopausal women were associated with negative emotions, illness and ageing.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from "How Stereotypes Affect Middle-Aged Women's Careers", by Ananya Singh, *The Swaddle*]

124. Which of the following is most likely to be true if the author's statements about gendered networks in the workplace are true?
- Mid-career women do not find it as easy to get access to senior leaders, who are usually male, as their male colleagues. They therefore find career progression or new opportunities easier to come by.
 - Mid-career women find it easier to get access to senior leaders, who are usually male, as their male colleagues. They therefore find career progression or new opportunities easier to come by.
 - Mid-career women do not find it as easy to get access to senior leaders, who are usually male, as their male colleagues. They therefore find career progression or new opportunities harder to come by.
 - Mid-career women find it easier to get access to senior leaders, who are usually male, as their male colleagues. They therefore do not find career progression or new opportunities harder to come by.
125. Which of the following is most likely to be an outcome of what the author describes as the "motherhood penalty"?
- People are more hesitant to hire men from their mid 30s to their late 40s but may be more willing to hire women of a similar age.
 - People are more hesitant to hire women from their mid 30s to their late 40s but may be more willing to hire men of a similar age.
 - Women from their mid 30s to their late 40s always prioritise parenting responsibilities and so are not really interested in pursuing a career.
 - Women who have children are less committed to their careers than men.
126. If professors' evaluations are the most important criteria in awarding promotions, then which of the following would be the most likely outcome, based on the information provided in the passage?
- Male professors are likely to be promoted at an even rate throughout their career, while women professors would experience a lower likelihood of promotion in the mid-career stage.
 - Since there is a wide disparity between the evaluations that male and female professors receive, the practice of relying upon such evaluations will quickly be abandoned.
 - Male and female professors will receive promotions at a similar rate throughout the course of their career.
 - Women professors are likely to be promoted at an even rate throughout their career, while male professors would experience a lower likelihood of promotion in the mid-career stage.
127. Which of the following is the author most likely to disagree with?
- Women going through menopause often quit the workforce voluntarily.
 - Women going through menopause are more likely to be perceived negatively at the workplace and to have difficulty achieving professional success.
 - Women going through menopause should be permitted to take a mid-career sabbatical.
 - Women going through menopause are more likely to be perceived positively at the workplace and to achieve professional success.

128. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the main argument in the passage?
- Several independent studies conducted in different countries have shown that women in the workplace are perceived positively and are favourably treated as they age.
 - Several independent studies conducted in different countries have shown that women in the workplace are perceived negatively and are unfairly treated as they age.
 - The studies mentioned in the passage have been discredited after they were published, and no reliance should be placed on them.
 - The studies mentioned in the passage were conducted on very small sample sets and cannot be used to make general statements

XXIV.

Why are we humans so susceptible to the doom and gloom of the news? Two reasons. The first is what psychologists call negativity bias: we're more attuned to the bad than the good. Back in our hunting and gathering days, we were better off being frightened of a spider or a snake a hundred times too often than one time too few. Too much fear wouldn't kill you; too little surely would.

Second, we're also burdened with an availability bias. If we can easily recall examples of a given thing, we assume that thing is relatively common. The fact that we're bombarded daily with horrific stories about aircraft disasters, child snatchers and beheadings — which tend to lodge in the memory — completely skews our view of the world.

In this digital age, the news we're being fed is only getting more extreme. In the old days, journalists didn't know much about their individual readers. They wrote for the masses. But the people behind Facebook, Twitter and Google know you well. They know what shocks and horrifies you, they know what makes you click. They know how to grab your attention and hold it so they can serve you the most lucrative helping of personalised ads. This modern media frenzy is nothing less than an assault on the mundane. Because, let's be honest, the lives of most people are pretty predictable. Nice, but boring. So while we'd prefer having nice neighbours with boring lives, 'boring' won't make you sit up and take notice. 'Nice' doesn't sell ads. And so Silicon Valley keeps dishing us up ever more sensational clickbait, knowing full well, as a Swiss novelist once quipped, that "News is to the mind what sugar is to the body."

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from *Humankind: A Hopeful History*, by Rutger Bregman, Bloomsbury Publishing, London, 2021.]

130. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author's arguments?
- Behavioural traits that helped us in the days when we were hunter-gatherers continue to be present in modern-day humans.
 - Behavioural traits that helped us in the days when we were hunter-gatherers are no longer found in modern-day humans.
 - The negativity bias makes us more likely to be affected by depressing or sad news.
 - We have certain behavioural characteristics that affect how we perceive and are affected by sad news.
131. Which of the following is the author most likely to agree with?
- Contemporary media continuously exposes us to exciting news and information, which may be just like the things we usually experience in our lives.
 - 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.
 - Contemporary media continuously exposes us to boring news and information, which may be very unlike the kinds of things we usually encounter in our lives.
 - Contemporary media continuously exposes us to boring news and information, which may be just like the things we usually experience in our lives.
129. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken Laura Kray's arguments?
- Women professors perceived as being 'grandmotherly' are regarded as being likeable and caring.
 - Women professors perceived as being 'grandmotherly' are treated better by their colleagues and students.
 - Women professors perceived as being 'grandmotherly' are regarded as being slow, inefficient, and outdated in their field.
 - Women professors perceived as being 'grandmotherly' are regarded very highly and receive much more respect than younger women professors.
132. 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?
- Constantly being exposed to negative news gives us a warped perspective of the world.

- (b) In our hunting and gathering days, it was better for us to be unnecessarily scared rather than being scared too little.
- (c) The news modern media exposes us to is just like our day-to-day experiences.
- (d) The news modern media exposes us to is very different from our day-to-day experiences.
133. The author's statements about negativity bias, if true, provide most support for which of the following conclusions?
- (a) We are more likely to notice a story about a billionaire donating their money to charity than a story about an airplane crash.
- (b) We are more likely to be attracted to a news article about a rise in life expectancy in our country than a news article about a murder in our city.
- (c) We are more likely to notice a story about increasing pollution levels than a story about improving educational levels in schools.
- (d) We are more likely to form our opinion of the world based on the information available to us rather than information we do not have access to.
134. Which of the following would be the most effective way of countering the effects of what the author describes as our 'availability bias'?
- (a) Ensuring that we do not seek out news sources and stories that we may not otherwise have been exposed to.
- (b) Following only one news source and limiting our perspective of the world to that one source.
- (c) Avoiding all positive news stories, and instead only reading news stories about disasters and tragedies.
- (d) Ensuring that we seek out news sources and stories that we may not otherwise have been exposed to.
135. The author says that "The fact that we're bombarded daily with horrific stories about aircraft disasters, child snatchers and beheadings — which tend to lodge in the memory — completely skews our view of the world." The conclusion the author draws in this argument follows logically if which of the following is assumed?
- (a) Our ideas about the world are shaped by the information we are exposed to.
- (b) Modern media is concerned only with making massive profits.
- (c) Modern journalists generate news stories much faster than in the old days.
- (d) Humans once lived as hunter-gatherers.

QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

XXV.

The findings of Oxfam India's latest 'India Discrimination Report 2022' indicate that there is a significant gap in the earnings between men and women in the case of regular and self-employment in urban areas. The lower wages for salaried women are due to 67 percent of discrimination and 33 percent due to lack of education and work experience. The average earning is ₹16,000 for men and merely ₹6,600 for women in urban areas in self-employment. The average earning of men is ₹19,800 as against ₹15,600 for women in regular/salaried employment in urban areas. Also, in urban areas the average earnings of men (₹9,000) are significantly higher than women (₹5,700) even in casual employment. Apart from women, historically oppressed communities along with religious minorities also continue to face discrimination in accessing jobs, livelihoods, and agricultural credit. The mean income for Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes ("SC/ST") persons in urban areas who are in regular employment is ₹15,300 as against ₹20,300 for persons belonging to the non-SC/ST category. The average earning of self-employed workers is ₹15,900 for non-SC/STs and ₹10,500 for SC/STs. The average monthly earning for the SC/ST workers in casual work is ₹8,000 below the corresponding figure of ₹8,600 for the non-SC/ST.

[Data Source: Oxfam India]

[Note: Values have been approximated to the nearest hundred]

136. Choose the correct option:
- (a) Women's average earnings in urban areas in casual work is 30% lower than that of men.
- (b) Men's average earning in urban areas in self-employment is nearly 2.5 times that of earnings of women.
- (c) In casual work, women earn more in rural areas than in urban areas.
- (d) The difference in earnings of men and women in regular/salaried employment in urban areas is ₹ 3,500.
137. Of the regular employed in urban areas, the earnings of a non-SC/ST worker is what percent more than a SC/ST worker?
- (a) Between 20% and 25%
- (b) Less than 15%
- (c) Between 30% and 35%
- (d) More than 35%
138. Of those in casual employment, if a man's average earnings was deposited at a rate of 16% simple interest for 20 years, in how many years at the

same rate of simple interest a SC/ST worker must deposit their average earnings to earn the same amount as a man in 20 years?

- (a) 24 years (b) 22.5 years
(c) 21 years (d) 23.2 years

139. The findings also indicate discrimination as a driving factor behind low Women's Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) in the country. As per the Union Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI), LFPR for women in India was only 25.1 percent in 2020-21 for urban and rural women. This is considerably lower than South Africa where the LFPR for women is 46 percent in 2021 as per the latest World Bank estimates. The LFPR for women in India has rapidly declined from 42.7 percent in 2004-05 to mere 25.1 percent in 2020-2021 showing the withdrawal of women from the workforce despite rapid economic growth during the same period. In 2019-20, 60 percent of all males aged 15 years and more have regular salaried and self-employed jobs

XXVI.

Of the five fruit species mentioned in the passage above, the share of bananas and plantains increased by 1 percentage point between 2000 and 2019, watermelons in 2019 was 6 percentage points lower than bananas and plantains in 2000, apples remained stable at 10%, and the percentage share of oranges and grapes reduced to half of bananas in 2019. What was the percentage of bananas and plantains in 2019?

[Data source: FAO]

141. What was the world fruit production in 2000?
(a) 474 million tonnes (b) 517 million tonnes
(c) 573 million tonnes (d) 406 million tonnes
142. Of the five fruit species mentioned in the passage above, the share of bananas and plantains increased by 1 percentage point between 2000 and 2019, watermelons in 2019 was 6 percentage points lower than bananas and plantains in 2000, apples remained stable at 10%, and the percentage share of oranges and grapes reduced to half of bananas in 2019. What was the percentage of bananas and plantains in 2019?
(a) 17% (b) 18%
(c) 16% (d) 21%
143. Of the watermelons in 2000, one-eighth perished, one-fifth of the remaining was sold to be juiced and 30% of the remaining was exported. If the percentage share of oranges in 2000 was equal to the percentage share of watermelons in 2019, how many watermelons were retained for home sale and consumption?
(a) 42.1 million tonnes
(b) 1.6 million tonnes
(c) 16.8 million tonnes
(d) 2.7 million tonnes
144. Assume that all grapes and apples were sold through a single organisation in 2000. Grapes and apples were sold to 4 different customers such that a certain quantity of apples were sold to the first customer, same number of apples were sold to the second customer as to the first and a certain number of grapes were sold to that customer after which apples were over. Twice the quantity of grapes sold to the second was sold to the third customer and twice the quantity sold to the third was sold to the fourth customer. The total quantity of grapes is equal to the total quantity of apples sold. How many grapes were sold to each customer?
(a) 19.1 million tonnes (b) 8.2 million tonnes
(c) 28.6 million tonnes (d) 9.4 million tonnes
145. Frutopia and Fruitfix both sold oranges at the same selling price. However, Frutopia gave customers a 15% discount on the marked price whereas Fruitfix sold the oranges for a discount of 20% on the marked price. If the marked price of oranges on Frutopia is ₹75/kg, what is the marked price of oranges on Fruitfix?
(a) ₹78 (b) ₹82
(c) ₹90 (d) ₹80

while 19 percent of all similarly aged females get regular and self-employment. Use the additional data in the passage above to answer this and the next question.

If the number of women in India in 2020-2021 is 670 million which is 24% more than in 2004-2005, what is the difference in the number of women in LFPR 2004-05 and 2021?

- (a) Less than 5 crores
(b) Between 6 and 8 crores
(c) Between 10 and 12 crores
(d) More than 15 crores

140. In 2019-20, if the number of males aged 15 years and more is 76% of the total male population and the number of females aged 15 years and more is 72% of the total female population and the total male population is 1.05 times the total female population, what is the ratio of females to males aged 15 years and more that have regular salaried and self-employed jobs?

- (a) 2:7 (b) 3:10
(c) 5:9 (d) 1:3

XXVII.

Players are selected for Judo based on their body weights from the following 10 weight groups:

- | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. (48 kg – 52 kg) | 2. (52 kg – 56 kg) | 3. (56 kg – 60 kg) | 4. (60 kg – 64 kg) |
| 5. (64 kg – 68 kg) | 6. (68 kg – 72 kg) | 7. (72 kg – 76 kg) | 8. (76 kg – 80 kg) |
| 9. (80 kg – 84 kg) | 10. (84 kg – 88 kg) | | |

The average weight of the players after selecting one player from each group is 68 kg. If one of the players (named S) leaves the team, their average weight comes down to 66.5 kg.

146. Player S is from the weight group:

- (a) 1
- (b) 9
- (c) 5
- (d) 10

147. If S leaves the group and two new players join the group, their average weight increases to 68 kg. These players can NOT be from groups:

- (a) 1 and 3
- (b) Both from group 7
- (c) 4 and 10
- (d) 5 and 9

148. What is the average weight of all the players taken together?

- (a) 68 kg
- (b) 66 kg

- (c) 69 kg
- (d) Cannot be determined

149. In the average of all the groups together, which group contributes most in overall average?

- (a) 10
- (b) 8
- (c) 1
- (d) Cannot be determined

150. If one of the new two players is from group 4, which group the other player is from?

- (a) 5
- (b) 7
- (c) 10
- (d) None of the above

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Answer Key

Q. No.	Correct Answer (Option)
1	(b)
2	(c)
3	(a)
4	(c)
5	(b)
6	(a)
7	(c)
8	(c)
9	(a)
10	(b)
11	(b)
12	(b)
13	(c)
14	(d)
15	(a)
16	(b)
17	(a)
18	(c)
19	(d)
20	(d)
21	(a)
22	(b)
23	(d)
24	(b)
25	(b)
26	(d)
27	(b)
28	(a)
29	(d)
30	(c)
31	(a)
32	(c)
33	(a)
34	(a)
35	(d)
36	(b)
37	(d)
38	(a)
39	(b)
40	(d)

Q. No.	Correct Answer (Option)
41	(a)
42	(b)
43	(b)
44	(c)
45	(b)
46	(d)
47	(c)
48	(a)
49	(c)
50	(d)
51	(d)
52	(d)
53	(b)
54	(a)
55	(c)
56	(b)
57	(b)
58	(c)
59	(c)
60	(d)
61	(a)
62	(d)
63	(b)
64	(c)
65	(d)
66	(b)
67	(c)
68	(d)
69	(b)
70	(a)
71	(c)
72	(b)
73	(a)
74	(b)
75	(d)
76	(d)
77	(d)
78	(b)
79	(c)
80	(a)

Q. No.	Correct Answer (Option)
81	(b)
82	(a)
83	(d)
84	(c)
85	(a)
86	(c)
87	(a)
88	(d)
89	(b)
90	(c)
91	(c)
92	(a)
93	(c)
94	(d)
95	(c)
96	(d)
97	(c)
98	(b)
99	(b)
100	(c)
101	(c)
102	(c)
103	(b)
104	(c)
105	(b)
106	(b)
107	(c)
108	(d)
109	(a)
110	(b)
111	(a)
112	(b)
113	(a)
114	(d)
115	(c)
116	(a)
117	(d)
118	(d)
119	(b)
120	(d)

Q. No.	Correct Answer (Option)
121	(c)
122	(a)
123	(c)
124	(c)
125	(b)
126	(a)
127	(d)
128	(b)
129	(c)
130	(b)
131	(b)
132	(d)
133	(c)
134	(d)
135	(a)
136	(b)
137	(c)
138	(b)
139	(b)
140	(a)
141	(c)
142	(b)
143	(a)
144	(a)
145	(d)
146	(b)
147	(a)
148	(d)
149	(d)
150	(c)

UG CLAT
COMMON LAW ADMISSION TEST
Five-Year Integrated Programme

SOLVED PAPER 2023

Answers with Explanations

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1. Option (b) is correct.

Refer to the lines of the passage, "When the itinerant kabadiwala, collector of papers, magazines, and rejected things, visited our neighbourhood, I rushed to the house where he was doing business. He bought things at unimaginably low prices from those who'd stopped having any use for them, and I rummaged through his sacks of old magazines. Sometimes, on days when business was good, he allowed me a couple of copies of Sportsworld magazine for free. I'd run home and, ignoring my mother's scolding, plunge right in — consuming news about India's victory in the Benson and Hedges Cup..." According to the passage, the author used to borrow and sometimes get free copies of sportsworld magazine from the kabadiwala. Hence, option (a) that states Kabadiwala bought up all her books is incorrect as per the passage Kabadiwala collects it from her neighbourhood.

As per the passage, Kabadiwala buys the books, papers, magazines, and rejected things and doesn't steal it, hence option (c) is ruled out. Her rummaging through Kabadiwala's sack shows her interest towards his stock of books and magazine, hence, option (b) is correct.

Refer to these lines of the passage, "I grew up in a small town not far from Kalimpong. In pre-liberalisation India, everything arrived late: not just material things but also ideas. Magazines — old copies of Reader's Digest and National Geographic — arrived late too, after the news had become stale by months or often years. The lines clearly indicate that the era she is talking about is not at all technology-driven, so ordering books online is out of question, hence, option (d) is incorrect.

2. Option (c) is correct.

Refer to the lines of the passage, "Two takeaways from these experiences have marked my understanding of the provincial reader's life: the sense of belatedness, of everything coming

late, and the desire for pleasure in language. Speaking of belatedness, the awareness of having been born at the wrong time in history of inventing things that had already been discovered elsewhere, far away, without our knowledge or cooperation, is a moment of epiphany and deep sadness."

As per option (a), a provincial reader experiences belatedness in the sense of coming late for everything whereas the passage is describing information and news, hence option (a) is incorrect. However, option (c) puts emphasis on the prime two factors that are highlighted by the author in the passage, which mentions the time lapse between the occurrence of things in the wider world with that of arriving at the provincial location. Hence, we can derive that a provincial reader accepts the temporal gap between the information when it occurs and when it eventually arrives in the provincial location.

As option (c) is correct, option (d) and none of the above options cannot be inferred.

3. Option (a) is correct.

Refer to the lines of the passage, "Speaking of belatedness, the awareness of having been born at the wrong time in history, of inventing things that had already been discovered elsewhere, far away, without our knowledge or cooperation, is a moment of epiphany and deep sadness. These lines from the passage clearly indicate that the author feels sad by the fact that he was born in a provincial location where whatever he feels is special and unique, is already common and general amongst the wider world.

As per the passage, the author seeks herself to be a provincial reader, but not a less well read than others, referring to the lines from the passage, "Two takeaways from these experiences have marked my understanding of the provincial reader's life: the sense of belatedness, of everything coming late, and the desire for pleasure in language. Speaking of belatedness, the awareness of having

been born at the wrong time in history of inventing things that had already been discovered elsewhere, far away, without our knowledge or cooperation, is a moment of epiphany and deep sadness." Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

According to the passage, the author doesn't miss being in a big city but missing getting information on time when it actually occurs out there in the wider world. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

4. Option (c) is correct.

The author is using the word "anachronistic" with reference to the discoveries he came to know after the party was over. Refer to the lines of the passage, "And there's a harsh word for that sense of belatedness: "dated." What rescues it is the unpredictability of these anachronistic "discoveries" — the randomness and haphazardness involved in mapping connections among thoughts and ideas, in a way that hasn't yet been professionalized. The word anachronistic is an adjective and it comes from the Greek words ana, or "against", and khronos, or "time." It usually refers to something old-fashioned or outdated; also it means anything that blatantly clashes with the time in which it is seen.

As per the passage, the author is referring to the outdated discoveries and time-lapsed information. Hence, option (c) is correct. Option (b) refers to the word Mofussil, which means-countryside or the provincial districts of India. Option (a) refers to the term non-urban setting which is synonymous to mofussil which is therefore incorrect.

In the passage, the author is concerned about being a provincial reader who aspires to get the information as it happens in the world, whereas Option (d) talks about sensibilities. Hence, it is inappropriate.

5. Option (b) is correct.

The last sentence of the passage goes, as follows, there's a deep sense of tragedy attending this sort of thing — the sad embarrassment of always arriving after the party is over. And there's a harsh word for that sense of belatedness: "dated." What rescues it is the unpredictability of these anachronistic "discoveries" — the randomness and haphazardness involved in mapping connections among thoughts and ideas, in a way that hasn't yet been professionalized. Going through the last few lines of the passage, it can be clearly referred that the author knows and admits the fact of being a provincial reader; however, this destitute from the intellectual ideas helps her a lot to engage with some originality in her thoughts and ideas. Hence, (a) speaks up the author's mind. On the other hand, option (b) states that the author pretends to be from the urban area which can't be referred from the passage.

Option (c) states that the author is somehow content with the fact that she belongs to a provincial state where there is a belatedness of information, whereas the tone of the passage infers her discontentment towards the accessibility of information in small towns.

6. Option (a) is correct.

According to the author, until the Keeladi site was discovered, archaeologists believed that the Gangetic plains were urbanised first and is the area from where the civilisation originated. Hence, option (a) is correct.

Refer to these lines of the passage, which implies "Until the Keeladi site was discovered, archaeologists by and large believed that the Gangetic plains in the north urbanised significantly earlier than Tamil Nadu." That IVC was probably not the first urban civilisation of India. Hence, option (b) is incorrect.

Refer to these sentences, "Historians have often claimed that large-scale town life in India first developed in the Greater Magadha region of the Gangetic basin. This was during the 'second urbanisation' phase. "As per the historians the first developed urbanisation was in Magadha, which implies option (c) to be incorrect.

7. Option (c) is correct.

The sentence is highlighting the point that Keeladi excavations questioned the aspect of a single theory of urbanisation in India. As per option (a), Keeladi excavations proved prior theories to be wrong. Option (b) expresses that Keeladi excavations don't support any of the civilisation theories. Option (c) can be inferred from the above statement as it states that no one theory is enough to explain Keeladi dig.

8. Option (c) is correct.

As per option (b), Keeladi were illiterate; if this is correct, then exploration of the Brahmi language negates it, hence option (b) is incorrect.

As per the above mentioned statement, exploration related to just the script is mentioned but nothing related to culture is mentioned; hence, we can't conclude that Keeladi is a centre of culture too.

Option (a) is incorrect.

Exploration of a new script is indeed a breakthrough for any verse of history, hence option (c) can be concluded from the statement.

9. Option (a) is correct.

The acronym (BCE) stands for Before the common era.

It is an alternative to (BC) before Christ. BCE (Before Common Era) and CE (Common Era) have been used since the early 1700s by various writers and English language dictionaries. It is used to show that a year or century comes before the

year 1 of the calendar used in much of the world, especially in Europe and North and South America

10. Option (b) is correct.

The word *inegalitarian* refers to promote inequality among the people. The sentence refers to a farmer who can write which implies that in Keeladi civilisation right to education is given even to a farmer. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

Option (b) refers to access to education and literacy is not just restricted to the elite, which is an apt interpretation of the sentence presented in the question. Hence, option (b) is correct.

Option (c) refers that the framers of the Keeladi civilization were also potters, which can't be referred from the passage.

11. Option (b) is correct.

Refer to this line of the passage, "But on the internet—for anyone to see you, you have to act." From the statement, it can be inferred that the internet encourages people to act and to not be their real selves hence, option (d) is incorrect as it is expressing that the main purpose of social media platforms is to inhibit people from showing off.

Option (a) says that the internet expanded very slowly, but as per the passage, the internet spread out across the nation in a short stretch of time. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

As per option (c), the internet is addictive but going by the author's words, "my life is inextricable from the internet, and its mazes of incessant forced connection—this feverish, electric, univable hell. "The sentence represents that, although the author is using the internet continuously but forcefully.

Throughout the passage, the author is using antipodes against the impact of the internet on our lives. The entire tone and flow of the passage is about the impact of the internet on us and through various sentences like, "Even as we became increasingly sad and ugly on the internet, the mirage of the better online self-continued to glimmer." Or "The freedom promised by the internet started to seem like something whose greatest potential lay in the realm of misuse. "Infers that the internet can cause harm to the world."

12. Option (b) is correct.

The word *truisms* means something that is accepted and followed by many people. As per the passage, people around 2012 have started to articulate several aspects related to the internet. Going by the words of the author, "Where we had once been free to be ourselves online, we were now chained to ourselves online, and this made us self-conscious." These lines infer that the internet has changed the way people perceive themselves. Hence, option (a) can be considered one of the "truisms."

When the author says, "The freedom promised by the internet started to seem like something whose greatest potential lay in the realm of misuse." She is emphasising on the cons of using the internet; simultaneously in the previous paragraph, the author mentions the role of the internet to grow and strengthen social networks implies that digital technology has both its pros and cons.

After going through the details of various social media platforms described by the author, it can't be inferred anywhere that there is a preference for cat videos to reveal the personalities of people Hence, option (b) is not one of the truisms.

13. Option (c) is correct.

Let us go through the underlined sentences first, "It's as if we've been placed on a lookout that oversees the entire world and given a pair of binoculars that makes everything look like our own reflection. "The phrase 'look like our own reflection' clearly denies the fact that the internet only shows us what we don't want to see. Hence, the option (d) is incorrect. The underlined sentence of the passage is depicting the two sides with respect to the virtual world and the real world. Option (b) is talking about the geographical distance of the people, which is irrelevant as per the passage.

It can be inferred from the underlined lines of the passage that through the internet a person gets a leverage to customise his image and portray it to the outside world. Hence, option (c) is correct.

Option (a) represents that the internet says a lot about the people but doesn't extend it to the fact that it also gives people the advantage to alter their personalities and project in front of the outer world.

14. Option (d) is correct.

Before digging up the options, let us first see what the word 'Metaphor' which is a figure of speech exactly is. Metaphor is a word or phrase which is applied to an object or action to which it is not literally applicable. In other words, it gives a rhetorical effect to the sentence by indirectly comparing a thing to something else.

The introduction of the passage compares the approach and usage of the internet to be less by metaphorically comparing it to a village, hence option (a) is correct.

Refer to the lines from the passage, "Now I'm thirty, and most of my life is inextricable from the internet, and its mazes of incessant forced connection—this feverish, electric, unlivable hell." The author here is comparing the usage of the internet as an extremely discomforting and unpleasant experience by using words like feverish and electric.

As per option (c), the author is comparing the situation of the internet and social media platforms

users to an animal who is stuck in the ring and thinks that his mode of happiness, popularity and success is through it.

Hence, all the above three options are metaphors in the passage.

15. Option (a) is correct.

The passage is rhetorically discussing the addiction and hypocrisy that sustain underneath the sheets of the world of the internet. A non-fiction essay refers to compositions based on real-life situations and events. In addition, it also includes essays based on one's opinion and perception.

Option (b) Fiction is that piece of writing in which the events or items described are not true. The above passage is based on the author's opinion on the usage of the internet in the real world. Hence, the option is incorrect.

An academic paper is a piece of writing that presents the results of research, analysis, or argument on a particular subject. The purpose of an academic paper is to contribute new knowledge or insights to a particular field of study. If the author has represented the data of the research in the form of numbers, facts and figures. Then, it could be a piece of academic paper.

A poem is a piece of writing in which the words are arranged in separate lines, often ending in rhyme, and are chosen for their sound and for the images and ideas they suggest.

16. Option (b) is correct.

As per option (a), the water mafia's operation is justified, whereas the author seems to be criticising the whole mafia scam operating in Delhi.

Simultaneously, it is not only private truck owners but also city councilors, farmers, real estate agents, and fixers who play an active role in the mafia, hence, option (c) is incorrect.

Referring to these lines of the passage, "Everything about this business is illegal: the boreholes dug without permission, the trucks operating without permits, the water sold without testing or treatment. "The latter part of the sentence infers that there is a scope for the water to be contaminated as it is being sold without testing and treatment. Hence, option (b) is correct.

As per the author, water tanker mafia supplies water to factories and hospitals, malls and hotels, apartments and huts. Hence, restricting the supply to just residential areas is incorrect as per the passage.

17. Option (a) is correct.

The phrase used in the passage is: The entrenched system has a local moniker; here, the word entrenched means a system which is there for a long period of time and is now firmly established.

The word ubiquitous means something that is found and is present everywhere.

Option (c) long term water security has not been used anywhere.

The word depletion means, "Something that is used and utilised swiftly."

18. Option (c) is correct.

As per the passage, it is true that Delhi's water supply infrastructure is inadequate, but in the passage author's prime concern is the Water supply mafia but not water supply infrastructure.

The author concludes the passage by mentioning that it is one of a thriving black market populated by small-time freelance agents who are exploiting a fast-depleting common resource and in turn threatening India's long-term water security. Hence, hampering sustainable access to water is the main in the passage.

19. Option (d) is correct.

Going through the passage there were several sounds which could be heard while the water tankers are filled-sounds like creaking (vehicle's creaky frame), droning (drone as they disgorge thousands of gallons of groundwater), thrumming (housed in nearby sheds, begin to thrum.) were some of them.

Option (d) gushing is not mentioned by the author.

20. Option (d) is correct.

Option (a) illicit is an adjective. It means illegal or otherwise forbidden. "The mafia defends its work as a community service, but there is a much darker picture of Delhi's **subversive** water industry." The word subversive means a systematic attempt to destroy or intervene a government or political system by persons working from within.

They then drag thick hoses toward a queue of 20-odd tanker trucks **idling** quietly with their headlights turned off. The word idling here means that the trucks were moving slowly without using much of power and fuel.

Referring to the lines of the passage, "Water work is night work," says a middle-aged neighbour who lives near the **covert** pumping station" The word covert here means hidden pumping stations which are not easily visible to the common man.

21. Option (a) is correct.

Refer to these sentences of the passage:

(a) It does so by sliding into the DNA of social division: income, caste, gender, religion or place of belonging.

(b) The problem now is about inequality of access. 'To be denied English is harmful to the individual as well as our society,' writes Chetan Bhagat, self-appointed leader of a class war set off by unequal access to English.

- (c) You are more likely to learn English if you are born a man rather than a woman, high caste rather than low caste, south Indian rather than north Indian.

The first statement mentions the word NOW which means that the author is talking about contemporary INDIA. By using phrases like-inequality of access, high caste rather than low caste, south India than north India signifies that the author is clearly demarcating the accessibility, ability and the usage of the English language on the basis of demography, social status, gender, caste and social background; hence, option (a) is the correct inference.

Option (b) states that according to the author English is not an Indian language, as per the author's views in the passage no particular remark is given when it comes to contemporary India, whether English is an indigenous or foreign language.

Option (c) states that with the contemporary Indian society's English language fluency doesn't imply competence is incorrect because, as per the author if E2 (People familiar with English language but lack proficiency and fluency) sits in an interview conducted by E1s (people with fluent English), they will come across as incompetent, even though they may be equally intelligent, creative or hard working. In the passage, the author has not mentioned any demarcations on opinions related to the English language and its usage by any political parties; hence, option (d) is incorrect.

22. Option (b) is correct.

As per the Chetan Bhagat's categorisation of Indian English-speakers into E1 and E2 following features are there:

- (a) E1 category speakers are those whose parents speak in English; they have access to good English-medium schools—typically in big cities, and gained early proficiency,
- (b) E1 speakers consume English products such as newspapers, books and films.
- (c) English is so instinctive to E1 speakers that even some of their thought patterns are in English.

Considering the above three features of E1 category speakers, Savitha belongs to a metropolitan city and is from an upper middle class family and still fumbles and gets nervous through her interviews but there is nowhere mentioned that she is struggling with spoken English; this hesitation can be because of her core subject knowledge as she is an above average student. Hence, options (a) and (c) are incorrect.

Let us first discuss E2 speakers traits as per Chetan Bhagat's categorisation:

- (a) E2 speakers are technically familiar with English.

- (b) They may be equally intelligent, creative or hard working to that of E1 speakers but are considered incompetent when compared with E1.

As per option (b), Moin was a milkman (not a part of privileged class) and is a spoken English instructor defies Chetan Bhagat's categorisation of E2 speakers. Hence, option (b) is correct.

23. Option (d) is correct.

Refer to the lines of the passage, " 'To be denied English is harmful to the individual as well as our society,' writes Chetan Bhagat, self-appointed leader of a class war set off by unequal access to English. "The term self self-appointed leader is used by the author himself to acknowledge Chetan Bhagat. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

The last paragraph of the passage describes the author's response to Bhagat's views: **His argument does not factor in many other walls around English in India.** You are more likely to learn English if you are born a man rather than a woman, high caste rather than low caste, south Indian rather than north Indian. **There is more than one kind of E1 and more than one kind of E2. And there is more than one way E2s can overthrow E1s. One is to speak it like they know it.** Considering the bold lines from the last paragraph, it can be implied that the author feels that Bhagat is just considering the issue superficially and his categorisation lacks a profound thought. The author doesn't completely agree with Bhagat's views but in a way, disagrees with it. Hence, options (b) and (c) are incorrect and option (d) is correct.

24. Option (b) is correct.

Last few lines of the first paragraph, highlights the views of Gandhi Ji with respect to English in post-independence India: Gandhi said, 'This blighting imposition of a foreign medium upon the youth of the country will be counted by history as one of the greatest tragedies. Our boys think, and rightly in the present circumstances, that without English they cannot get government service. Girls are taught English as a passport to marriage.'

From the above lines, it can be inferred that the youth of our country thinks that in order to grab any government service English is important; hence, option (b) is correct.

As per Gandhi's views, girls are taught English so that they can get married to a decent boy, not necessary rich; also, it is not mentioned anywhere that the women cannot get rich if they do not know English, hence option (c) is incorrect.

Although he doesn't seem to be quite happy and convinced with the imposition of a foreign medium upon the youth of the country, still it can't be inferred that he wanted that English shouldn't

be taught as a subject. By going through the lines it can be derived though that he wanted that English should not be imposed as a medium to study. Hence, option (a) is also incorrect.

25. Option (b) is correct.

The word Sharp; when used as an adjective means: Having a thin edge or a fine point suitable for or capable of cutting or piercing. Similarly The word Stark; when used as an adjective means. Clearly distinguished or delineated. Hence, option (a) is synonyms.

Sophistication means to impair the disposition or character of by overindulgence whereas the word Spoilt means to damage severely or harm (something), especially with reference to its excellence. Hence both the words are antonyms.

Crusade is a vigorous campaign for political, social, or religious change and a series of military operations intended to achieve a particular objective, confined to a particular area, or involving a specified type of fighting. Hence, (c) is incorrect.

Cohesion and unity both refer to the state of sticking together, or (of people) being in close agreement and working well together.

26. Option (d) is correct.

In Iff words, "To give a thing a name, a label, a handle; to rescue it from anonymity, to pluck it out of the Place of Namelessness, in short to identify it — well, that's a way of bringing the said thing into being. Or, in this case, the said bird or Imaginary Flying Organism."

There are so many ways in which something can be turned to being. By naming, labeling, handling, rescuing and plucking it out. Even if it doesn't exist you can name it and make it real. Hence option (c) which says that we should only trust what you can see is incorrect because as per Iff by above mentioned ways you can bring fictitious things into life.

At the same time option (b) is also incorrect as Naming is one of the several ways mentioned by Iff to bring nameless things out and give them identification. Option (d) is one of the many ways mentioned above, hence is correct.

According to Iff 'if there are things, animals and places that don't exist in the real world can be brought to existence by several means, hence option (a) is also incorrect. Refer to the lines from, "A person may mention a bird's name even if the creature is not present and correct: crow, quail, hummingbird, bulbul, mynah, parrot, kite. A person may even select a flying creature of his own

invention, for example winged horse, flying turtle, airborne whale, space serpent or aero mouse"

27. Option (b) is correct.

Going through the passage, it is evident that Iff has a habit of expressing and elaborating things using similar meaning words multiple times' A person may choose what he cannot see,' he said, as if explaining something very obvious to a very foolish individual. 'A person may mention a bird's name even if the creature is not present and correct: crow, quail, hummingbird, bulbul, mynah, parrot, kite. A person may even select."

To support this, we can go through the above mentioned lines and can see Iff has used words like-explain, mention, choose, select.

Considering option (a), we can't infer anywhere from the passage that Iff contradicts his statements or use metaphors or proverbs or even indirect annotations to describe things.

28. Option (a) is correct.

Throughout the passage, Iff is emphasising and highlighting the fact that it is not necessary to believe in things only if they are concrete and tangible, you can also bring in life to the intangible and abstract things through various modes.

Refer to the following underlined lines from the passage:

"Believe in your own eyes and you'll get into a lot of trouble, hot water, a mess."It clearly implies that Iff is conveying the message of not to limit your knowledge to the tangible things and open up your senses to things which are abstract too.

29. Option (d) is correct.

The word levitate means levitate to rise or cause to rise and float in the air, similar to levitate is fly and hover.

The word gander means to look or to glance at something.

30. Option (c) is correct.

Refer to the lines of the passage, "There were fabulous winged creatures out of legends: an Assyrian lion with the head of a bearded man and a pair of large hairy wings growing out of its flanks; and winged monkeys, flying saucers, tiny angels, levitating (and apparently air-breathing) fish. "As per Iff the description seems to be of a fictitious creature, with imaginary wings. Hence, option (c) mythical is what fabulous winged creatures mean in the passage. Options (a) and option (d) are synonyms and appear to be irrelevant to the word fabulous in the passage.

CURRENT AFFAIRS INCLUDING GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

31. **Option (a) is correct.**
Pratibha Devi Singh Patil served as the 12th President of India from 2007 to 2012. She is the first woman to become the President of India.
32. **Option (c) is correct.**
Draupadi Murmu became the first woman Governor of Jharkhand since 25 July 2022. She was the first female tribal leader from Odisha to be appointed as a Governor. In 2017, she refused to give assent to a bill approved by the Jharkhand Legislative Assembly seeking amendments to the Chhotanagpur Tenancy Act, 1908, and the Santhal Pargana Tenancy Act, 1949.
33. **Option (a) is correct.**
The Election Commission of India held the first presidential elections of India in 1952. Dr. Rajendra Prasad won his first election with 507,400 votes over his nearest rival K. T. Shah who got 92,827 votes.
34. **Option (a) is correct.**
The Governor-General of Fort William resided in Belvedere House, Calcutta, until the early nineteenth century, when the Government House was constructed.
35. **Option (d) is correct.**
Former West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankar was elected the 14th Vice President of India on 11 August 2022. Opposition candidate Margaret Alva secured 182 votes.
36. **Option (b) is correct.**
The Presidential election is held in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote and the voting is by secret ballot. A candidate, in order to be declared elected to the office of President, must secure a fixed quota of votes. The quota of votes is determined by dividing the total number of valid votes polled by the number of candidates to be elected plus one and adding one to the quotient.
37. **Option (d) is correct.**
Kocheril Raman Narayanan was elected as the Vice President in 1992, and as the President in 1997. He was the first person from the Dalit community to hold this constitutional post.
38. **Option (a) is correct.**
Alan Turing's name has been replaced with '[I]' in the given passage. The Turing test, originally called the imitation game by Alan Turing in 1950, is a test of a machine's ability to exhibit intelligent behaviour equivalent to, or indistinguishable from, that of a human.
39. **Option (b) is correct.**
Super computer Deep Blue defeated Garry Kasparov in 1997. Deep Blue versus Garry Kasparov was a pair of six-game chess matches between then-world chess champion Garry Kasparov and an IBM supercomputer called Deep Blue.
40. **Option (d) is correct.**
The Emperor's New Mind: Concerning Computers, Minds and The Laws of Physics is a 1989 book by the mathematical physicist Sir Roger Penrose.
41. **Option (a) is correct.**
A neural network is a method in artificial intelligence that teaches computers to process data in a way that is inspired by the human brain. It is a type of machine learning process called deep learning that uses interconnected nodes or neurons in a layered structure that resembles the human brain.
42. **Option (b) is correct.**
LAMDA — short for "Language Model for Dialogue Applications" — can engage in a free-flowing way about a seemingly endless number of topics, an ability we think could unlock more natural ways of interacting with technology and entirely new categories of helpful applications.
43. **Option (b) is correct.**
Meta's Open Pretrained Transformer (OPT) model will be the first 175 - billion-parameter language model to be made available to the broader AI research community.
44. **Option (c) is correct.**
The Supreme Court of India launched its first Artificial Intelligence portal SUPACE (Supreme Court Portal for Assistance in Courts Efficiency). The idea is to leverage machine learning to deal with huge chunks of case data.
45. **Option (b) is correct.**
The name of the armband which has been replaced with '[I]' in the passage is OneLove. When FIFA proposed the imposition of fine on players who sported the 'OneLove' rainbow armband, the German team protested by covering their lips in a team photo before World Cup 2022 match against Japan.

46. **Option (d) is correct.**
The name of LGBTQ+ community has been replaced with '[2]' in the given passage.
47. **Option (c) is correct.**
Kafala system is used to monitor and regulate migrant labourers, which is used in Qatar and a few other countries, and which came under heavy criticism in the build-up to the FIFA World Cup 2022 in Qatar.
48. **Option (a) is correct.**
Court of Arbitration for Sports is headquartered in Lausanne, Switzerland and its courts are located in New York City, Sydney, and Lausanne.
49. **Option (c) is correct.**
Sunil Chhetri is an Indian professional footballer who plays as a forward and captains both Indian Super League Club, Bengaluru and the Indian national team.
50. **Option (d) is correct.**
Timothy Weah, the Paris Saint Germain and U.S. national team player in the FIFA World Cup 2022 in Qatar is the son of the President of Liberia.
51. **Option (d) is correct.**
Durand Cup is a football competition in India that was first held in 1888 in Annadale, Shimla. This tournament is named after Sir Mortimer Durand, Foreign Secretary in charge of India from 1884 to 1894.
52. **Option (d) is correct.**
Sam Bankman-Fried's name has been replaced with '[1]' in the given passage. Samuel Benjamin Bankman-Fried, also known by the initialism SBF, is an American suspected fraudster, entrepreneur, investor, and former billionaire.
53. **Option (b) is correct.**
Sam Bankman-Fried transferred \$10 billion in customer funds to his hedge fund, Alameda Research without publicly disclosing it.
54. **Option (a) is correct.**
Elizabeth Holmes was once named "the world's youngest self-made female billionaire" by Forbes magazine and is the founder of the company Theranos.
55. **Option (c) is correct.**
The Reserve Bank of India recently announced the launch of 'Digital Rupee — Wholesale Segment', a form of Central Bank Digital Currency. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued a concept note on Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) on October 7, 2022.
56. **Option (b) is correct.**
Blockchain is the technology that enables the existence of cryptocurrency. Bitcoin is the name of the best-known cryptocurrency, the one for which blockchain technology was created.
57. **Option (b) is correct.**
Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Ltd. is the name of the Government of India-owned corporation that mints coins used as a legal tender in India. Coins are minted in four mints owned by SPMCIL. The mints are located at Mumbai, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Noida. The coins are issued for circulation only through the Reserve Bank in terms of Section 38 of the RBI Act.
58. **Option (c) is correct.**
B. Ramalinga Raju was the founder and former chairman of Satyam Computer Services Ltd., and was sentenced to prison and fined for a corporate governance scam. He was sentenced to seven years' jail and fined ₹ 5.5 crore.
59. **Option (c) is correct.**
Rice is the largest exported agricultural product from India and contributed to more than 19% of the total agriculture export during the year 2021-22. Sugar, spices and buffalo meat are among the largest exported products with the contribution of 9%, 8% and 7% to 2021-22 agriculture exports, respectively.
60. **Option (d) is correct.**
As per the DGCI & S data, the country's agricultural products exports had grown by 19.92 percent in the latest FY of 2022 to touch USD 50.21 billion.
61. **Option (a) is correct.**
Dilbagh Singh Athwal is also called the 'Father of the Wheat Revolution'. He was an Indian-American geneticist, plant breeder and agriculturist, known to have conducted pioneering research in plant breeding.
62. **Option (d) is correct.**
India is the world's largest producer of milk, pulses and jute, and ranks as the second largest producer of rice, wheat, sugarcane, groundnut, vegetables, fruit and cotton.
63. **Option (b) is correct.**
In the 2022 Global Hunger Index, India ranks 107th out of the 121 countries with sufficient data to calculate 2022 GHI scores. With a score of 29.1, India has a level of hunger that is serious.
64. **Option (c) is correct.**
The National Commission on Farmers (NCF) was constituted in 2004 under the chairmanship of Professor M.S. Swaminathan. The Terms of Reference reflected the priorities listed in the Common Minimum Programme. The NCF submitted four reports in December 2004, August 2005, December 2005 and April 2006, respectively. The fifth and final report was submitted on

October 4, 2006. The reports contain suggestions to achieve the goal of "faster and more inclusive growth" as envisaged in the Approach to 11th Five Year Plan.

LEGAL REASONING

66. Option (b) is correct.

Applying the Bombay High Court decision, Ashima will not succeed in her action against Ashwin as he had only asked Ashima to do their household work, and not for others. In order to attract the provisions of Section 498 A of the IPC, if a married woman is actually treated like a 'maid servant', it would be an offence under that Section.

67. Option (c) is correct.

Ashima will not succeed in her action as Rakesh is not her husband, nor is he related to Ashwin. Section 498A of the IPC punishes the husband, or a relative of the husband of a woman who subjects her to cruelty in any way. As Rakesh is a friend of Ashwin, so the provisions of this section cannot be attracted.

68. Option (d) is correct.

Ashima is not right, since she is no longer married to Ashwin. The provisions of section 498A of the IPC come into picture only when the husband, or a relative of the husband of a woman who subjects her to cruelty in any way. As of now, the couple is divorced, so she cannot claim under the provisions of section 498A of the IPC.

69. Option (b) is correct.

As per the provisions of the newly enacted law of Protection of Rights of Married Women Act, 2021, Ashima will get compensation under the PoMWA, and she is also right about Ashwin committing an offence under Section 498A of the IPC, because according to the newly enacted law asking a married woman to take care of household chores would be an offence. The provisions are also applicable 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.

70. Option (a) is correct.

As per the changes introduced in section 498A of the IPC in March 2021, Ashima's advice to Shamita is correct since Section 498A has now been changed, and Shamita's husband's actions would now be an offence under the changed Section 498A.

71. Option (c) is correct.

Bhargesh was not bound to provide his finger impressions under the Act as the Act was notified

65. Option (d) is correct.

The bio-decomposer namely Pusa Decomposer developed by The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has been used by the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi.

on September 19, 2022 and he was arrested by the police on April 11, 2022.

72. Option (b) is correct.

Bhargesh is bound to provide his blood samples to the police under the Act since the Magistrate had passed an order directing him to do so. In the given scenario, the complaint was received by the police on October 5, 2022 and the Act was notified on September 19, 2022, so the provisions of the Act are applicable here.

73. Option (a) is correct.

Bhargesh is not bound to provide his photographs to the police under the Act as he was not charged or under arrest in connection with any other offence at the time. For the application of the provisions of this Act, arrest is mandatory.

74. Option (b) is correct.

In the given scenario, Bhargesh will succeed, since only police personnel of the rank of Head Constable or above can take measurements of any person who resists or refuses to give measurements when ordered to do so by a Magistrate.

75. Option (d) is correct.

In the given scenario, it is not mandatory for Bhargesh to provide police his iris and retina scans as the Magistrate had not issued the order. For taking finger-impressions, palm-print, footprint, photographs, iris and retina scan, physical, biological samples and their analysis, behavioural attributes, including signatures, and handwriting, an order from the Magistrate is required.

76. Option (d) is correct.

Assad bought the bonds on 9th November 2022 and hands the bond over to a representative of the PPP on November 14, 2022. The PPP's representative deposits the bond in the Party's account on November 16, 2022. In the given scenario, the bank refuses to credit the bond to the party's account but the bank is not correct because the electoral bonds shall be valid for 15 calendar days from the date of issue.

77. Option (d) is correct.

In the given scenario, Assad is not right since the changes to the Electoral Bond Scheme, 2018 provide that electoral bonds can be issued for an additional period of 15 days in years when there is an election to the Legislative Assembly of a State.

78. **Option (b) is correct.**

In the given scenario, Palak is not right since the party had already deposited the bond, and the money had been credited to its account. Once a bond has been deposited in the bank and the money has been credited to the party's account, the purchaser of the bond cannot get back his/her bond back from the party.

79. **Option (c) is correct.**

In the given scenario, the newly formed More Popular People's Party is not eligible to receive the electoral bonds since it does not fulfill the eligibility criteria announced in the November 15, 2022 notification. According to the November 15, 2022 notification, only political parties that have received at least 1% of the votes polled in the last elections to the Lok Sabha, or the last elections to the Legislative Assembly of a State, would be eligible to receive and deposit electoral bonds.

80. **Option (a) is correct.**

The most valid reason for the bank to refuse to credit the money to the party's account is that the bond was no longer valid.

81. **Option (b) is correct.**

In the given scenario, the blocking order is valid since Sunil had provided reasons for blocking the post. As the post by Sachin is objectionable, an order sent to UnReal is valid.

82. **Option (a) is correct.**

In the given scenario, UnReal is right since it did not provide any reasons that could be communicated to the users of the social media platform.

83. **Option (d) is correct.**

In the given scenario, UnReal is not right because according to the provisions of the IT Act Sunil can issue the orders to UnReal to block the account and initiating criminal proceedings.

84. **Option (c) is correct.**

According to section 69A of the IT Act, only a particular post can be blocked but not the whole account. So, Sachin is right in claiming that the blocking order is invalid.

85. **Option (a) is correct.**

The blocking order issued by Sunil is valid because it sets out several reasons why the posts should be blocked, and the actions taken by UnReal are inappropriate as it does not find them satisfactory.

86. **Option (c) is correct.**

According to section 12 of the Legal Services Authority Act, 1987 following persons are entitled for free legal aid: a member of a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe; a woman or a child; a person with a disability; an industrial workman; or a person in police custody. Divya is entitled to free legal aid in

the Supreme Court proceedings because she is a woman.

87. **Option (a) is correct.**

In the given scenario, NALSA can refuse to provide Divya free legal aid because they believe she does not have a genuine case to prosecute. According to Section 13(1) of the Act provides that free legal aid can be provided if NALSA is satisfied if the person has a genuine case to prosecute, and they did not believe that Divya had a genuine case to prosecute.

88. **Option (d) is correct.**

In the given scenario, NALSA is not right in refusing free legal aid to Riya. Since Riya is a woman and is entitled to free legal aid as long as NALSA is satisfied, she has a genuine case.

89. **Option (b) is correct.**

Farhan is not entitled to free legal aid from NALSA in this regard as he does not fit within any of the categories under section 12 of the Act.

90. **Option (c) is correct.**

According to the provisions of section 12 of the Act, Vikram is entitled to the free legal aid from NALSA as he is the person in police custody.

91. **Option (c) is correct.**

In the given scenario, Rani and Shiva are not eligible for surrogacy under the SRA because they do not fall within the legal requirements of intending parents.

92. **Option (a) is correct.**

According to the given facts, statement iii is false. (Geeta has been a surrogate only twice before and is now eligible to be a surrogate for Rani.)

93. **Option (c) is correct.**

Both Joseph and Neena are eligible for surrogacy because according to the provisions of the Surrogacy (Regulation) Act 2021, Indian couples with biological or adopted children are prohibited from undertaking surrogacy, save for some exceptions such as mentally or physically challenged children, or those suffering from a life-threatening disorder or fatal illness. As their adopted daughter Maya has been diagnosed with Striker's syndrome, they are eligible for surrogacy.

94. **Option (d) is correct.**

In the given scenario, the surrogate will not succeed against Kishore and Noor because SRA allows only altruistic surrogacy. According to the provisions of the Surrogacy (Regulations) Act 2021, the surrogate woman cannot be given payments, rewards, benefits or fees, "except the medical expenses and such other prescribed expenses incurred on the surrogate mother and the insurance coverage for the surrogate mother".

95. **Option (c) is correct.**

The non-discrimination clause is not restricted to explicitly mentioned grounds. The non-discrimination clause under the Constitution of India reads: 'No citizen shall be discriminated on the basis of sex, caste, religion, nationality, place of birth or any other ground'.

96. **Option (d) is correct.**

In the given scenario, the order issued by the District Magistrate is not legal because he issued an indefinite order to shut down the internet to prevent the transmission of these messages. The Magistrate's order cannot be for longer than two months.

97. **Option (c) is correct.**

Under given circumstances, the government's order is not legal under the Temporary Suspension Rules because the nation-wide internet shut down order was not necessary or unavoidable.

98. **Option (b) is correct.**

Among the given statements, statement (i) is false as the Communications Minister did not have the power to pass the order under the 2017 Rules.

99. **Option (b) is correct.**

In the given scenario, the order is not legal because the procedure under the 2017 rules was not followed. In 2017, new rules to order internet shut downs were introduced taking the power away from the Magistrate. These rules — the Temporary Suspension Rules — state that internet shut downs can now only be ordered by the Home Secretary of the Union or State Governments. Only in "unavoidable circumstances" can the passing of orders be delegated to someone lower than the

rank of a Joint Secretary to the Government of India.

100. **Option (c) is correct.**

In January 2020, the Supreme Court passed its judgement in the case of Anuradha Bhasin. The judgement in this case explicitly recognised two things: that the freedom to access information is a fundamental right under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution of India (which protects the freedom of speech and expression). So, the statement (i) is incorrect. Other statements are correct.

101. **Option (c) is correct.**

In the given scenario, CLML is not a consumer since it has purchased the laptop for commercial purpose. So, Pacer is not at fault when it failed to replace the motherboard.

102. **Option (c) is correct.**

Under given circumstances, as Sita Das is using the laptop for the purpose of earning her livelihood, she will be a consumer.

103. **Option (b) is correct.**

As the hospital resells the pacemakers to patients and therefore cannot be considered as a consumer with respect to the pacemakers purchased from St. Rude's.

104. **Option (c) is correct.**

In the present scenario, as online services are covered by Consumer Protection Law, Amit Ghosh shall be considered a consumer.

105. **Option (b) is correct.**

As Jignesh Shah is a user of the device, he can be considered a consumer. He will be successful in his claim against BreatheEasy under the provisions of the consumer protection law.

LOGICAL REASONING

106. **Option (b) is correct.**

Refer to these two lines from the passage, "The depreciation of an economy's currency is not a matter of concern in itself. The decline in value against major currencies has to be viewed within a set of macroeconomic factors." By going through the first sentence it can be clearly inferred that depreciation of an economy's currency is not a matter of concern in itself, hence option (a) is incorrect. Considering the above statement by the author, it can be inferred that macroeconomic factors play a major role in the depreciation of a currency. Hence, option (b) is something we can agree upon.

According to the author, the matter of concern is not the depreciation of the Indian rupee but

the rate at which the depreciation is occurring and the underlying factors causing the change. Option (c) is something which is not that convincing as per the author.

As per the author, the Central bank responds to the changes occurred due to the shift in macroeconomic framework; hence, it cannot be implied that Central banks do everything.

107. **Option (c) is correct.**

Option (a) signifies the solution of inflation; in the hands of the RBI governor. As per the author, the decline in the value of the currency against major currencies is dependent on a set of macroeconomic factors and is beyond the power of a Governor. Hence, option (a) is incorrect.

The term inflation means - decline in value and purchasing power of a currency. As per the author - The Russia-Ukraine war has disrupted supply chains causing commodity prices to rise, leading to a worldwide hardening of inflationary trends. If we consider option (c) to be true, it will reduce the decline in value of the rupee because reduction in inflationary trends and reduction in interest rates will increase the power of the currency. Hence, option (c) is correct.

If we assume the condition stated in option (b) to be true; increase in commodity prices and disruption of supply chains is a factor which will increase inflation. Hence, Option (b) is incorrect.

Option (d) signifies the solution to the inflationary condition to buy as many dollars as possible from the market. However, as per the author one way to ease the situation is that the Reserve Bank of India could sell off dollars in the market to ease the supply situation. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

108. Option (d) is correct.

Refer to the statement of the author, "The depreciation of an economy's currency is not a matter of concern in itself. The decline in the value against major currencies has to be viewed within a set of macroeconomic factors." Option (a) supports the argument proposed by the author; as the author supports the fact that global inflationary trends leave an impact on the Indian economy. Simultaneously, option (d) which states that 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 is somehow contradicting and weakens the idea proposed by the author.

Consider option (b). The fact mentioned in the option supports the idea proposed by the author; "Higher interest rates in developed country markets have caused a significant outflow of portfolio investments from India, aggravating the already climbing demand for dollars from a rising import bill. By May 2022, foreign institutional investors had pulled out Rs. 1.50 lakh crore from Indian markets.

As per the author, if the demand of US dollars increase; it will decrease the rupee price of dollar. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.

109. Option (a) is correct.

If option (a) is true, then it would certainly support the argument proposed by the author because as per the author, if economies across the world experience a slow down; it will lead to a slowdown of their import capacity and eventually will impact India's export market.

The relationship derived by the author between the export market of India and economic stability

across the world is inverse. Hence, (b) will also weaken the argument.

Options (c) and (d) are incorrect statements as per the passage.

110. Option (b) is correct.

As per the author's view, the rise in the interest rate will leave an impact on the economics not on the political arena, hence option (a) is incorrect.

As per the author's view, one of the reasons behind inflation in rupee is an increment of inflationary trends across the world. Option (b) represents an extended view of the author's take on inflationary dynamics of the world and the Indian currency.

Option (c) and option (d) both of them will weaken the author's view on the dynamics of interest rate and global investment scenario. Refer to the following statement from the passage, "Higher interest rates in developed country markets have caused a significant outflow of portfolio investments from India, aggravating the already climbing demand for dollars from a rising import bill. By May 2022, foreign institutional investors had pulled out Rs. 1.50 lakh crore from Indian markets."

111. Option (a) is correct.

As per the author, regulating the inflation is a multidimensional aspect. It's dependent on various dimensions of the economy. hence, just by preventing an age of depreciation of our currency the other impact can't be controlled.

Option (a) justifies author's take on prevention the depreciation of the rupee. Simultaneously, option (b) represents depreciation as an unidimensional factor, which is incorrect as per the author in the passage.

As per the author, periodic inflationary trends lead to a chain of disruption of several other economic dimensions too. Hence, it is a matter of concern and can't be left out without being addressed by the RBI; as it leaves an impact on various industries and the entire dynamics of economy as a whole. Hence, options (c) and (d) both are less likely to be agreed upon by the author.

112. Option (b) is correct.

As per the passage, "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." Hence, the increase in the number of readers during Covid shows a benefit to the print media. Hence, it negates statements (a) and (d).

Considering the other side projected by the author throws light on the setbacks faced by the newspapers during the Covid era. Refer to the

sentence," Ironically, the pandemic, which saw a resurgence in collective trust in newspapers, adversely affected the print media as traditional advertisers, reeling under the economic fallouts of Covid-19, cut back on advertisements."

Hence, it can be concluded that the pandemic has had both positive and negative impact on the print media.

113. Option (a) is correct.

As per the author, social media is a harbinger of lies. Statement (a) weakens the author's view on social media. Hence, it is correct. However, option (b) supports the author's view on social media. Option (c) implies that social media is a good way for people to stay connected with each other. As per the passage, the author has not mentioned anything with respect to social media's application to people.

As per the author, social media is a speedier source of information. Hence, option (d) strengthens the author's argument and is an incorrect option.

114. Option (d) is correct.

If the print media slows down, it will even aggravate the problem. As per the author, "Newspapers have been outpaced by speedier, but also spurious, sources of information." Hence, options (a) and (c) both are not an effective way of making print media more competitive. Simultaneously, the concern of the author here in the passage is that print media has been outpaced by speedier sources of information. Hence, option (d) can be an effective way to make print media more competitive.

As per the passage, there is no price comparison done between print media and social media accessibility; hence, we can't conclude whether using more expensive printing methods will make print media more competitive or not. Hence, option (c) is also incorrect.

115. Option (c) is correct.

As per the author, "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." If newspapers are vigilant in ensuring they report accurate and true news during lockdown; it will surely deepen public trust. Hence, option (a) is incorrect. Simultaneously, option (d) also mentions to alter the public which will again lead to weakening of public trust.

Consider option (b). Any option which exposes lies and misinformation spread during lockdown will definitely deepen the public's trust in it.

If newspapers like other sources of information start disseminating misinformation, it will lead to weakening of public trust in newspapers. Hence, option (c) is correct.

116. Option (a) is correct.

If the images were not dominant over text as a cultural phenomenon, then it is evident as per the author that readership of print media would not have suffered and the readers would not be looking out for other formats. Hence, option (a) is correct.

As per the author in the passage, "The dominance of the image over text as a cultural phenomenon is another formidable challenge." Inclination of readers towards image rather than text is one of the prime reasons for the shift in the preference source of media opted by people. Hence, option (b) is incorrect. As per option (c), there will be no impact on the readership; which is also incorrect because as per the author, readership of print media is hampered by the cultural phenomenon a lot.

As per option (d), if the newspapers have more images and less text, it will increase its readership. In the passage, the author has not mentioned anything related to this thing that will happen if the print media will have more images and less text. Hence, this can't be inferred from the passage.

117. Option (d) is correct.

As per the author, to become competitive, newspapers can re-explore the revenue model, put emphasis on in-depth analysis of news and print eye-catching layouts is what has been suggested by the author in the passage. The author has not described any method which can improvise the speed of print media publication; hence, option (a) is incorrect.

The prime concern of the author in the passage is to encourage print media and if they encourage a complete and immediate shift to digital media, it will not serve as a solution. Hence, option (b) is also incorrect.

Referring to the lines of the passage, "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. "It doesn't refer to any way which emphasises on the reduction of the production costs. Hence, option (c) is also incorrect.

Simultaneously, option (d) conveys the idea proposed by the author appropriately in which alternative means for newspapers to become competitive.

118. Option (d) is correct.

Refer to the lines of the passage, "ordinary people in these countries are worried, not just because of climate change but because of the lack of energy to heat their homes this coming winter." Hence, option (a) is something we can't agree with as per the passage.

As per the passage, "In the US, gas prices went up in summer, so much so that people travelled less and consumption of fuel dropped. But now prices are down and it is business as usual. "People in the US are not concerned and affected by climate change; the changes in the consumption is because of the price hike. Hence, option (b) is incorrect and option (d) which registers change in energy consumption habits because of price hike is most likely to agree with.

As per the passage, "The US has passed a climate bill, which will invest in renewable energy but conditional to increased spending on oil and gas and the opening up of millions of hectares of federal land for drilling." Hence, seeking out renewable energy sources is not a result of climate change and price hike.

119. Option (b) is correct.

Solution: As per the author in the passage, developed countries not the developing countries reduce emissions drastically and leave whatever little carbon budget space that is remaining to poorer countries to use. Hence, option (d) is incorrect.

As per the author in the passage, "One, this renewed interest in fossil fuels must remain temporary and transient. Given the nature of economies, once the investment has been made in this new infrastructure or the supply of fossil fuel has increased from new oil and gas discoveries, it will be difficult to wean off. "Hence, option (c) is what the author will differ with.

However, as per the author, the condition of the energy crunch might improve if developed countries explore and move to alternative energy sources. Hence, option (b) is correct and option (a) contradicts the author's view.

120. Option (d) is correct.

Solution: The condition and state of developed countries that the author is discussing in the passage clearly implies that the world is facing shortage of fuel and is seeking out for alternate sources of energy. Simultaneously, the author has mentioned in the passage that there is a very little carbon budget space across world; which will substantially increase the demand of fossil fuels across the world. Hence, option (a) can't be true but option (d) must be true as per the author.

Again, in the passage the author has not discussed anything about the cost of setting up or installation of solar panels, hence, (b) is also incorrect.

121. Option (c) is correct.

According to the passage, "In the US, gas prices went up in summer, so much so that people travelled less and consumption of fuel dropped."

Option (d) is somehow supporting the idea proposed by the author by adding that due

to geopolitical tensions fuel prices went up in summer; but now they have eased off.

Option (c) is completely and strongly contradicting the factor proposed by the author in the passage and is connecting the travelling frequency of people with lockdowns. Hence, it is the correct option.

Option (a) says that irrespective of any time of the year, if fuel costs increase, the travel frequency will decrease; which is out of the horizon discussed in the passage.

Option (b) is particularly discussing airfare which is again beyond the scope of the passage. Hence, it is an incorrect option.

122. Option (a) is correct.

The word 'conundrum' means difficulty or challenge. In the passage, the author is discussing the difficulty of limited and depreciating energy sources in developed nations. The solution the author has proposed in the passage is to seek out alternate sources of energy. Option (a) if considered to be true, will provide a decent solution to the challenge of energy crunch discussed in the passage.

Option (b) is discussing new sources of fossil fuels to resolve the shortage of energy; but it will not resolve the concern raised by the author in the passage, as it is just discussing providing heat to the homes during winters and not considering the challenge related to fuel.

Option (c) sounds a bit impractical as per the passage as switching to renewable power sources is only possible when you have ample sources to cater the need for the entire nation.

The conundrum discussed in the passage is about the developed countries, hence option (d) too is an incorrect statement as per the passage.

123. Option (c) is correct.

The climate bill proposed in the passage says, "The US has passed a climate bill, which will invest in renewable energy but conditional to increased spending on oil and gas and the opening up of millions of hectares of federal land for drilling."

Out of the given four arguments, option (c) is the strongest that aims against the agenda of the US climate bill to invest in renewable energy and simultaneously increase expenditure on drilling the federal land. The bill itself contradicts its cause and the effect is reciprocating. Options (a), (b) and (d) are somehow irrelevant and don't support or even contradict the climate bill effect.

124. Option (c) is correct.

The term gendered means, "reflecting the experience, prejudices, or orientations of one sex more than the other." As per the author, "Gendered networks in the workplace, with men gaining greater access to senior leaders, becoming

cemented mid-career, pose another difficulty for working women. “

Considering option (a), it weakens the statement proposed by the author as it contradicts and states that women will find career progression easily by gendered networks. Option (b) and option (d) again contradict the author’s perspective of gendered networks. As per option (b), women find it easier to get access to senior male leaders and find opportunities easily.

Option (c) completely supports the perspective of gendered networks put forth by the author. It strengthens the concept of a gendered network and stretches it to convey that career progression is harder to come by for mid-career women as a result of gendered networks.

125. Option (b) is correct.

As per the author, the motherhood penalty is a state of mothers when the people around them start questioning their commitment towards work and career. As an outcome, they tend to give more opportunities to men of the same age. Hence, option (a) is contradicting the statement proposed by the author. On the other hand, option (b) could be the outcome of the motherhood penalty; if women hiring will decrease as a penalty of motherhood, then the option left with employers is to hire men.

Option (c) is more of an assumption which could lay the base of the author’s perspective of the motherhood penalty. Option (d) is again an assumption which can’t lay a base for the author’s idea of a motherhood penalty.

126. Option (a) is correct.

As per the author in the passage, “In an analysis of professors’ evaluations, female professors witnessed a decline as they moved from their 30s to 40s, hitting an all-time low around the age of 47. All this while, the evaluation of male professors remained consistent.” According to the passage, this disparity will lead to promotion of male professors as compared to the females. Hence, option (a) is correct.

Options (b), (c) and (d) highlight the outcome which is unlikely to happen as per the passage. The author in the passage is depicting the instance which extends the idea of male professors getting more opportunities as compared to their female counterparts because of professors’ evaluation.

127. Option (d) is correct.

Refer to these lines from the passage, “They found that while pregnant women or the woman with the baby were thought about in glowing terms, menopausal women were associated with negative emotions, illness and aging.” Which shows that as per the author in the passage, people’s behaviour

changes towards the women when they are about to reach their menopause age. Management is biased towards male employees. Hence, option (b) is supporting the author’s idea proposed in the passage whereas option (d) is the option with which the author will be the most likely to disagree with. It is straight ahead contradicting the facts proposed by the author in the passage.

Throughout the passage, the author mentions the various ways through which middle-aged women are not getting enough opportunities because of their responsibilities, motherhood, etc. It is not at all mentioned anywhere about women quitting their jobs or taking sabbatical. Hence, option (a) and option (c) are incorrect.

128. Option (b) is correct.

In a nutshell, throughout the passage the author is discussing the differences women face, especially with their career. They are perceived negatively, especially when they are in their late 40s. Hence, options (a) and (d) is incorrect. Option (c) is beyond the scope of the passage.

Option (b) supports the main argument in the passage. It strengthens by adding that women in the workplace are perceived negatively and treated unfairly.

129. Option (c) is correct.

As per Laura Kray, “At that point, there are different stereotypes of women, and they may benefit from being seen as more grandmotherly.” Evaluation of male professors remain consistent whereas women professors are perceived to be grandmotherly when they are in their early 60s. Options (a), (b) and (c) all of them strengthen Laura’s argument and extend it further by adding that women professors are treated better by their colleagues and they receive much more respect than younger women professors.

Option (c) somehow contradicts Laura’s argument related to women professors as it states they are regarded as being slow and inefficient.

130. Option (b) is correct.

In the passage, the author derives an analogy from the primitive age stating, “Back in our hunting and gathering days, we were better off being frightened of a spider or a snake a hundred times too often than one time too few. Too much fear wouldn’t kill you; too little surely would.” Hence, as per the author, behavioural traits that helped us in the days when we were hunter gatherers are still part of mankind. Option (a) is supporting the ideas proposed by the author whereas option (b) is contradicting it. Hence, option (b) is correct.

Option (d) is summing up and supporting the author’s view about how we humans respond. Considering option (c) refers to the lines of the

passage, "The first is what psychologists call negativity bias: we're more attuned to the bad than the good." Hence, option (c) too is supporting the idea presented by the author in the passage.

131. Option (b) is correct.

As per the author, "In this digital age, the news we're being fed is only getting more extreme." Option (a) contradicts the idea proposed by the author as it implies that social media projects reality in a mundane manner. Option (b) supports the author's idea and extends it to the fact that contemporary media serves regular news in an exciting way. Hence, option (b) is most likely to agree with the author.

Options (c) and (d) both contradict by saying that contemporary media exposes us to boring news and information.

132. Option (d) is correct.

Options (a) and (b): are highlighting the human behavioural tendency projected by the author rather than the type of news that the media exposes. Hence, both are incorrect.

As per the author, "They know how to grab your attention and hold it so they can serve you the most lucrative helping of personalised ads. This modern media frenzy is nothing less than an assault on the mundane." As per the author, boring and nice news do not sell. In order to make it more lucrative, it has to be projected in a way which is different from our day-to-day life. Hence, option (d) is correct and (c) is incorrect.

133. Option (c) is correct.

As per the author in the passage, humans are more receptive and attuned to the bad than the good. Our attention is grabbed more easily toward bad news than towards a pleasant happening. To this, author has given the term: Negativity bias.

Both options (a) and (b) are contradicting the idea of negativity bias of the author; whereas option (c) is supporting the concept.

Option (d) is not going along with the concept of negativity bias proposed by the author.

134. Option (d) is correct.

As per the author, "The fact that we're bombarded daily with horrific stories about aircraft disasters, child snatchers and beheadings — which tend to lodge in the memory — completely skews our view of the world. "To overcome these effects of availability bias. One can ensure that one's sources of information are dispersed and not restricted to a particular source and mode of information. Hence, option (a) is incorrect, as it supports the idea of availability bias. On the other hand, option (d) will counter effect the restriction of availability bias by the author. Hence, option (d) as more the exposure of the readers to different news sources the less will be the reliability of a single source of information.

Options (c) and option (b): both the options will further deepen the idea of availability bias proposed by the author.

135. Option (a) is correct.

The statement proposed in this question is the extension of availability biases, an idea proposed by the author. The closing sentence which says; this completely skews our view of the world- depicts that the information we are reading and watching leaves a deep impact on us. If we assume our ideas about the world are shaped by the information we are exposed to, we can extend this assumption to the statement proposed by the author in the passage.

Assumption (d) is irrelevant to the statement in the question as it is related to the evolution of humans. Assumption (c) is setting an assumption ground related to the speed at which we get the news and efficiency of modern journalism.

Option (b) leads a ground with respect to finances; which again is irrelevant to the statement.

QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

136. Option (b) is correct.

Statement 1: Women's average earning in Urban areas in casual work = ₹5700

Where, men's average earning in Urban areas in casual work = ₹9000

So, Women's average earning in Urban areas in casual work is less than men's average earning =

$$\frac{9000 - 5700}{9000} \times 100$$

$$= 36.66\%$$

So, statement 1 is wrong.

Statement 2: Men's average earning in Urban areas in self-employment = ₹16000

Women's average earning in Urban areas in self-employment = ₹6600

So, here men's income is nearly 2.5 times that of the earning of women's income. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

Statement 3: This statement is also wrong as exact data of earning of womens in rural area is not available.

Statement 4: The difference in earnings of men and women in regular/salaried employment in

urban areas = 19800 – 15600 = ₹ 4200 so, statement 4 is also wrong.

137. Option (c) is correct.

The regular employed in urban areas; the earnings of a non-SC/ST worker = ₹ 20300

The regular employed in urban areas; the earnings of a SC/ST worker = ₹ 15300

$$\text{Required percentage} = \frac{20300 - 15300}{15300} \times 100 = 32.67\%$$

138. Option (b) is correct.

Men's average earning in Urban areas in casual work = ₹ 9000

$$\text{We have, SI} = \frac{P \times R \times T}{100}$$

So, SI for 20 years at a rate of 16%

$$= \frac{9000 \times 16 \times 20}{100} = ₹ 28800$$

Now, SC/ST workers earning in casual employment = ₹ 8000

So, the time required by an SC/ST employee to earn ₹ 28800

$$\text{SI at a rate of 16\%} = \frac{28800 \times 100}{8000 \times 16} = 22.5 \text{ years}$$

139. Option (b) is correct.

The number of women in India in 2020–2021 = 670 million

$$\text{Number of women in LFPR in 2020–2021} = 670 \times \frac{25.1}{100} = 168.17 \text{ million}$$

So, the number of women in India in 2004–2005

$$= 670 \times \frac{100}{124}$$

Number of women in LFPR in 2004–2005

$$= 670 \times \frac{100}{124} \times \frac{42.7}{100} = 230.72 \text{ million}$$

So, required difference = 230.72 – 168.17

$$= 62.55 \text{ million}$$

140. Option (a) is correct.

Let the female population = x

Then, male population = $1.05x$

So, number of males aged 15 years or more

$$= \frac{76}{100} \times 1.05x = 0.798x$$

And number of females aged 15 years or more

$$= \frac{72}{100} \times x = 0.72x$$

Number of females aged 15 years or more have

$$\text{jobs} = \frac{19}{100} \times 0.72x = 0.1368x$$

Number of males aged 15 years or more have jobs

$$= \frac{60}{100} \times 0.798x = 0.4788x$$

$$\text{Required ratio} = 0.1368 : 0.4788 = 2 : 7$$

141. Option (c) is correct.

Given that the world fruit production went up 54 percent between 2000 and 2019 to 883 million tonnes.

So, the world fruit production in 2000

$$= 883 \times \frac{100}{154} = 573.33 \text{ million tonnes}$$

142. Option (b) is correct.

Let the percentage share of bananas and plantains in 2019 = $x\%$

Then, the percentage share of bananas and plantains in 2000 = $(x - 1)\%$

So, percentage of watermelons in 2019 = $(x - 7)\%$

Percentage of oranges and grapes in 2019

$$= \frac{x}{2}\% \text{ each}$$

Percentage of apples in 2019 = 10%

According to the question,

$$x + x - 7 + \frac{x}{2} + \frac{x}{2} + 10 = 57$$

$$\Rightarrow 3x = 54$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 18$$

So, the percentage share of Bananas in 2019 = 18%

143. Option (a) is correct.

Given, total percentage of five fruits in 2000 = 63%
From solution (142),

The percentage share of bananas in 2000 = 17%

The percentage share of apples in 2000 = 9%

The percentage share of watermelons in 2019 = 11%

so, the percentage of oranges in 2000 = 11%

percentage of grapes in 2000 = 11%

Now, percentage share of watermelons in 2000

$$= 63\% - (17\% + 9\% + 11\% + 11\%) = 15\%$$

According to the question,

Perished watermelon = $\frac{1}{8}$ part

Watermelon sold for juice = $\frac{7}{8} \times \frac{1}{5}$ part

$$\text{Quantity of exported watermelon} = \frac{7}{8} \times \frac{4}{5} \times \frac{30}{100} \text{ part}$$

So, quantity of watermelons retained for home use

$$= \left(\frac{7}{8} \times \frac{4}{5} \times \frac{7}{10} \right) \text{ of } 15\% \text{ of } 573 = 42.11 \text{ million tonnes}$$

144. Option (a) is correct.

Let there are 4 customers P, Q, R and S.

Let quantity of apple sold to customer P and Q each = $x\%$

As given in question (142),

Total percentage quantity of apple in 2000 = 10%

So, percentage quantity of apple sold to customer P = 5%

And percentage quantity of apple sold to customer Q = 5%

Given, total quantity of apple = total quantity of grapes

So, total percentage quantity of grapes = 10%

Now, total quantity of grapes

$$= \frac{10}{100} \times 573 = 57.3 \text{ million tonnes}$$

Average quantity of grapes sold to each customer

$$= \frac{57.3}{3} = 19.1 \text{ million tonnes}$$

145. Option (d) is correct.

Let the selling price of oranges for both Frutopia and Fruitfix = ₹ x

Discount percentage offered by Frutopia = 15%

Discount percentage offered by Fruitfix = 20%

Marked price of oranges on Frutopia = ₹75/kg

$$\text{So, selling price for Frutopia } x = 75 \times \frac{85}{100} = ₹63.75$$

According to the question,

Marked price of oranges for Fruitfix

$$= 63.75 \times \frac{100}{80} = ₹79.69 = ₹80$$

146. Option (b) is correct.

Given,

The average weight of the players after selecting one player from each group is 68 kg.

After leaving S, the average weight of team

$$= 66.5 \text{ kg}$$

$$\text{So, weight of S} = 68 + 1.5 \times 10 = 83 \text{ kg}$$

So, he is from the group 9 (80 kg – 84 kg).

147. Option (a) is correct.

After leaving S, two new members joined the group and the average weight again increases to 68 kg.

So, total weight of these two new members

$$= 2 \times 68 + 9 \times 1.5 = 149.5 \text{ kg}$$

From the given options, both persons can not be from group 1 and 3. Because maximum weights from group 1 and 3 are 52 kg and 60 kg, respectively. Their sum is less than 149.5 kg.

148. Option (d) is correct.

As individual weights and number of players are not known. So, their average weight can't be determined.

149. Option (d) is correct.

We can't determine that which group will contribute most in overall average as we don't know the weights of selected members from each group.

150. Option (c) is correct.

If one of the new two players is from group 4, then maximum possible weight of that person = 64 kg

$$\text{So, 2}^{\text{nd}} \text{ person weight} = 149.5 - 64 = 85.5 \text{ kg}$$

So, the 2nd member will be only from group 10.

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