

## COMMONLAW ADMISSION TEST (CLAT) 2025

Name of the Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Enrollment Id: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of the Invigilator: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of center: \_\_\_\_\_

(To be filled by the Candidate)

Time :2 Hours

Maximum marks: 120

Number of Question in this Booklet: 120

**INSTRUCTION TO THE CANDIDATES**

1. Please read the below mentioned instructions carefully.
2. Immediately after the commencement of the test, you are required to open the question booklet and compulsorily examine it for defects, if any, as stated below.
  - (a) To have access inside the Question Booklet, tear off the paper seal on the edge of this cover page. Do not accept a booklet if it is opened or without sticker-seal.
  - (b) Tally the number of pages and number of questions in the question booklet with the information printed on the cover page. **Faulty booklets with missing pages/questions, misprint, fudging of print or duplication of pages or any other discrepancy should immediately be brought to the notice of the invigilator(s) and replaced by the same series correct question booklet within first five minutes of the commencement of the test. Afterwards, the question booklet will not be replaced.**
  - (c) Only after the verification of question booklet, enter your Roll Number, Question Booklet Number and Question Booklet Series in the space provided on OMR Answer Sheet with **Ball Point Pen** and shade the relevant circles with **HB Pencil** only.
3. There are 150 objective type multiple-choice questions carrying one mark each. Each question has four choices of answers. Select the most appropriate answer and shade the corresponding circle in the OMR Answer Sheet. If more than one circle is shaded, then the answer to that question shall be deemed as wrong. **There is negative marking for wrong answers wherein 0.25 mark will be deducted for each of the wrong answers.**
4. Specific instructions are given at the beginning of each question or a set of questions. Read them carefully before answering.
5. Possession of any kind of electronic gadget inside the examination hall is strictly prohibited. Possession and/or use of any such gadget shall disqualify the candidate from appearing in the test.
6. In case of any malpractice or attempt to resort to any malpractice, which includes talking to neighbours, copying or using unfair means etc., the Invigilator/Centre Superintendent shall seize the material, if any, and expel the candidate from the examination hall.
7. The first bell will ring 10 minutes before the commencement of the test. As soon as the first bell rings the invigilator(s) will distribute the OMR Answer Sheet and Question Booklet to the candidates. The second bell will ring at the commencement of the test. The third bell will ring at the completion of one hour of test. The fourth bell will be rung 10 minutes before the completion of the test. The fifth and final long bell will ring at the completion of the test.

8. **No candidate shall be permitted to leave the Examination Hall before the two hours of the test ends.**
9. **You have to return the OMR Answer Sheet to the invigilator at the end of the test compulsorily and must not carry it with you outside the Examination Hall.**
10. Rough Work is to be done in the question paper itself in end of this booklet or any space available. No sheets will be provided for the same.

**All the Best!**

## **English Language**

### **Passage I**

There is no question that the NEET exam scandal is a colossal breach of trust. In any high stakes examination system, there will be attempts to circumvent the system. Even the famed Chinese Gaokao system was subject to cases of identity theft. But the scale this time is staggering. NTA had to preemptively cancel other exams. This suggests a widespread systemic rot, not an episodic lapse. Across exams, almost three million students are now subject to unimaginable psychological pressure, financial hardship and pedagogical uncertainty. It is lucky for the government that the scandal broke after the election. It would otherwise have gone into the election with its reputation for governance in ruins. It now starts a new tenure with a shameful trust deficit. But beyond the immediate crisis, this scandal poses large questions for India's democracy and the governance of India's institutions.

The Indian Republic runs on two procedural legitimating devices: Elections and exams. In reality, both can be distorted by the operations of power and money. But both are, all things considered, the fairest forms of procedural legitimation, at least compared to any other institution in society. They are the only two sites where fairness can at least be demanded. Both also produce enough churn and mobility, again compared to any other institutional setting, to be the source of hopes and dreams.

The entire weight of fairness in our system is borne by the examination system: Not by equal access to schools, pedagogical quality or prospects for employment after exams. Exams function as a legitimating ideology in a system marked by extreme scarcity. The more relative scarcity we produce, by failing to create more and better institutions, by failing to create jobs, the more the stakes in the exam system. So a collapse in trust in the exam system is tantamount to a collapse in trust in the system as a whole. Imagine a day where trust in the UPSC exam collapses. More than a revolution, that might make the Indian state collapse.

Our obsession with exams is a reflection for procedurally signalling justice.

First, it provides a legitimating device for the students that are in fact chosen; they have rightly earned their place. Second, it is probably the only means of social mobility available to large numbers of young Indians. The increasing success of students who beat social and financial odds (though still not nearly as large as it

should be), adds to the myth of fairness. The fact that many privileged students have seceded from aspects of the exam system, like IIT-JEE or UPSC, because it is too tough, and prefer to find their pathways elsewhere only adds to the mystique.

Source: Extracted with edits and revisions from the article, "Collapse of trust in examination system amounts to a collapse in trust in system as a whole" written by Mr. Pratap Bhanu Mehta and published in The Indian Express.

1. What literary device is used in the sentence: "The fact that many privileged students have seceded from aspects of the exam system ... only adds to the mystique"?

- A) Paradox
- B) Euphemism
- C) Irony
- D) Anecdote

2. Which word from the passage best describes the pervasive and widespread nature of the NEET exam scandal?

- A) Staggering
- B) Incongruous
- C) Pedagogical
- D) Procedural

3. Which word from the passage best describes the situation where privileged students avoid challenging exams like IIT-JEE or UPSC?

- A) Eclipsed
- B) Seceded
- C) Surreptitious
- D) Abridge

4. Which scenario does the author suggest could potentially lead to a severe crisis within the Indian state?

- A) A major overhaul in the education policy to reduce the emphasis on examinations.
- B) A significant decrease in the number of students opting for competitive exams like IIT-JEE or UPSC.
- C) A collapse in trust in the UPSC examination due to widespread malpractice.

- D) An increase in public investment in creating more educational institutions.
5. What is the central argument presented by the author regarding examinations?
- A) Examinations are essential for ensuring social justice in India.
- B) Examinations perpetuate inequality and should be reformed.
- C) Examinations contribute minimally to social mobility.
- D) Examinations are the cornerstone of procedural fairness in India.

### Passage II

In his new memoir, Dr. Anthony Fauci bares all.

These days, Fauci is most closely associated with Covid-19, hero or rogue depending on your political persuasion, under repeated and heated scrutiny for his messaging about masks, vaccines and the lab-leak theory. People blame him for their bad pandemic experience, as if he's a waiter who served them the wrong meal and might be hiding what is going on in the kitchen.

Gently, "On Call" reminds us that Fauci oversaw an entire Seder plateful of plagues, from AIDS to Zika, as the longtime director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases in Washington, D.C., saving millions of lives around the world before stepping down in 2022.

He speeds through his early background. Born on Christmas Eve 1940, to first-generation Italian immigrants living in Bensonhurst, with a sister three years older, Fauci recalls the "extraordinarily soothing" sounds of foghorns in Gravesend Bay and his mother crying over photos of the mushroom cloud on the front page of the New York Daily News after the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

His father was a pharmacist working long hours for whom Anthony, a tippety-top student, sometimes delivered prescriptions on his Schwinn bicycle. He won admission to Regis, the elite Jesuit high school in Manhattan, where he was captain of the varsity basketball team despite being 5'7," and the College of the Holy Cross, where he studied classical Greek and spent summers working on a construction gang.

By Page 21, his mother has died of cancer at 56 and Fauci has graduated first in his class at Cornell Medical School.

But the story really begins after Fauci, following a decade in the field at the at the N.I.A.I.D., reads about outbreaks of pneumocystis pneumonia among gay men in California and New York. His increasing preoccupation with the rapidly spreading, catastrophic human immunodeficiency virus helps to torpedo his brief first marriage, and he's appointed to lead the organization in 1984.

"On Call" contains many shout-outs, not just to respected friends and colleagues but also to patients like Ron Rinaldi, who went blind after cytomegalovirus "literally

chewed up the critical sight elements of his retina from the time we had made morning rounds to the time we walked into the room that evening.” Despite the help of a collaborator, Linda Kulman, stories like this are somewhat diluted by bureaucratese like “pushing the envelope,” “proof of the pudding” and so on. You kind of wish Fauci’s elementary-school nuns, who “introduced me to the experience of tough love,” had stood over him with a ruler.

Source - <https://www.nytimes.com/2024/06/18/books/review/on-call-anthony-fauci.html>

6. Which metaphor is used in the passage to describe Dr. Fauci's career at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases?

- A) "extraordinarily soothing sounds of foghorns"
- B) "a waiter who served them the wrong meal"
- C) "an entire Seder plateful of plagues"
- D) "a tippety-top student"

7. Choose the most suitable title for the passage above.

- A) The Life and Legacy of Dr. Anthony Fauci
- B) Fauci's Fight Against Covid-19
- C) Anthony Fauci: A Hero of Medical Science
- D) The Many Battles of Dr. Anthony Fauci

8. In the context of the passage, how is Fauci's writing style in his memoir described, and what is suggested to have influenced this style?

- A) Fluid and engaging, influenced by his Jesuit education
- B) Bureaucratic and cliché-ridden, influenced by his professional environment
- C) Scientific and precise, influenced by his medical training
- D) Emotional and narrative-driven, influenced by his personal experiences

9. What is the meaning of the word "bureaucratese" as used in the passage?

- A) Casual language
- B) Technical jargon
- C) Literary prose
- D) Everyday speech

10. What is the predominant tone of the passage regarding Dr. Anthony Fauci's portrayal?

- A) Reverent and celebratory
- B) Critical and skeptical
- C) Nostalgic and reflective
- D) Humorous and anecdotal

### Passage III

Because of a rental car mishap, it was well after dark by the time Catherine Dupree and her father arrived in Canakkale, a city in northwestern Turkey, during a vacation in 2006. As they drove around the city, trying in vain to navigate to their hotel (this was well before the days of reliable mapping apps, like Waze), Ms. Dupree's father spotted a man walking his dog and asked him for help.

"He somehow communicated to us that he had to bring the dog home and then could show us the way," said Ms. Dupree, now 51 and living in Los Angeles.

The man did, indeed, gesture for them to follow him to his home where, the dog secured, he got into his own car and led the pair for miles, winding through the city's streets, until he jubilantly pointed out his window to their hotel and then disappeared into the night.

"Our bafflement turned to incredulity turned to gratitude," Ms. Dupree said of the experience. "My dad passed away in 2020, and he always wished he could have thanked this man for his help."

As we dive into summer travel, it can be easy to get caught up in the frustrations that often accompany what promises to be another hot, crowded, potentially turbulent season. And yes, there will be flight delays, packed attractions and inevitable inconveniences. But it's also an opportunity to consider what's possible when you're out exploring the world: the kindness of strangers.

One more memorable acts of kindness that experienced while traveling is –

When Clark Peters was in his early 20s, he and a college friend were backpacking through Europe when disaster struck: They woke up on an overnight train in Italy to find that their cash, checks, Eurail train passes and his friend's passport had been stolen. Even worse, it was Mr. Peters's birthday. The two friends disembarked in Milan to regroup, and headed first to the U.S. Consulate to replace the passport and then to an American Express office to replace their stolen traveler's checks. There, they encountered a family from Ohio, Mr. Peters's home state, whose daughter was studying abroad in the city.

"They insisted that we stay with them and treated us to a wonderful home-cooked meal, surprising me with a birthday cake," Mr. Peters, who is now 58 and lives in Columbus, Mo., recalled. "The day turned from disaster to the best experience of our trip, and I've never forgotten the family's immense generosity."

Source - <https://www.nytimes.com/2024/06/21/travel/travel-europe-south-america-acts-of-kindness.html>

11. According to Clark Peters's account in Milan, Italy, what was the unexpected turn of events that transformed their day?

- A) They found their stolen cash and checks at the American Express office.
- B) They were treated to a home-cooked meal by a family they met at the U.S. Consulate.
- C) Clark Peters received a surprise birthday cake from his friend.
- D) They located their stolen Eurail train passes at the U.S. Consulate.

12. Which of the following, if true, would strengthen the argument that random acts of kindness can profoundly impact travelers?

- A) Several other travelers in Milan also experienced theft and were similarly helped by local families.
- B) Clark Peters and his friend later paid forward the kindness by helping stranded tourists in France.
- C) The American Express office in Milan received positive reviews from travelers for their efficient handling of stolen documents.
- D) Clark Peters's friend lost all their travel documents except for their passport, minimizing the impact of the theft.

13. Which assumption about the family from Ohio is implicit in the passage?

- A) The family recognized Clark Peters as a fellow Ohioan based on his accent.
- B) The family was accustomed to hosting strangers in need of assistance.
- C) The family decided to help Clark Peters and his friend because of their daughter's study abroad experience.
- D) The family had prior knowledge of Clark Peters and his friend's predicament before meeting them.

14. Which literary device is exemplified by the sentence "The day turned from disaster to the best experience of our trip"?

- A) Paradox
- B) Personification
- C) Epiphany
- D) Oxymoron



15. Which word is an antonym of "jubilantly" as used in the sentence "he jubilantly pointed out his window to their hotel"?

- A) Glumly
- B) Euphorically
- C) Ecstatically
- D) Elated

#### Passage IV

If you scroll through Instagram and find yourself a similar algorithm as mine — the booming couple's gift merchandise business might take you by surprise. And 90 percent of these items are Spotify merch. Music, love, heartbreak, algorithm, and capitalism — Gen Z has concocted yet another strange mixture for the waiting market.

Gen Z is turning everything into a dating app. This time, it's Spotify.

There are about one and a half things that make us shiver in our FabIndia prints at the end of a year: the impending doom of the next 365 days and our Spotify Wrapped exposing the pitfall of a situationship the entire cosmos had warned us about. Well, can you explain why that obscure Talat Mahmood cryfest is sitting cross-legged among the Jay-Zs and Sabrina Carpenters in your top-songs list?

If communication is our generation's Achilles heel, then the Rs 59 Spotify student subscription is pretty much our healing crystal bracelet. We might not drop even the tiniest of breadcrumbs for the person we have already adopted an imaginary dog with; but be warned! A seven-hour ballad is being curated on the other side of the algorithm.

I was 15 when I first read Stephen Chbosky's *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* — Charlie made a mixtape for his friend Patrick. "One Winter", Charlie's mixtape, starts with The Smiths' *Asleep*. While mixtapes might have gone out of fashion, love, if one were to believe my outrageous predictions, is here to stay. We have gone from cassettes to 2 am Spotify link-sharing, but the ultimate aim seems to be the same: emotions are complicated, borrow words.

It's safe to say that the most foolproof strategy to slide into the DMs of that boy who has you delusional enough to think that you're in a Hugh Grant live-action movie is to praise the attention-seeking playlist on his account. From one Gen Z to the next, not one of us dislikes a little validation for what is, quite literally, our life's work.

Very strategically, Spotify has changed the way we listen to music. The idea of listening to genres or entire albums is now shifting to shuffling curated playlists. Enter Spotify's mood mixes — love mix, sad mix, and even better, Spotify blends — a personalised playlist for you and a person of your choice, created by the algorithm that also shows you the percentage of your music match with them.



And that's exactly how you get a love-sick populace wrapped around your tappy little finger.

<https://theprint.in/opinion/pov/music-match-love-and-heartbreak-mix-gen-z-has-turned-spotify-into-a-dating-app/2139185/>

16. In the context of the passage, the term "concocted" most closely means:

- A) Created with careful planning
- B) Discovered unexpectedly
- C) Dissolved gradually
- D) Overlooked unintentionally

17. What assumption about Spotify's cultural impact can be inferred from the passage?

- A) Spotify has had minimal influence on how Gen Z consumes music.
- B) Spotify has revolutionized the way people create mixtapes.
- C) Spotify's influence is limited to older generations.
- D) Spotify has focused solely on promoting mainstream artists.

18. Which of the following conclusions can be drawn from the passage regarding Gen Z's attitude towards personal expression through music?

- A) Gen Z's use of Spotify playlists reflects a preference for mainstream artists only.
- B) Spotify has restricted Gen Z's access to diverse musical genres.
- C) Gen Z's engagement with Spotify has decreased their interest in music.
- D) Spotify playlists serve as a medium for Gen Z to express complex emotional states.

19. Which statement from the passage weakens the argument that traditional forms of music sharing and expression have completely faded away?

- A) "Spotify has changed the way we listen to music."
- B) "Mixtapes might have gone out of fashion."
- C) "Gen Z is turning everything into a dating app."
- D) "Music, love, heartbreak, algorithm, and capitalism — Gen Z has concocted yet another strange mixture."

20. The statement, "The Rs 59 Spotify student subscription is pretty much our healing crystal bracelet," is an example of:

- A) Hyperbole
- B) Metaphor
- C) Situational Irony
- D) Symbolism

**Passage V**

Julian Assange did what journalists do in free societies. He published troves of secret documents exposing the conduct of America's wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and of its diplomacy. And for that, he was denied his freedom for more than 14 years. The hounding of Mr. Assange is a rare modern story of western democracies across the Atlantic, which take pride in their freedoms, working hand in hand to punish a journalist, publisher and whistle-blower. The WikiLeaks founder was first arrested in Britain in 2010 on a European warrant over sex crime allegations reported in Sweden — those charges were later dropped. While on bail, he took asylum in the Ecuador embassy in London, where he was holed up until 2019. He was kicked out of the embassy, and Britain rearrested him and put him in the high-security Belmarsh prison. After five years of life in jail, where he was largely confined to a solitary cell, the U.S. entered into a plea deal with Mr. Assange, that would set him free. The 52-year-old will plead guilty in the espionage case before a U.S. federal judge in Saipan, the capital of the Northern Mariana Islands, a U.S. Commonwealth territory in the western Pacific. According to U.S. and British media, Mr. Assange is expected to be sentenced for about five years, the time he has already served in Britain. He will then go to Australia, his native country.

While Mr. Assange's release, which brings his years-long ordeal to an end and is a reprieve for those who have been fighting for him, is welcome news, the road towards this day was not smooth. The way he is being released still raises concerns. The classified documents WikiLeaks published were handed to Mr. Assange by Chelsea Manning, a U.S. military analyst. Ms. Manning was sentenced to 35 years in prison after being convicted of violating the Espionage Act. U.S. President Barack Obama commuted her sentence, allowing her to go free in 2017, but Mr. Assange remained unfree. The Trump Justice Department indicted him in 2019 on 18 counts. And the Biden administration continued to push for his extradition, which he fought doggedly. Last year, Australia's Labor Prime Minister Anthony Albanese urged the U.S. to conclude the case, while lawmakers there passed a resolution this year calling for Mr. Assange to be allowed to return home. In recent years, the case has also become a public relations disaster for Joe Biden's Democratic administration. Yet, the fact that Mr. Assange would be convicted for publishing state secrets is a setback for free speech. And the pursuit of a whistle-blower for over 14 years would remain a blot on western democracies, especially the U.K. and the U.S., forever.

<https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/%E2%80%8Bfree-man-on-the-release-of-julian-assange/article68331994.ece>

21. Arrange the following sentences in the correct logical sequence based on the passage:

- A. Mr. Assange's release marks the end of his years-long ordeal, offering relief to his supporters.
- B. The U.S. indicted Mr. Assange in 2019 on 18 counts related to the publication of classified documents.
- C. Julian Assange was first arrested in Britain in 2010 on charges that were later dropped.
- D. Chelsea Manning, a U.S. military analyst, provided classified documents to WikiLeaks.

22. What literary device is employed in the phrase "the pursuit of a whistle-blower for over 14 years would remain a blot on western democracies"?

- A) Metonymy
- B) Oxymoron
- C) Euphemism
- D) Anaphora

23. What does the phrase "the hounding of Mr. Assange is a rare modern story of western democracies" suggest about Assange's treatment?

- A) Assange received widespread sympathy from western democracies.
- B) Assange's treatment was an unusual occurrence in western democratic nations.
- C) Western democracies collaborated to ensure Assange's fair treatment.
- D) Assange's treatment exemplifies a recurring pattern in western democratic societies.

24. Which statement best summarizes the thesis of the passage?

- A) Western democracies have struggled to maintain diplomatic relations due to Assange's actions.
- B) Julian Assange's release marks a triumph for international human rights activists.
- C) The persecution of Julian Assange raises concerns about press freedom and governmental transparency.
- D) The WikiLeaks revelations have significantly impacted global diplomacy and military strategy.

25. Which of the following is the most opposite in meaning to 'reprieve' as used in the passage?

- A) Pardon
- B) Amnesty
- C) Respite
- D) Aggravation

### General Knowledge

#### Passage I

Anshika says, "While scuba diving for samples in the Gulf of Munnar, I saw bleached corals. While temperature is a culprit, microplastic pollution also plays a major role. Anthropogenic pollution and global warming activities are causing a lot of intervention to the already established balance in marine life." Although there is a lack of quantifiable data on current plastic levels and their breakdown into methane (a greenhouse gas), microplastic pollution not only harms corals but can also contribute to global warming. Sangamesh adds, "The solution to reducing the temperatures is through a global effort by reducing carbon dioxide emissions, use of fossil fuels etc. At a more local level the improvement of water quality and wastewater management, sustainable fishing and tourism practices, reducing deforestation of mangroves and other trees, is essential." Wenzel says that there are ongoing efforts to monitor coral bleaching in several locations across India — Lakshadweep, the Andaman islands, the Gulf of Mannar and Palk Bay, the Gulf of Kachchh, Goa, Ratnagiri and Malvan. Anshika says, "Abroad, scientists are adopting 'bio-mimicry', where they design artificial structures resembling real coral. This is showing promising results. However, India seems to be mostly focusing on coral nurseries, transplanting healthy coral fragments to pollution-free areas." Recently, concrete triangles have been deployed in many places in India to support coral restoration.

<https://www.deccanchronicle.com/tabloid/hyderabad-chronicle/the-deadly-coral-reef-whitewash-1809324>

26. Which of the following statements about the Lakshadweep Development Authority Regulation, 2021, is correct?

- A) The authority exclusively focuses on the development of cantonment areas.
- B) The authority cannot prepare comprehensive development plans or relocate people.
- C) The authority consists solely of local authority representatives and lacks a government-appointed chairman.

D) The authority empowers the administrator to constitute Planning and Development Authorities to plan the development of areas identified as needing improvement.

27. How many islands does the Kochi-Lakshadweep Islands Submarine Optical Fiber Connection (KLI-SOFC) project connect to the mainland?

- A) Eight
- B) Eleven
- C) Fifteen
- D) Five

28. What is the name of the initiative that aims to secure the future of at least 125,000 km square of coral reefs with investments of at least US\$12 billion by 2030?

- A) Coral Reef Alliance
- B) Coral Reef Breakthrough
- C) Coral Reef Conservation
- D) Coral Reef Restoration

29. Which year did the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), which formalized the concept of Exclusive Economic Zones, come into force?

- A) 1971
- B) 2005
- C) 1982
- D) 2001

30. What indicator measured accumulated heat stress in the Lakshadweep in 2024?

- A) Degree Heating Week (DHW)
- B) Sea Surface Temperature (SST)
- C) Ocean Heat Content (OHC)
- D) Chlorophyll-a concentration

31. Which organization's researchers recorded the widespread bleaching event in Lakshadweep in 2024?

- A) National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- B) Oceanic Preservation Society
- C) ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute
- D) Coral Reef Alliance

32. What impact does coral bleaching have on coral health?

- A) Reduces coral growth
- B) Destroys habitats for 90% of the marine life
- C) Compromises survival
- D) Mitigates reproductive functions

### Passage II

The report introduced a new index of countries' support for UN-based multilateralism. It examined countries' engagement with the UN system, including treaty ratification, votes in the UN General Assembly, membership in UN organisations, involvement in conflicts and militarisation, use of unilateral sanctions, and financial contributions to the UN. Barbados leads the list, with the United States ranking last, highlighting a significant disconnect from the international community on these critical issues. Following Barbados in the top five are Antigua and Barbuda, Uruguay, Mauritius, and the Maldives. Along with the US, the lowest-ranked countries include Somalia, South Sudan, Israel, and the Democratic Republic of Korea. The report also discussed challenges in food and land systems (SDG 2). With 600 million people still expected to be hungry by 2030, combined with rising obesity and unsustainable agricultural practices, a new approach is required. Current trends are increasing the gap between our climate, biodiversity and water quality targets, the report said. Although existing commitments by countries would help, they are not enough. Significant progress requires major changes through FABLE pathways: 1) reduce overconsumption and limit animal-based protein while respecting cultural preferences; 2) invest in increasing productivity, especially in high-demand areas; and 3) create inclusive and transparent monitoring systems to stop deforestation.

<https://www.downtoearth.org.in/governance/world-falling-behind-on-sustainable-development-goals-like-reducing-hunger-poverty-un-warns>

33. What was the global average corporate income tax rate in 2023?

- A) 10.1%
- B) 21.1%
- C) 35.7%
- D) 18.2%

34. Which of the following statements about the current financial challenges and their impact on sustainable development is/are correct according to the 2024 UN Report?

I) The development financing gap has increased from USD 2.5 trillion to USD 4.2 trillion due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

II) The poorest countries now spend 12 percent of their revenues on interest payments, which is the same as they spent a decade ago.

III) Stronger and more frequent climate-related disasters account for more than half of the debt upsurge in vulnerable countries.

IV) Rising geopolitical tensions and climate disasters have had no significant impact on healthcare and education targets.

A) Only I & II

B) Only II, III & IV

C) Only I & III

D) Only III & IV

35. Which major international financial institutions were established at the 1944 Bretton Woods Conference?

A) IBRD and IMF

B) IMF and WTO

C) WTO and UNCTAD

D) UNDP and UNIDO

36. What is the overarching aim of SDG 3.3?

A) To promote mental health and well-being

B) To ensure universal health coverage

C) To end the epidemics of major diseases by 2030

D) To reduce maternal mortality

37. Which country ranked first in the overall score for achieving all 17 SDGs in 2024?

A) Sweden

B) Denmark

C) Germany



D) Finland

38. Which indicators were not analyzed by UNCTAD to estimate the cost of transitioning towards sustainable food systems under SDG 2 and SDG 15 in 2023?

A) Prevalence of undernourishment

B) Percentage of terrestrial critical biodiversity regions that are protected

C) Moderate or severe food insecurity

D) Increase in global population

39. Which region has the highest average SDG score among its member countries in 2024?

A) Europe

B) Asia

C) North America

D) Africa

### Passage III

The number of close approach alerts received and the number of CAMs (Collision Avoidance Manoeuvre) executed by ISRO was also the highest to date. Operating in an environment inhabited by a growing population of active satellites requires Space Traffic Management (STM). However, unlike air and marine traffic, no universally accepted framework for STM exists at present, hence the resolution of an on-orbit close approach between two active satellites is carried out on case-by-case by inter-operator coordination. With the skyrocketing satellite population, especially in LEO, such coordination will be challenging in the future. Furthermore, the scope of space-based activities is expanding at a rapid pace with easier access to space with technological advancements, rideshare capabilities, and the growing recognition of the immense potential of space-based technologies, prompting more players to embrace space-based technology and applications. The recent reforms have ushered in a new era for the Indian space sector encouraging more participation from private industries and academia. For sustainable space activities, a holistic approach needs to be taken to catalyse the space sector growth. It must be recognised by all space actors that, unlike terrestrial activities, any activity in space has potentially global and far-reaching implications, and near-Earth space is a finite resource that must be utilized responsibly to harness it for societal benefits.

[https://www.isro.gov.in/Indian\\_Space\\_Situational\\_Assessment\\_Report\\_ISSAR2023.html](https://www.isro.gov.in/Indian_Space_Situational_Assessment_Report_ISSAR2023.html)

40. What was the total number of Collision Avoidance Maneuvers (CAMs) conducted by ISRO in 2023, as per the ISSAR 2023 Report?

A) 15

B) 19

C) 21

D) 23

41. Which of the following statements about ISRO's Space Situational Awareness (SSA) activities is correct?

A) ISRO's SSA activities do not include prediction of atmospheric re-entry.

B) ISRO conducts SSA activities to promote responsible behavior in outer space.

C) The Indian Space Situational Assessment Report (ISSAR) is compiled biannually.

D) The annual ISSAR does not provide reference or dissemination to stakeholders.

42. Which Indian satellite underwent a controlled re-entry in 2023?

A) Chandrayaan-2

B) Aditya-L1

C) Megha-tropiques-1

D) PSLV-C3

43. As of 31 Dec 2023, how many operational Indian satellites were in Geo-synchronous Earth Orbit?

A) 12

B) 20

C) 29

D) 35

44. What is the primary goal of ISRO's Pushpak Viman?

A) Democratizing access to space

B) Interstellar travel

C) Lunar exploration

D) Establishing a space station

45. Who is set to launch GSAT-20 (GSAT-N2) in 2024?

A) NASA

B) SpaceX

C) Blue Origin

D) NewSpace India Limited

46. What is the primary objective of the PSLV Orbital Experimental Module-3 (POEM-3) mission launched by ISRO in 2024?

A) To deploy the XpoSat satellite

B) To achieve near-zero debris in Earth's orbit

C) To study space debris in geosynchronous orbit

D) To test anti-satellite missile capabilities

#### Passage IV

Just recently on June 3, 2024, Synnovis, a provider to the UK National Health Service (NHS), suffered a cyber attack preventing the processing of blood test results and impacting thousands of patient appointments and surgeries. In 2017, the WannaCry attack, which spread to 150 countries across the world, disrupted the UK NHS, limiting ambulance service, patient appointments, medical tests and results, and forcing the closure of various facilities. In the United States, many private sector organizations that provide public or critical infrastructure services have been significantly affected by cyberattacks. In 2021, JBS Foods, the largest US meat processor, was breached, forcing it to cease operations at 13 of its meat processing plants, impacting the US meat supply. One month prior, Colonial Pipeline was hit with a ransomware cyberattack, causing a run on gas in the eastern seaboard and requiring a presidential executive order to allow gas transport via semi-trucks. A cyber attack in the Ukraine in 2015 brought down power for 230,000 customers, and such attacks have continued to disrupt the Ukrainian power grid since then. While these are just a few notable examples, the impact ranges from delays and inconveniences to more significant repercussions like reduced capacity of healthcare services and other critical infrastructure.

<https://www.helpnetsecurity.com/2024/07/08/rob-greer-broadcom-nation-state-attacks/>

47. What type of attack intercepts communication between two parties, allowing the attacker to eavesdrop or manipulate data?

A) Zero-day exploit Attack

B) Phishing Attack

C) MITM Attack

D) Ransomware Attack

48. What type of cyber attack injects malicious code into a database query, potentially compromising data integrity?

A) Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)

B) SQL Injection

C) DNS Spoofing

D) Advanced Persistent Threat (APT)

49. In the context of cybersecurity, ICANN stands for:

A) International Conference on Artificial Neural Networks

B) Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

C) Institute for Computational Algorithms and Neural Networks

D) Intelligent Computing and Neural Network Association

50. Which proposed top-level domain (TLD) is intended for internal use only?

A) .INTERNAL

B) .PRIVATE

C) .INTRA

D) .LOCAL

51. What is the primary objective of the Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C)?

A) Enhancing international collaboration in addressing cybercrime

B) To act as a nodal point to curb Cybercrime in the country

C) Focusing solely on cybercrime prevention for women and children

D) Providing a platform for public awareness without direct intervention

52. What is the name of the forensic artifact that is used to detect indicators of infection from sophisticated iOS spyware, according to Kaspersky researchers in 2024?

A) Shutdown.log

B) Sysdiag.dump

C) Sysdiagnose.log

D) iOSForensic.log

53. Which software maker experienced a crippling ransomware attack affecting thousands of car dealerships in 2024?

A) SAP

- B) HubSpot
- C) Salesforce
- D) CDK Global

### Legal Reasoning

#### Passage I

Sexual harassment at the workplace is a pervasive issue worldwide, affecting women across developed, developing, and underdeveloped nations. It is a universal problem with negative consequences for both men and women, although it disproportionately impacts women. The spectrum of sexual harassment encompasses unwelcome sexual behavior, including advances, requests for favors, and various forms of verbal or physical harassment.

Defining sexual harassment is challenging, given its multifaceted nature, making it difficult for victims to articulate their experiences. While international instruments broadly define sexual harassment as violence against women and discriminatory treatment, national laws often focus on specific illegal conduct.

In India, the Supreme Court has defined sexual harassment as unwelcome sexually determined behavior, including physical contact, advances, demands for sexual favors, sexually colored remarks, showing pornography, or any other unwelcome physical, verbal, or non-verbal conduct of a sexual nature.

Sexual harassment poses a significant problem for women in various sectors. It is a growing concern addressed through policies and measures aimed at prevention and redressal. The fear of reporting incidents often hinders victims, driven by concerns about job security, societal stigma, or lack of awareness about what qualifies as sexual harassment.

The history of addressing sexual harassment in India includes landmark cases such as Vishaka and others vs. State of Rajasthan, where the Supreme Court recognized sexual harassment at the workplace as a violation of human rights. The Vishaka Guidelines laid down preventive steps and the establishment of Internal Complaints Committees (ICCs) to address complaints.

Despite efforts to combat sexual harassment, there are challenges in the implementation of guidelines. Many cases go unreported, and women often face resistance or retaliation when they do file complaints. The fear of consequences, lack of proper committees, and ineffective judgments contribute to a pervasive culture of harassment.

The legislative response in India includes the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013. This act mandates the formation of ICCs and outlines preventive measures, disciplinary actions, and complaint mechanisms. However, the act has faced criticism for perceived gender bias, inadequate protection for men, and potential misuse.

Internationally, sexual harassment is not unique to India. It is a prevalent issue in countries like Israel, Kenya, China, Germany, Australia, and the United States, with varying degrees of legal frameworks and cultural attitudes.

Addressing sexual harassment requires a multifaceted approach involving legal, institutional, and societal changes. The implementation of effective preventive measures, awareness campaigns, and a supportive legal framework are essential to create workplaces free from harassment and ensure justice for victims.

[Extracted with edits and revision from : Sexual Harassment of women at Workplace : <https://www.legalservicesindia.com/article/2114/Sexual-Harassment-of-Women-at-Workplace.html>]

54. In the Republic of Bharat, Dr. Anika, a brilliant scientist at Pinnacle Innovations, engages in inappropriate jokes with gender-based undertones during an after-hours social gathering with colleagues. The next day, Dr. Anika assigns a critical task to Dr. Sameer, a team member, implying that failure may result in professional consequences. Does Dr. Anika's conduct constitute sexual harassment under Indian law?

A. Yes, due to the inappropriate jokes creating a hostile work environment and the assignment with implicit threats amounting to professional coercion.

B. No, since the social gathering was informal, and Dr. Anika's jokes, while inappropriate, do not meet the legal threshold for sexual harassment.

C. Yes, based solely on the assignment to Dr. Sameer, as it constitutes undue pressure and professional coercion, irrespective of the jokes made during the social gathering.

D. No, as the workplace environment is generally collaborative, and the assignment to Dr. Sameer is a legitimate exercise of supervisory authority.

55. In a prestigious law firm, A, a senior partner, routinely comments on the appearance of B, a junior associate, during office meetings. A often makes explicit remarks about B's clothing, hairstyle, and physical attributes, creating an uncomfortable atmosphere. Despite B's discomfort, A's behavior continues unchecked. One day, during a team-building retreat, A insists on sharing a cabin with B, citing limited accommodations. B, feeling trapped and uneasy, is unsure how to address the situation. Does A's behavior constitute sexual harassment?

A. No, as A's comments are subjective opinions on appearance and do not qualify as unwelcome sexually determined behavior.

B. Yes, because A's explicit remarks and insistence on sharing a cabin create an unwelcome and uncomfortable environment for B.

C. No, unless there is clear evidence of physical contact or demands for sexual favors, A's behavior does not meet the definition of sexual harassment.

D. Yes, as A's behavior, encompassing explicit remarks and unwanted proximity, falls within the Supreme Court's definition of sexual harassment.

56. In a prestigious multinational corporation, Maya, a high-ranking executive, consistently outperformed her colleagues. Recognizing her exceptional skills, the management appointed her as the team leader for an important project. However, Maya soon found herself subjected to unwarranted advances from a subordinate, Arjun, who claimed that his actions were a misguided expression of admiration. Maya, distressed by the situation, reported the matter to the human resources department. Arjun, fearing consequences, argued that workplace hierarchies shouldn't restrict personal interactions. Maya's efficiency at work began to decline due to the emotional toll. In this scenario, does Arjun's behavior qualify as sexual harassment under the principles outlined in the Vishaka case?

A. No, as Arjun's actions were based on admiration and not intended to create a hostile work environment.

B. Yes, since Arjun's unwarranted advances, regardless of intent, contribute to a violation of Maya's rights as recognized in the Vishaka case.

C. No, because workplace hierarchies should not limit personal interactions, and Arjun's actions were a result of misunderstanding rather than harassment.

D. Yes, only if Maya can demonstrate a tangible decline in her work efficiency directly attributed to Arjun's actions.

57. In a progressive corporation that prides itself on fostering an inclusive work environment, an employee, X, consistently engages in subtle discriminatory behavior towards a colleague, Y, based on Y's religious beliefs. X, while not explicitly making derogatory remarks, consistently excludes Y from team activities and subtly undermines Y's contributions during meetings, creating a hostile work atmosphere. Y, feeling distressed, decides to confront X about the discriminatory conduct. In response, X dismisses Y's concerns, stating, "I don't see the problem; you're just being overly sensitive." In this scenario, what legal recourse does Y have to address the workplace harassment?

A. Y can file a complaint based on workplace harassment, as the subtle discriminatory behavior, coupled with the dismissive response from X, contributes to a hostile work environment.

B. Y has no legal recourse unless the discriminatory behavior involves explicit derogatory remarks or overt actions, as subtle exclusion and undermining may not qualify as workplace harassment.

C. Y can only seek legal recourse if the corporation's policies explicitly mention subtle discriminatory behavior as grounds for harassment complaints.

D. Y's best option is to address the issue informally within the team, as filing a formal complaint might adversely impact work relationships.



58. In the context of the universal problem mentioned in the passage, what is emphasized as a significant factor that contributes to its negative consequences, especially for women?

- A. The exclusive impact on women, making it a problem primarily affecting them.
- B. The disproportionate impact on women, acknowledging that it affects both genders but to a greater extent for women.
- C. The universal nature of the problem, indicating equal consequences for both men and women.
- D. The negligible impact on men, downplaying the significance of the issue for the male population.

### Passage II

Testamentary Guardianship is a crucial legal concept designed to ensure the welfare and protection of a minor child even after the demise or incapacity of their natural guardians. This form of guardianship is established through a testament or will, wherein a person is appointed as the guardian to oversee the well-being and manage the estate of the minor child.

In historical context, during the British period, testamentary powers were granted to Hindus, allowing a father to exclude the mother from the natural guardianship of the child. However, with the enactment of the Hindu Minorities and Guardianship Act of 1956, the preference was explicitly given to natural guardians, with the mother having priority after the father.

The power to appoint a testamentary guardian lies with specific individuals under Section 9 of the Hindu Minorities and Guardianship Act. A Hindu father, mother (including widowed mother), or adoptive parent can appoint a testamentary guardian through a valid will. The appointment made by the father takes precedence unless the mother appoints a testamentary guardian in her will. If both parents are deceased, the testamentary guardian's authority comes into effect. It's crucial to note that the testamentary guardian's powers are not superior to those of a natural guardian, and their authority is limited by the provisions of the will and the applicable laws. The testamentary guardian's powers extend to the care of the person and management of the minor's property.

In cases where a minor legitimate child has a living mother, her appointment as a testamentary guardian can supersede that of the father. Additionally, a Hindu widow or mother can appoint a guardian through a will if the father is legally disqualified from being the natural guardian.

The testamentary guardian's authority ceases when the child reaches the age of 18, and in the case of a minor girl, upon her marriage. Notably, the testamentary guardian can alienate the minor's property for the child's benefit, but court permission is required.

Comparison with natural guardians reveals that while natural guardianship lasts until the death of the natural guardian, testamentary guardianship terminates upon the child turning 18 or the marriage of a minor girl. The testamentary guardian is appointed through a will, ensuring the child's protection in the absence of natural guardians. The powers of a testamentary guardian are similar to those of a natural guardian, with specific limitations and conditions defined by the law.

[Extracted with edits and revision from: testamentary guardianship under hindu law : <https://blog.ipleaders.in/testamentary-guardianship-under-hindu-law/> ]

59. In a complex family arrangement, Ravi, a wealthy businessman, had two marriages. From his first marriage, he had a legitimate son named Aryan, and from his second marriage, he had an adopted daughter named Zara. Ravi, in his will, appointed his brother Rohit as the testamentary guardian for Aryan and his close friend Sonia as the testamentary guardian for Zara. However, after Ravi's demise, a legal dispute arose between Rohit and Sonia regarding the guardianship. Rohit argued that being Ravi's blood relative, he should have the authority over both Aryan and Zara, while Sonia claimed that the testament clearly specified her role as Zara's guardian. In this intricate scenario, what legal principle governs the testamentary guardianship, and who should rightfully be considered the guardian for Zara?

- A. Rohit, as Ravi's blood relative, should be the testamentary guardian for both Aryan and Zara, as blood relation takes precedence over testamentary appointments.
- B. Sonia, as the testamentary guardian appointed for Zara, should rightfully have the guardianship, as per the principle outlined in the reference line.
- C. A court should intervene and appoint an independent guardian to resolve the conflict between Rohit and Sonia, ensuring the welfare of both Aryan and Zara.
- D. Aryan, being Ravi's legitimate son, should automatically become the guardian for Zara, as the natural guardian's blood relation holds significance in testamentary appointments.

60. In a unique family structure, Meera, a Hindu mother, had two children, Aarav and Dia, from her first marriage. After her husband's demise, Meera remarried, and her second husband, Rahul, legally adopted Aarav but not Dia due to legal complications. In her will, Meera appointed Rahul as the testamentary guardian for both Aarav and Dia. However, Meera's parents, who are the grandparents of Aarav and Dia, contested the appointment, arguing that legal adoption should not affect testamentary guardianship. In this intricate scenario, what legal principle governs the testamentary guardianship, and who should rightfully be considered the guardian for Aarav and Dia?

- A. Rahul, as the testamentary guardian appointed by Meera in her will, should have guardianship for both Aarav and Dia, considering the legal adoption of Aarav.

B. Meera's parents, as the biological grandparents, should be the testamentary guardians for Aarav and Dia, as legal adoption should not influence testamentary appointments.

C. A court should intervene to determine the rightful testamentary guardian, considering the complex family dynamics and potential conflicts of interest.

D. Dia, being the biological child of Meera from her first marriage, should automatically become the guardian for herself, and a separate guardian should be appointed for Aarav.

61. Priya, a single mother, appointed her childhood friend Aakash as the testamentary guardian for her minor daughter Dia in her will. However, Priya's parents, who are the natural grandparents of Dia, contested the testamentary appointment, arguing that they have a closer blood relation with Dia and should have superior guardianship rights. Aakash, in accordance with Priya's will, wants to ensure Dia's well-being and manage her financial affairs. Considering this complex situation, what legal principle governs the dispute, and who should rightfully have the guardianship for Dia?

A. Priya's parents should have superior guardianship rights due to their closer blood relation with Dia, overriding Priya's testamentary appointment of Aakash.

B. Aakash, as the testamentary guardian appointed by Priya, should rightfully have the guardianship for Dia, as per the principle outlined in the reference line.

C. The court should intervene and assess the best interests of Dia, taking into account both the testamentary appointment and the blood relation, before determining the rightful guardian.

D. Dia, being the minor, should be given the authority to choose her guardian, considering her wishes and preferences in the matter.

62. Ananya, a successful lawyer, was a single mother to her minor legitimate son, Rahul. Ananya, wanting to ensure Rahul's well-being in case of any unforeseen circumstances, decided to draft her will. In the will, she appointed her close friend, Arjun, as the testamentary guardian for Rahul. However, Ananya's estranged husband, Raj, who had been absent from Rahul's life for several years, suddenly reappeared, expressing a desire to assert his paternal rights. In this complex situation, who holds the legal right to guardianship for Rahul, considering the appointment made by Ananya in her testament and the sudden reappearance of Raj?

A. Ananya's appointment of Arjun as the testamentary guardian takes precedence, as the living mother's choice supersedes that of the father in testamentary appointments.

B. Raj, as Rahul's biological father, automatically assumes guardianship, regardless of Ananya's testamentary appointment.

C. Arjun's appointment is valid, but the court should assess the best interests of Rahul, considering the sudden reappearance of Raj, and determine the appropriate guardian.

D. Ananya's testamentary appointment becomes void with the reappearance of Raj, and a court should decide the guardianship based on the father's rights and the child's welfare.

63. Raj, a successful entrepreneur, appointed his childhood friend Arjun as the testamentary guardian for his son Rohan in his will. As Rohan turned 18, he expressed his desire to pursue a career in a foreign country. Arjun, however, insisted that Rohan should stay and manage Raj's business, in accordance with the wishes outlined in the will. Rohan, determined to follow his aspirations, sought legal advice. What legal principle governs the cessation of the testamentary guardian's authority in this situation, and what options does Rohan have to pursue his career abroad?

A. Rohan can legally challenge Arjun's authority as the testamentary guardian, citing his desire to pursue a career abroad, and seek the court's intervention to appoint a new guardian.

B. Arjun has the right to insist on Rohan managing Raj's business as per the wishes in the will, and Rohan must abide by the testamentary guardian's decisions until he turns 21.

C. Rohan, upon turning 18, gains complete autonomy over his decisions, and Arjun's authority as the testamentary guardian automatically ceases, allowing Rohan to pursue his career abroad.

D. Rohan can only pursue a career abroad if Arjun willingly releases his role as the testamentary guardian, and both parties reach a mutual agreement.

### **Passage III**

The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, enacted in 2007 in India, addresses the pressing issue of neglect and exploitation faced by senior citizens. As a reflection of societal changes, the traditional values emphasizing the care of elders are gradually eroding due to factors like disintegration of joint families, economic challenges, and globalization. This has led to an increase in cases of elderly individuals facing abandonment, property grabbing, and various forms of mistreatment.

The Act acknowledges the moral obligation of children to maintain their parents, aligning with the cultural and religious values that regard parents as sacred. However, the degree of adherence to this duty varies across societies. In India, where traditional values hold significant importance, elders are revered, and caring for parents is seen as a contribution to God. Despite these cultural values, the changing dynamics in society have given rise to instances of elderly individuals being treated as burdens on family resources, leading to their neglect and mistreatment.

To counter these challenges, the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act was introduced in 2007. The Act aims to provide care and maintenance support to elderly parents, safeguarding their rights. It addresses various problems faced by senior citizens, including financial issues, health concerns, legal challenges, and psycho-social problems. Additionally, the Act incorporates provisions for maintenance under personal laws, such as the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act and the Code of Criminal Procedure.

The international community has also recognized the need to protect senior citizens, with efforts dating back to the United Nations addressing the issue since 1948. India has implemented policies and initiatives, such as the National Policy for Older Persons, to safeguard the welfare of senior citizens. The government has established measures like pension funds, old age homes, and healthcare support.

Despite these efforts, challenges persist, leading to the proposed amendment bill in 2019 to enhance the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act. The amendment aims to streamline the process, reduce delays, and strengthen the legal framework for the protection of senior citizens. It introduces changes in definitions, expands the scope of relationships covered, and proposes stringent measures against neglect and abandonment.

Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act is a benevolent law designed to safeguard elders, and it applies to both economically active and inactive children. The proposed amendments underscore the ongoing commitment to address the evolving challenges faced by senior citizens and ensure their well-being and dignity in a changing societal landscape.

[Extracted with edits and revision from : every senior citizen has right to live with dignity [https://www.legalserviceindia.com/legal/article-7302-every-senior-citizen-has-right-to-live-with-dignity.html#google\\_vignette](https://www.legalserviceindia.com/legal/article-7302-every-senior-citizen-has-right-to-live-with-dignity.html#google_vignette)]

64. In a complex scenario, Mrs. Kapoor, a senior citizen, had financially supported her daughter Pooja to start a business. However, as Pooja's business flourished, she neglected her mother, leading to financial hardships for Mrs. Kapoor. Frustrated by the exploitation, Mrs. Kapoor decides to invoke the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act. She seeks legal advice to understand the extent to which the Act protects her financial rights against her daughter's exploitation. What legal principle under the Act governs Mrs. Kapoor's situation, and what options does she have to secure maintenance from Pooja?

A. Mrs. Kapoor cannot invoke the Act against her daughter as the financial support provided was voluntary, and the Act only covers instances of neglect by children without any financial assistance.

B. Mrs. Kapoor can file a case under the Act, highlighting the neglect and exploitation by her daughter, seeking maintenance and financial support based on the moral obligation outlined in the Act.

C. Mrs. Kapoor has no legal recourse under the Act as it primarily focuses on protection in cases of physical abuse, and financial matters between parents and children are beyond its purview.

D. Mrs. Kapoor can only seek maintenance if she transfers ownership of her property to her daughter, creating a legal obligation for financial support.

65. Ms. Gupta, an elderly woman residing in a metropolitan city, finds herself facing neglect and financial exploitation from her own children. Due to the disintegration of joint families and economic challenges, her children prioritize their individual interests over their moral duty to care for their elderly mother. Ms. Gupta, distressed by the situation, decides to seek legal recourse to ensure her well-being. What legal principle or legislation can Ms. Gupta invoke to address the erosion of traditional values and secure her right to care and maintenance from her children?

A. Ms. Gupta can file a case under the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, invoking the legal provision that addresses the duty of children to maintain their elderly parents despite societal changes.

B. Ms. Gupta should explore alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, as the disintegration of joint families calls for a more nuanced approach to family disputes, and traditional legal remedies may not be effective.

C. Ms. Gupta has no legal standing, as societal changes and economic challenges do not provide a legal basis for compelling children to care for their elderly parents.

D. Ms. Gupta can file a case under the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act, emphasizing the erosion of traditional values and the moral duty of children to provide maintenance to their elderly parents.

66. Mrs. Kapoor, an elderly woman, finds herself abandoned by her children, who consider her a financial burden. She seeks legal advice to understand her rights under The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act (MWPSA). Mrs. Kapoor's children argue that since they are economically inactive, the Act does not apply to them, and they are not obligated to provide maintenance. What legal principle governs the obligation of economically inactive children under the MWPSA, and what recourse does Mrs. Kapoor have in this situation?

A. Mrs. Kapoor has no legal standing as the MWPSA only applies when children are economically active, and she cannot compel maintenance from economically inactive children.

B. The MWPSA mandates that children, whether economically active or inactive, are obligated to provide maintenance to their parents, and Mrs. Kapoor can file a case under the Act to seek support.

C. The MWPSA only applies to economically active children, and Mrs. Kapoor can pursue legal action if her children are employed or have a source of income.



D. Mrs. Kapoor can only seek maintenance if she proves her children's economic capability in court, as the MWPSA requires explicit evidence of their financial standing.

67. Verma, a senior citizen, finds himself grappling with emotional neglect and financial exploitation from his affluent children. Despite their financial stability, they neglect his well-being and exploit his resources. Armed with awareness about the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act enacted in 2007, Mr. Verma contemplates legal action but is uncertain about the specific provisions that can address his unique situation. What legal options does Mr. Verma have under the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, and how can he ensure the Act safeguards his rights amidst emotional neglect and financial exploitation?

A. Mr. Verma's legal standing hinges on proving complete financial dependency, as the Act exclusively caters to elderly individuals unable to maintain themselves.

B. Mr. Verma can explore legal avenues under the Act, emphasizing emotional neglect and financial exploitation, aligning with the Act's goal of providing holistic care and maintenance support to senior citizens facing diverse challenges.

C. Mr. Verma's plight falls outside the Act's scope, primarily designed for property-related disputes and lacking provisions for emotional neglect and financial exploitation.

D. Mr. Verma can only seek redress under the Act if his children engage in severe criminal offenses like assault or defamation, thereby warranting legal intervention.

68. Considering India's commitment to safeguard the welfare of senior citizens through policies like the National Policy for Older Persons, a hypothetical situation arises. Mr. Srivastav, a senior citizen, faces challenges accessing healthcare due to financial constraints. He is unaware of the government measures mentioned in the passage. What legal recourse does Mr. Srivastav have to avail healthcare support, and which policy mentioned in the passage can he rely on?

A. Mr. Srivastav can file a case against the government for financial assistance in accessing healthcare, citing his senior citizen status, under the National Policy for Older Persons.

B. Mr. Srivastav has no legal options, as the passage only mentions measures like pension funds and old age homes, not healthcare support.

C. Mr. Srivastav can seek healthcare support from the government under the National Policy for Older Persons, as it encompasses measures beyond pension funds and old age homes.

D. Mr. Srivastav should explore private healthcare options, as the government policies mentioned in the passage do not cover healthcare support for senior citizens.



**Passage IV**

The Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act plays a pivotal role in shaping the legal landscape regarding adoption and the subsequent responsibilities towards maintenance in the Hindu community. Applicable not only to those practicing Hinduism but also encompassing related sub-religions like Buddhists, Jains, Sikhs, Virashaiva, Lingayat, Arya Samaj, Brahmo, and Prarthana followers, the act covers all residents of India who are not Christians, Muslims, Parsis, or Jews.

Adoption under this act is a well-defined process, with the term itself rooted in Hindu laws derived from Dharamsastra, specifically Manusmriti, describing it as 'taking someone else's son and raising him as one's own.' The act broadens this definition by using the term 'child' instead of 'son,' encompassing both girls and boys. Compliance with the act is essential for a valid adoption, and any deviation renders the adoption void.

The act outlines the eligibility criteria for adoptive parents, emphasizing the necessity for a living spouse's consent. Multiple wives require consent from each for a valid adoption. The age, mental soundness, and consent of adoptive parents are crucial factors in ensuring a legally sound adoption.

Maintenance obligations are also detailed in the act. For instance, a husband is obligated to provide maintenance to his wife after divorce until she remarries, with the amount determined by the court based on the husband's financial capacity. The act also specifies conditions under which a wife is entitled to maintenance, including desertion, cruelty, or the husband's conversion to another religion.

The act extends maintenance provisions to widowed daughters-in-law and dependents, emphasizing the duty of children to maintain aged and infirm parents. Maintenance claims are to be decided based on factors such as the status of the parties, their income sources, and the number of dependents. The act also addresses the concept of a charge on the deceased's estate for maintenance, indicating that it must be explicitly provided in a will or agreement.

Interestingly, the act stipulates that a person must be a Hindu to claim maintenance under its provisions. Furthermore, it prohibits payments in any form during the adoption process to prevent child trafficking, with violations resulting in imprisonment and/or fines.

The act ensures that the rights and obligations arising from adoption are clearly defined. Adopted children are considered as the legitimate offspring of their adoptive parents, inheriting rights and responsibilities. However, conditions exist to prevent incestuous relationships within the biological family.

[Extracted with edits and revision from: All you need to know about hindu adoption and maintenance- <https://blog.ipleaders.in/hindu-adoption-maintenance/> ]

69. Shruti, a devout follower of Arya Samaj, decides to adopt Aisha, an orphan, in a formal ceremony at the local Arya Samaj temple. During this ceremony, she declares Aisha as her adopted daughter in the presence of the temple priest and

community members. However, as the years pass, she faces financial difficulties and decides to retract the adoption, claiming it was a symbolic ceremony without legal implications. She argues that, since there was no formal compliance with the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act, the adoption should be considered void.

Which of the following options accurately reflects the legal consequences of Shruti's actions?

- (a) The adoption is valid as the formal ceremony at the Arya Samaj temple serves as sufficient compliance with the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act.
- (b) The adoption is void, and Aisha cannot be considered Shruti's legally adopted daughter since there was no compliance with the procedural requirements outlined in the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act.
- (c) The adoption is valid, but Shruti can retract it based on financial constraints, as the act allows adoptive parents to reconsider adoption under challenging circumstances.
- (d) The adoption is void only if Aisha challenges it in court; otherwise, it remains legally valid.

70. Aditi, a single woman in her late twenties, wishes to adopt a child. She has a stable job, financial security, and a nurturing home environment. However, her parents strongly oppose her decision to adopt, citing concerns about societal perceptions and the potential impact on Aditi's personal life. Aditi is emotionally distressed by her parents' disapproval but remains determined to proceed with the adoption. Considering the principles outlined in the passage:

- (a) Aditi's adoption may face legal challenges due to her parents' disapproval, as their consent is crucial according to the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act.
- (b) Aditi's age, mental soundness, and financial stability are sufficient factors for a legally sound adoption, and societal perceptions should not influence the decision.
- (c) Aditi's emotional distress may be considered as a valid reason to override the need for her parents' consent, as her mental soundness is a subjective criterion.
- (d) Aditi's adoption is legally sound as long as she meets the age and mental soundness criteria, irrespective of her parents' consent or societal perceptions.

71. Rahul and Pooja, a married couple, decide to divorce due to irreconcilable differences. During the divorce proceedings, the court determines that Rahul is financially well-off compared to Pooja. The court orders Rahul to provide maintenance to Pooja until she remarries. However, after a few months, Rahul argues that Pooja should not receive maintenance anymore as she has started dating someone new. Evaluate the situation based on the principles outlined in the passage.

- (a) Rahul's argument is valid; since Pooja has started dating someone new, she no longer requires maintenance, and the court order can be disregarded.

- (b) Rahul's financial capacity was the sole determinant for the court-ordered maintenance, and Pooja's new relationship does not impact the ongoing maintenance obligation.
- (c) Pooja forfeits her right to maintenance by engaging in a new relationship, and the court order should be revoked accordingly.
- (d) The court should reconsider the maintenance order based on Pooja's new relationship, as it might influence her financial needs.

72. Amit, a successful businessman, recently lost his son in a tragic accident. His widowed daughter-in-law, Sneha, is financially dependent on him and resides in the family home. According to the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act, what legal obligations does Amit have towards Sneha, and how does the act address the responsibility of children in maintaining aged and infirm parents?

- (a) Amit is not legally obligated to provide maintenance to Sneha, as she is an adult and capable of sustaining herself. The act only mandates maintenance for minor children.
- (b) Amit's obligation to provide maintenance to Sneha is conditional upon her pursuing higher education or obtaining employment. The act does not specify any responsibilities for children in maintaining aged and infirm parents.
- (c) Amit is required to provide maintenance to Sneha until she remarries, and the act emphasizes the duty of children to maintain aged and infirm parents, taking into account the financial capacity of the children.
- (d) Sneha is entitled to maintenance only if she formally requests it from Amit, and the act does not address the responsibility of children in maintaining aged and infirm parents.

73. Monalisa, an adopted child, discovered an old family heirloom that once belonged to her adoptive parents. She wishes to know if, as an adopted child, she has any legal right to inherit such family property. Which of the following statements is consistent with the principles outlined in the passage?

- (a) Monalisa, being adopted, has no legal rights to inherit any property from her adoptive parents.
- (b) Monalisa has the same legal rights as a biological child and can inherit family property from her adoptive parents.
- (c) Monalisa can only inherit movable property but not immovable property from her adoptive parents.
- (d) Monalisa's right to inherit family property is contingent upon the consent of her biological parents.

### Passage V

It is in the wake of the Reasi bus attack in Jammu in which nine people were killed and 41 injured that the Jammu & Kashmir Police are exploring use of the Enemy Agents Ordinance. This has become relevant considering the threat from Pakistan and the involvement of local people in supporting foreign terrorists, sources in the force told ThePrint.

“The law was made to tackle foreign fighters and invaders, especially from Pakistan, who come here and try to disturb and destabilise the government. In the aftermath of the current situation, we are exploring its use, which will prove as a major deterrence as it is very stringent,” he told ThePrint. “Under this law, there is no appeal, the punishment is either life imprisonment or a death sentence.”

He added that if one reads the explanation for Section 3 of the law, even failure to inform the nearest police station and the magistrate of presence and activities of foreign terrorists, not to speak of providing any kind of help, may constitute guilt.

The Jammu & Kashmir Police have maintained that they will make a distinction between those who provide food and shelter out of fear, mostly at gunpoint, and those who harbour the terrorists, prepare hideouts for them and help them in other ways, either for money or because they believe in the idea of going against the nation.

Swain said that citizens who inform the police immediately after the terrorists have left can get immunity or protection. All others would be liable to be treated as enemy agents.

“Admission of contact with, and help extended to, terrorists after the police find out from other sources shall have no concession, as the provisions of this law can be invoked to book them as enemy agents,” he said.

The ordinance says, “Whoever is an enemy agent or, with intent to aid the enemy, does, or attempts or conspires with any other person to do any act which is designed or likely to give assistance to the military or air operations of the enemy or to impede the military or air operations of Indian forces or to endanger life or is guilty of incendiarism shall be punishable with death or rigorous imprisonment for life or with rigorous imprisonment for a term which may extend to 10 years and shall also be liable to fine.”

Under the ordinance, the accused also cannot engage a lawyer for defence unless permitted by the court.

There is no provision for appeal to higher courts against the verdict. If a person is sentenced to death or life imprisonment, or if the special judge certifies that a case involved “questions of special difficulty”, the verdict is to be reviewed “by a person chosen by the government from the judges of the high court”, the ordinance states. It adds that “the decision of that person shall be final”.

<https://theprint.in/theprint-essential/no-lawyer-unless-permitted-no-appeal-whats-enemy-agents-ordinance-jk-cops-want-to-use-more-often/2148522/>

74. A group of individuals from a foreign country is suspected of attempting to destabilize the government by plotting acts of terrorism and espionage. Under the Enemy Agents Ordinance, which is currently being considered for use, what are the possible consequences for these individuals if they are found guilty?

- A. They could face a maximum of 10 years in prison with the possibility of appealing the verdict.
- B. They could be sentenced to life imprisonment or the death penalty, with no option to appeal.
- C. They could be fined a significant amount, with the possibility of appealing the decision.
- D. They would face deportation to their home country without the possibility of imprisonment.

75. Amit, a resident in Jammu & Kashmir, discovers that a group of foreign terrorists has been staying in his area. He is threatened by the terrorists but chooses to provide them with food and shelter out of fear. After they leave, Amit informs the police about their presence. According to the law, how will Amit's actions be evaluated?

- A. Amit will be treated as an enemy agent because he provided food and shelter, even though he reported them later.
- B. Amit will be considered an enemy agent and receive the same punishment as those who actively assist the terrorists.
- C. Amit will face severe penalties because the law does not differentiate between fear-based and voluntary assistance.
- D. Amit will not be held guilty because he reported the terrorists to the police as soon as they left, despite initially providing help out of fear.

76. Rahul is found to have secretly helped a group of terrorists by providing them with resources. Although he initially denies his involvement, he admits to his actions only after the police uncover his connection through other sources. According to the ordinance, how will Rahul be treated?

- A. Rahul will receive a lighter sentence because he confessed his involvement after the police discovered it.
- B. Rahul will be punished as an enemy agent, with severe penalties, including life imprisonment or the death penalty, despite his late confession.
- C. Rahul will be given a chance to reduce his sentence by cooperating with the authorities.
- D. Rahul will not face harsh punishment but monetarily as his confession came after the police investigation had already started.

77. Amit is convicted under the ordinance and sentenced to life imprisonment. He requests to hire a lawyer for his defense but is denied because the court has not given permission. Amit also wants to appeal the verdict to a higher court, but he learns that this is not allowed. Given the ordinance's provisions, how will Amit's case be handled?

- A. Amit can appeal the verdict to a higher court if he can prove that the case involved special difficulty.
- B. Amit will be allowed to hire a lawyer if he can demonstrate that his defense is necessary.

C. Amit's verdict will be reviewed by a special judge chosen by the government, and this decision will be final.

D. Amit will have another chance to present his case to a different court for a fresh trial.

78. Sonia, a resident of Jammu & Kashmir, discovers that foreign terrorists are using a property she owns for their operations. She does not provide direct help but is aware of their activities. Sonia delays reporting their presence to the police because she is worried about her safety. Once the terrorists leave, Sonia reports them to the police. How will Sonia's actions be treated under the law?

A. Sonia will be treated differently from "guilty" because she reported the terrorists after they left, despite the delay in reporting.

B. Sonia will be treated as an enemy agent and face severe penalties because she delayed reporting the terrorists.

C. Sonia will be considered guilty only if it is proven that she provided direct assistance to the terrorists.

D. Sonia will be punished less severely because the law does not penalize those who delay reporting but eventually inform the authorities.

### Passage VI

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) released a new master circular on health insurance. The circular consolidates information on policyholder entitlements in a health insurance policy for easy reference. It also highlights measures to provide policyholders with a smoother, faster, and hassle-free claims experience and ensure improved service standards across the health insurance sector.

"We are committed to aligning our health insurance offerings with the IRDAI's Master Circular on Health Insurance Business. Our goal is to provide policyholders with a wide range of products covering most medical conditions, including pre-existing diseases. We ensure equal treatment options across all lines of medicine, including Allopathy and AYUSH, and we strive to make 100% cashless services available," said Rakesh Jain, CEO of Reliance General Insurance.

"The new Master Circular requires insurers to process discharge authorizations within three hours, enhancing customer service and addressing a common grievance among policyholders," stated Manish Dodeja, Head of claims & Underwriting at Care Health Insurance. "Insurers are urged to strive for 100% cashless claims."

"The updated norms also encourage diversity in product offerings, catering to various demographics and medical needs. They allow policyholders with multiple policies to choose the policy under which to claim. Enhanced transparency is ensured by providing a Customer Information Sheet with each policy. Policyholders stand to benefit from No Claim Bonuses and have the flexibility to cancel policies at any time for a refund of the unexpired premium," Manish added.

Final authorisation for discharge from the hospital

- The insurer shall grant final authorisation within three hours of receiving the discharge authorization request from the hospital. In no case shall the policyholder be made to wait to be discharged from the Hospital.
- If there is any delay beyond three hours, the additional amount, if any, charged by the hospital shall be borne by the insurer from the shareholder's fund.
- In the event of the death of the policyholder during the treatment, the insurer shall:

- immediately process the request for claim settlement.

- get the mortal remains (dead body) released from the hospital immediately

#### Implementation of Ombudsman Award

- The Insurer is required to comply with the award of the Insurance Ombudsman within 30 days of receipt of the award by the Insurer.
- If the Insurer does not honour the ombudsman award, the complainant will be charged Rs. 5000/—per day. This penalty is in addition to the penal interest liable to be paid by the Insurer under The Insurance Ombudsman Rules, 2017.

79. Neha, a policyholder with Reliance General Insurance, is reviewing the benefits of her health insurance policy after the release of the IRDAI's new master circular. According to the circular and her insurance provider's commitment, what improvement should Neha expect in her claims process?

- A. The claims process will become more complicated and require additional documentation.
- B. She will have access to a smoother and faster claims process, with improved service standards.
- C. The policy will only cover Allopathy treatments, excluding AYUSH and other medical systems.
- D. Neha will be required to pay out-of-pocket expenses for most medical treatments, as cashless services are not guaranteed.

80. Priya, an insured patient, is undergoing treatment and needs discharge authorization. According to the new Master Circular from the IRDAI, which statement accurately reflects the changes in discharge authorization and cashless claims processing?

- A. The insurance company must process Priya's discharge authorization within six hours, and 100% cashless claims are encouraged but not mandatory.
- B. The new Master Circular mandates that discharge authorizations be processed within one hour and requires insurers to offer cashless claims exclusively for emergency treatments.
- C. Priya's discharge authorization can be delayed up to twelve hours, but insurers are required to process all claims in cashless mode only if the policyholder insists.



D. Priya's discharge authorization should be processed within three hours, and insurers are strongly encouraged to achieve 100% cashless claims, addressing common grievances related to delays.

81. Ravi, a policyholder with multiple insurance policies, is considering making a claim and is also interested in the benefits outlined in the updated norms. Given the new rules, which of the following statements accurately reflects the options available to Ravi?

A. Ravi must select one policy for his claim and cannot use the benefits of multiple policies. Additionally, he cannot cancel his policy once issued, and there are no No Claim Bonuses.

B. Ravi can choose which policy to use for his claim, receive a Customer Information Sheet with each policy, benefit from No Claim Bonuses if he doesn't make any claims, and cancel his policy at any time to get a refund of the unexpired premium.

C. Ravi can only make a claim under one policy and must adhere to a fixed cancellation period for refunds, with No Claim Bonuses applicable only if all policies are unused.

D. Ravi can select any policy for his claim but is not guaranteed a Customer Information Sheet or No Claim Bonuses. He cannot cancel his policy for a refund once issued.

82. Nisha is hospitalized and her insurance provider, under the new guidelines, is responsible for approving her discharge. What should happen if the insurance company delays the final authorization beyond the stipulated time and how should the insurer handle the situation if Nisha were to pass away during her treatment?

A. If the insurer delays beyond three hours, Nisha will have to bear any additional hospital charges herself. If Nisha passes away, the insurer must delay processing the claim until all formalities are complete.

B. The insurer's delay does not affect the hospital charges, and in case of Nisha's death, they can take up to 24 hours to process the claim and release the body.

C. The insurer can delay the discharge authorization up to six hours without bearing any extra charges. In case of death, the insurer is responsible only for the claim settlement and not for the immediate release of the body.

D. Any delay by the insurer beyond three hours will require them to cover any additional hospital charges. If Nisha dies during treatment, the insurer must promptly process the claim and ensure the hospital releases the body immediately.

83. Amit files a complaint with the Insurance Ombudsman, which results in an award favoring him. The insurance company, XYZ Insurers, receives the ombudsman's award on March 1. If XYZ Insurers fails to comply with the award by the deadline and does not honor it until April 10, what are the financial implications for XYZ Insurers?

A. XYZ Insurers will be fined Rs. 5,000 for each day from March 1 to April 10, and there will be no additional penalties under The Insurance Ombudsman Rules, 2017.

B. XYZ Insurers will incur a daily penalty of Rs. 5,000 for each day beyond March 1 until April 10, plus additional penal interest as specified by The Insurance Ombudsman Rules, 2017.

C. XYZ Insurers will be fined a total of Rs. 5,000 only for the entire delay period, and no further penalties will be imposed.

D. XYZ Insurers will have to pay Rs. 5,000 for each day from March 1 to April 10, with no additional penalties required under The Insurance Ombudsman Rules, 2017.

### Critical Reasoning

#### Passage I

The recent surge in India's headline retail inflation, particularly in November, underscores the persistent challenge of volatile food prices. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) climbed to a three-month peak, marking a year-on-year increase of 5.55%, up from October's 4.87%. This rise is primarily driven by significant gains in food prices, as evidenced by the Consumer Food Price Index, which jumped by 209 basis points to 8.7%.

Central to this inflationary trend are cereals and vegetables, key components of the 'food and beverages' subgroup. Cereals, constituting nearly a tenth of the CPI, have been experiencing double-digit inflation for fifteen consecutive months. This category saw a month-on-month inflation acceleration, with staples like rice, wheat, and jowar (a coarse cereal integral to rural diets) all registering noticeable price increases. Vegetable prices, too, have soared, with the year-on-year inflation rate for this category jumping nearly 15 percentage points from October's 2.8%. Tomatoes, in particular, shifted from a deflationary trend to an 11% year-on-year inflation rate, with a sharp 41% increase from the previous month.

The inflationary pressure is not limited to these items. The 'TOP' trio - tomato, onion, and potato - which are among India's most consumed vegetables, also reflect this trend. Onion prices, in particular, have seen a significant rise, with year-on-year inflation reaching 86%, up from October's 42%. This increase is attributed to adverse weather conditions and dwindling groundwater levels, which are expected to result in a 25% decrease in onion output during the crucial rabi season. While potato prices offer some relief by remaining in deflation, pulses and sugar are other areas of concern, with pulses witnessing over 20% inflation and sugar prices also on the rise.

Given these circumstances, the Reserve Bank of India's decision to hold off on rate hikes places the responsibility on the government to mitigate inflation. Failure to do so could lead to a decline in broader consumption and economic growth. With sugar production likely to be impacted by lower rainfall, the government faces a growing number of supply-related challenges in controlling price increases.

Citation: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/acceleration-foretold-on-volatile-food-prices/article67642176.ece>

84. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author's argument regarding the impact of volatile food prices on India's retail inflation?

- a) A new government policy has been implemented that effectively subsidizes the cost of essential food items, including cereals and vegetables.
- b) Recent technological advancements in agriculture have led to a significant increase in the production of cereals and vegetables.
- c) A comprehensive study shows that the consumption patterns of Indian households have shifted away from cereals and vegetables to more stable and affordable food options.
- d) The Reserve Bank of India announces a future plan to incrementally increase interest rates to combat rising inflation.

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

- a) The Reserve Bank of India's current monetary policy is primarily focused on controlling food price inflation.
- b) The government's export policies on agricultural products have a direct impact on domestic food prices.
- c) Adverse weather conditions have no significant impact on the production and pricing of essential food commodities.
- d) A decrease in the production of onions due to environmental factors will likely exacerbate the inflationary trend.

86. What can be inferred about the economic impact of the inflationary trend in food prices on the general population?

- a) The general population is likely to experience an increase in their savings due to the inflationary trend.
- b) There will be a significant shift in the dietary habits of the general population towards more luxurious food items.
- c) The inflationary trend may lead to a reduction in the purchasing power of the general population.
- d) The general population will likely benefit from the inflationary trend through increased employment opportunities in agriculture.

87. Based on the passage, what can be assumed as a likely government response to mitigate the inflationary pressures due to rising food prices?

- A) Decreasing the interest rates
- B) Implementing supply chain improvements

- C) Increasing export tariffs on food products
- D) Subsidizing consumer electronics

88. Which of the following statements would the author of the passage most likely agree with regarding the impact of inflation on the economy?

- A) Inflation primarily affects luxury goods, not essential items like food.
- B) Inflation has no real impact on economic growth or consumer behavior.
- C) Managing inflation is solely the responsibility of the central bank.
- D) Unchecked inflation can lead to a decline in broader consumption and economic growth.

### Passage II

In contemporary academia, a notable trend has emerged: the prevalence of "snapnotes," a term coined for the practice of students capturing PowerPoint slides on their phones as a form of note-taking. This phenomenon, while not new, has gained traction, particularly post-COVID-19, exacerbating the challenges faced by students already grappling with the transition from disrupted secondary education to the rigors of college-level work.

The genesis of this trend can be traced to various factors. Students, when queried about their note-taking habits, revealed a range of strategies, primarily shaped by what sufficed in high school. The shift to snapnotes was largely attributed to the ease it offered, especially during online learning phases of the pandemic, where monitoring of phone usage was impractical. Students found it convenient to capture slides on their phones, a practice that seemed a reasonable compromise given the constraints of remote learning environments.

However, this method of note-taking is not without its drawbacks. While some argue that snapnotes might engage students in a skill relevant in the digital age, the lack of a systematic approach to organizing and retrieving information from a cluttered camera roll poses significant challenges. Furthermore, research indicates that traditional note-taking, particularly by hand, often results in more effective learning outcomes. This is attributed to the deeper processing of information, as opposed to the passive nature of snapping pictures.

The implications of snapnotes extend beyond learning efficacy. They potentially disrupt the classroom environment and raise privacy concerns, especially in a context where unauthorized recording or photography in educational settings can have legal and ethical ramifications.

Addressing this issue requires a proactive approach from educators. It presents an opportunity to guide students towards more effective note-taking strategies. This involves demonstrating methods to distill information, discussing research findings on the benefits of traditional note-taking, and exploring ways to integrate technology while retaining the advantages of manual note-taking. Ultimately, the

goal is to empower students to make informed choices about their learning methods, recognizing that note-taking is a skill that evolves over time.

In conclusion, while snapnotes offer a convenient solution in certain contexts, they fall short in fostering the deeper engagement and understanding necessary for academic success. Educators play a crucial role in steering students towards more effective learning strategies, a step that is essential for enhancing overall student achievement.

Citation: <https://www.facultyfocus.com/articles/effective-classroom-management/the-problem-with-snapnotes/>

89. Based on the author's arguments in the passage, which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the case against the use of snapnotes in academic settings?

- a) A study reveals that students who take snapnotes perform equally well in exams as those who take handwritten notes.
- b) Research indicates that students who use snapnotes tend to have a higher rate of information retention compared to those who don't take any notes.
- c) An educational survey finds that the majority of students using snapnotes struggle to organize and retrieve information effectively for exam preparation.
- d) A report shows that the use of snapnotes has led to a significant decrease in the instances of unauthorized recording in classrooms.

90. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author's arguments against the use of snapnotes in academic settings?

- a) A longitudinal study shows that students who use snapnotes demonstrate improved cognitive skills in synthesizing and summarizing information.
- b) Technological advancements have led to the development of apps that automatically organize and categorize snapnotes, making them easily retrievable.
- c) Surveys indicate that the majority of students find traditional note-taking methods less engaging and more time-consuming than snapnotes.
- d) Research reveals that the use of snapnotes has no significant impact on the privacy or the classroom environment.

91. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the author's arguments for the drawbacks of using snapnotes in academic settings?

- a) A study finds that students using snapnotes are more likely to engage in multitasking during lectures, leading to reduced attention and comprehension.
- b) Surveys show that students prefer the convenience of snapnotes over traditional note-taking methods.

- c) Technological advancements have made it easier for students to edit and annotate snapnotes on their devices.
- d) Research indicates that traditional note-taking methods do not significantly enhance learning outcomes compared to snapnotes.

92. Based on the author's arguments, which of the following must necessarily be true about the use of snapnotes in academic settings?

- a) Snapnotes inherently improve the quality of student learning due to their convenience and alignment with digital trends.
- b) The use of snapnotes requires educators to adapt their teaching methods to accommodate this new form of note-taking.
- c) Traditional note-taking methods, particularly by hand, facilitate deeper processing of information compared to snapnotes.
- d) Snapnotes eliminate the need for students to develop their own effective note-taking strategies.

93. Based on the passage, what conclusion does the author reach regarding the use of snapnotes in academic settings?

- a) Snapnotes are an essential tool for modern education and should be integrated into all learning environments.
- b) The convenience of snapnotes outweighs any potential drawbacks they may have in academic settings.
- c) Educators should focus solely on traditional note-taking methods and discourage the use of snapnotes.
- d) While snapnotes offer convenience, they fall short in fostering deep engagement and understanding, necessitating guidance towards more effective learning strategies.

### Passage III

The recent auction for the Indian Premier League (IPL) in Dubai has once again underscored the formidable financial clout and sustained appeal of this cricketing franchise. Since its inception in 2008, the IPL has evolved significantly, transcending its initial status as a domestic tournament with an international essence, as aptly described by Rahul Dravid. Despite navigating through turbulent waters marked by scandals involving betting and fixing, team suspensions, and ownership dilemmas, the IPL has firmly entrenched itself as an integral component of India's cricketing landscape and a perennial highlight in the global cricket calendar.

This year's auction, characterised by a pronounced recency bias, witnessed intense bidding wars, particularly for members of the triumphant Australian World Cup



squad. Notably, Pat Cummins, Mitchell Starc, and Travis Head were at the forefront of these bidding frenzies. Cummins and Starc, in particular, achieved a remarkable feat by breaching the ₹20 crore mark, a pinnacle previously unattained in IPL's history. Kolkata Knight Riders secured Starc for a staggering ₹24.75 crore, while Sunrisers Hyderabad clinched Cummins for ₹20.50 crore. This phenomenon underscores a broader theme in sports like cricket and football, where a player's national achievements significantly enhance their market value, leading to lucrative deals with clubs vying for their services.

The auction's prelude was not devoid of drama, with notable developments such as Hardik Pandya's transition from Gujarat Titans to Mumbai Indians, where he was appointed captain, potentially signalling the end of Rohit Sharma's storied tenure as IPL captain. This move, coupled with cryptic social media activities from players like Jasprit Bumrah and Suryakumar Yadav, fueled speculation within the Mumbai Indians camp. Furthermore, the IPL's outcomes are often viewed as a barometer for the Indian national team's prospects in T20 cricket, particularly with the upcoming ICC T20 World Cup in the West Indies and the U.S.

The auction also highlighted the emergence of lesser-known Indian talents from domestic cricket, with players like Sameer Rizvi, Kumar Kushagra, Shubham Dube, Swastik Chhikara, and Ramandeep Singh attracting significant interest from various franchises. This trend reflects the potential future of Indian cricket, as these young players may eventually represent the nation. However, the conspicuous absence of Pakistani cricketers from the IPL serves as a stark reminder of how geopolitical tensions continue to influence the realm of sports.

Citation: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/cricket-and-commerce-the-hindu-editorial-on-the-indian-premier-league-auction-in-dubai/article67676853.ece>

94. Which of the following is most likely to be an outcome of the developments described in the IPL auction dynamics?

- a) Enhanced valuation of cricketers primarily based on their performance in domestic leagues.
- b) Increased scrutiny and regulation of player auctions due to the high financial stakes involved.
- c) A shift in the strategic focus of IPL teams towards nurturing domestic talent over international acquisitions.
- d) The emergence of the IPL as a primary influencer in shaping the structure of the Indian national cricket team.

95. Which of the following statements is the author most likely to disagree with?

- a) The IPL primarily serves as a platform for showcasing international cricketing talent rather than promoting domestic players.



- b) The financial aspects of the IPL have overshadowed its role in the development of cricket as a sport.
- c) The IPL has remained largely unaffected by external controversies such as betting and fixing scandals.
- d) The exclusion of Pakistani cricketers from the IPL is a reflection of the league's apolitical nature.

96. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the main argument in the passage regarding the IPL's significant evolution and impact on cricket?

- a) A recent study shows that the viewership of the IPL has consistently increased year-over-year, surpassing other international cricket tournaments.
- b) The IPL has introduced advanced technologies for live broadcasting and player analytics, setting new standards in cricket.
- c) Several IPL players have been recognized for their exceptional performances in international cricket tournaments following their IPL exposure.
- d) The IPL has significantly contributed to the economic growth of the cities where the matches are hosted.

97. What best explains the significance of the IPL's recent auction in Dubai in terms of its impact on the broader cricketing world?

- A. It highlights the decline of cricket's popularity on a global scale.
- B. It demonstrates the IPL's resilience and increasing relevance in international cricket.
- C. It shows the IPL's shifting focus from international to purely domestic players.
- D. It proves that the IPL is losing its financial backing and market influence.

98. Based on the recent IPL auction dynamics and outcomes, what can be inferred about the IPL's role in the global cricket landscape?

- A. The IPL is becoming less significant in shaping global cricket trends.
- B. The IPL serves primarily as a retirement league for aging international players.
- C. The IPL is increasingly central to promoting and showcasing emerging cricket talent.
- D. The IPL functions solely as a financial enterprise without impacting cricketing performance.

#### Passage IV

In the realm of recreational mathematics, a fascinating query emerges: what dimensions should a table possess to optimally accommodate the assembly of a

jigsaw puzzle? The solution to this conundrum lies in a simple yet elegant mathematical formula. To ascertain the ideal table size for puzzle assembly, one must first determine the area of the fully assembled puzzle. This area is then multiplied by a factor of 1.73, yielding the requisite surface area of the table. This calculation ensures that the table provides ample space for all puzzle pieces to be spread out flat, without any overlapping.

This intriguing mathematical approach to puzzle assembly was inspired by a personal experience. While engaged in the assembly of a jigsaw puzzle, the thought occurred: could one estimate the necessary area for puzzle assembly in advance? This led to the development of the aforementioned formula. The factor of 1.73 is not arbitrary; it is derived from mathematical principles that account for the average shape and size of puzzle pieces, as well as the typical strategies employed by individuals when assembling puzzles.

Many puzzle enthusiasts prefer to lay out all the pieces at the onset of their puzzle-solving endeavor, as opposed to keeping them confined within the box or stacked in piles. This preference necessitates a larger surface area to accommodate the spread of pieces. The formula's multiplier of 1.73 accommodates this common practice, ensuring that each piece can be laid out flat and visible, thereby facilitating the assembly process.

This mathematical approach to determining the ideal table size for puzzle assembly exemplifies the practical application of mathematical principles in everyday life. It offers a systematic and efficient method for puzzle enthusiasts to enhance their puzzle-solving experience, ensuring that the space they work in is neither too cramped nor excessively large, but just right for the task at hand.

Citation: <https://www.newscientist.com/article/2409579-the-mathematically-perfect-table-size-for-solving-any-jigsaw-puzzle/>

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

- a) The multiplication factor in the puzzle table size formula is arbitrary and can be adjusted based on personal preference.
- b) The process of laying out jigsaw puzzle pieces is an inconsequential aspect of the puzzle-solving experience.
- c) The mathematical formula for table size takes into account the average dimensions and layout strategies of puzzle pieces.
- d) The primary goal of the formula is to minimize the table space used for puzzle assembly.

100. What can be most accurately inferred about the relationship between puzzle assembly and spatial requirements?

- a) Puzzle assembly is generally undertaken without consideration for spatial constraints.

- b) The spatial requirements for puzzle assembly vary significantly with the complexity of the puzzle.
- c) Adequate space for puzzle assembly enhances the overall puzzle-solving experience.
- d) The primary challenge in puzzle assembly is the cognitive effort, not the spatial arrangement.

101. Based on the author's arguments, which of the following must necessarily be true regarding the assembly of jigsaw puzzles?

- a) A table size larger than the calculated ideal using the formula would diminish the puzzle-solving experience.
- b) The formula for calculating table size is universally applicable to all types of puzzles, regardless of their specific characteristics.
- c) The preference for laying out all puzzle pieces at the start is a universal trait among puzzle enthusiasts.
- d) The area of the fully assembled puzzle is a critical factor in determining the ideal table size for puzzle assembly.

102. Which of the following statements does not contradict the author's view on the practical application of the formula for puzzle assembly?

- a) The formula is primarily theoretical and has little practical use in real-world scenarios.
- b) Puzzle enthusiasts often find the formula helpful in enhancing their puzzle-solving experience.
- c) The formula is too complex for average individuals to understand or apply.
- d) The formula disregards the individual preferences of puzzle assemblers.

103. Which of the following could weaken the argument that the formula involving the multiplier of 1.73 is the most effective way to determine the ideal table size for jigsaw puzzle assembly?

- A. Many puzzle enthusiasts prefer to use additional tools like puzzle sorters and trays that occupy extra space beyond the puzzle pieces themselves.
- B. The average shape and size of puzzle pieces are consistent across different puzzle brands, making the multiplier universally applicable.
- C. The factor of 1.73 is based on the standard assembly strategies commonly used by most puzzle enthusiasts.
- D. The use of a mathematical formula ensures that puzzle assembly is approached in a structured and systematic manner.

**Passage V**

DeepMind, a vanguard in artificial intelligence, has unveiled FunSearch AI, a groundbreaking innovation that adeptly tackles complex mathematical and computing problems with a built-in fact-checker. This system, a brainchild of Google DeepMind, represents a significant leap in integrating creativity with precision, ensuring the reliability and accuracy of solutions.

Unlike its predecessors focused on specific tasks, FunSearch is a Large Language Model (LLM) like GPT-4 and Google's Gemini, trained on extensive and diverse datasets. This broad training base, however, makes them prone to "hallucination," a term for generating false outputs. To counter this, DeepMind's team, led by Alhussein Fawzi, developed FunSearch based on Google's PaLM2 model, incorporating an "evaluator" layer for fact-checking. This model specifically generates computer code for mathematical and computing problems, where the veracity of solutions can be quickly verified.

The evaluator in FunSearch effectively filters out erroneous outputs, ensuring only reliable and potentially revolutionary concepts are considered. Fawzi notes that while a significant portion of the LLM's outputs might be unproductive, the model excels in evaluating the correctness of solutions, making it particularly suitable for mathematics and computer science.

FunSearch marks a paradigm shift in AI's capability to generate new scientific knowledge. It begins with a basic solution in source code, then iterates over numerous generated solutions, evaluated for accuracy. The best solutions are fed back into the system for further refinement, leading to efficient and sometimes superior solutions.

In practical applications, FunSearch demonstrated its prowess by finding a novel solution to the cap set problem, involving 512 points in eight dimensions, a feat surpassing known solutions. Similarly, in the bin-packing problem, it outperformed existing algorithms, showing immediate utility in sectors like transport and logistics.

Mark Lee from the University of Birmingham, UK, suggests that AI's future advancements will stem from adding layers that ensure accuracy, as demonstrated by FunSearch. He compares AI's process to human scientists' approach of brainstorming and iterative testing, focusing on the most promising ideas while discarding less viable ones. This approach underscores the potential of AI in contributing significantly to scientific and mathematical problem-solving.

Citation: <https://www.newscientist.com/article/2407897-deepmind-ai-with-built-in-fact-checker-makes-mathematical-discoveries/>

104. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author's argument regarding the efficacy and revolutionary impact of DeepMind's FunSearch AI in solving complex mathematical and computing problems?

- a) Researchers have developed another AI model that, unlike FunSearch, requires minimal human intervention for evaluating the correctness of its solutions.
- b) A significant number of solutions generated by FunSearch for the cap set problem were later found to be replicating existing known solutions.
- c) FunSearch's application in fields other than mathematics and computer science has led to groundbreaking discoveries surpassing its achievements in the mentioned domains.
- d) Experts in AI development have confirmed that the addition of an evaluator layer in AI models like FunSearch significantly increases the computational resources required, making them less feasible for widespread use.

105. Which of the following is an implicit assumption made by the author in the passage regarding the integration of the evaluator layer in FunSearch AI?

- a) The evaluator layer in FunSearch is the sole factor responsible for the AI's ability to surpass existing solutions in complex problems.
- b) The integration of the evaluator layer does not significantly increase the computational resources required for FunSearch to operate effectively.
- c) The evaluator layer in FunSearch can be seamlessly integrated into other existing Large Language Models to enhance their accuracy.
- d) The primary function of the evaluator layer is to enhance the AI's creativity in generating solutions for mathematical and computing problems.

106. Based on the author's arguments, which of the following must necessarily be true about the development and functionality of FunSearch AI?

- a) FunSearch AI requires continuous human oversight to ensure the accuracy of its generated solutions.
- b) The development of FunSearch AI has made previous Large Language Models obsolete in solving mathematical and computing problems.
- c) The evaluator layer in FunSearch AI is capable of completely eliminating the occurrence of "hallucination" in its outputs.
- d) FunSearch AI's approach to problem-solving involves iterative refinement of solutions based on their evaluated accuracy.

107. Which of the following statements does not contradict the author's views on the capabilities of FunSearch AI?

- a) FunSearch AI is limited to generating solutions only in the field of mathematics.
- b) The evaluator layer in FunSearch AI has made it completely immune to producing any false outputs.

c) FunSearch AI represents a significant advancement in AI, particularly in solving complex problems.

d) The development of FunSearch AI has rendered human mathematicians and scientists redundant in problem-solving.

108. Which of the following statements would the author of the description about DeepMind's FunSearch AI likely disagree with?

A. The incorporation of an evaluator layer in FunSearch AI limits its ability to generate creative solutions to problems.

B. FunSearch AI represents a significant advancement in the field of artificial intelligence by integrating fact-checking to enhance solution reliability.

C. The iterative process used by FunSearch AI, where solutions are refined through repeated evaluations, mirrors effective human scientific methods.

D. The ability of FunSearch AI to surpass known solutions in complex problems demonstrates its potential to revolutionize various industries.

### Data Interpretation

DI 01: Answer the questions based on the information given below.

A survey was conducted among certain number of people about the type of hair product (Hair cream or Hair gel) they like. 27 persons like neither hair cream nor hair gel. 110 persons like hair gel, out of which 45 persons also like hair cream. The number of people who like only hair cream was 23 more than the number of people who like only hair gel.

109. What is the total number of people who were surveyed?

A 180

B 200

C 240

D 225

110. Among the number of people who like only hair cream, the ratio of number of males to that of females is 3:5. What is the number of females who like only hair cream?

A 60

B 55

C 70

D 50

111. How many people like exactly one hair product?

A 184

B 153

C 160

D 171

112. The number of people who like neither hair cream nor hair gel is how much percent of the number of people who like both hair cream and hair gel?

A 60%

B 40%

C 55%

D 70%

113. What is the difference between the number of people who like hair gel and the number of people who like only hair cream?

A 30

B 22

C 27

D 18

114. What is the ratio of people who like only hair gel to the total number of people who like hair cream (including those who like both hair gel and hair cream)?

A 1:2

B 49:100

C 65:133

D 5:8

DI-02: Answer the questions based on the information given below.

Workers working in shop I is 15% of total workers working in all four shops.

Workers working in shop III is 20% more than that of worker in shop IV. Number of workers is same in shop II and shop III. Males worker in shop III is same as female in shop I which is twice of male worker in shop I. Numbers of males and females worker in shop IV is same. Number of males working in shop II is '10' more than that in shop I while number of females working in shop II is '10' more than that in shop IV.

115. Find total number of workers works in all four shops together?



A 200

B 160

C 320

D 240

116. Males in shop V is 25% more than that in shop III while females in shop V is 37.5% more than that in shop III. Find the ratio between total worker working in shop II to that the total workers working in in shop V

A 7:8

B 3:4

C 9:8

D 9:16

117. Average number of males in shop I, II and III is how much more/less than average number of females in shop I, II and IV together

A 24

B 8

C 12

D 10

118. Number of males working in shop II is what percent more/less than females working in shop III?

A 56.25%

B 50%

C 43.75%

D 37.5%

119. In each shop, a male worker sold 4 articles while a female worker sold 6 articles in a day find total number of articles sold in a day?

A 836

B 846

C 856

D 876

120. What is the difference in the number of male workers between shop IV and shop I?

- A) 5
- B) 12
- C) 15
- D) 20

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