

STUDENT NAME :

CONTACT NO. :

BATCH :

DATE OF EXAM :

CENTRE NAME :

MAX. MARKS : 120 , DURATION- 120 MINUTES

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. No clarification on the question paper can be sought. Answer the questions as they are.
2. There are 120 questions provided. Candidates must attempt 120 of these questions.
3. Each question carries *One* marks. *Total Marks are 120.*
4. There is a *negative* marking of *0.25mark* for every incorrect answer.
5. Candidates have to indicate the correct answer by darkening one of the four responses provided. with a **BALL PEN (BLUE OR BLACK)** in the **OMR Sheet**.
6. Answering the questions by any method other than the method indicated above shall be considered incorrect and no marks will be awarded for the same.
7. More than one response to a question shall be counted as wrong.
8. The candidate shall not write anything on the OMR Answer Sheet other than the details required and in the spaces provided for.
9. After the Test is over, the candidate has to return the OMR Answer Sheet to the invigilator. The candidate should take the Test Paper along with them.
10. The use of any unfair means by any candidate shall result in the cancellation of his/her candidature.
11. Impersonation is an offence and the candidate, apart from disqualification, may have to face criminal prosecution.
12. Electronic gadgets like mobile phones, pagers or calculators are strictly not permitted inside the Test Centre/Hall.
13. The candidates shall not leave the hall before the Test is over.

English Language

Passage - I

For some time scientists have believed that cholesterol plays a major role in heart disease because people with familial hypercholesterolemia, a genetic defect, have six to eight times the normal level of cholesterol in their blood and they invariably develop heart disease. These people lack cell-surface receptors for low-density lipoproteins (LDL's), which are the fundamental carriers of blood cholesterol to the body cells that use cholesterol. Without an adequate number of cell-surface receptors to remove LDL's from the blood, the cholesterol-carrying LDL's remain in the blood, increasing blood cholesterol levels. Scientists also noticed that people with familial hypercholesterolemia appear to produce more LDL's than normal individuals. How, scientists wondered, could a genetic mutation that causes a slowdown in the removal of LDL's from the blood also result in an increase in the synthesis of this cholesterol-carrying protein? Since scientists could not experiment on human body tissue, their knowledge of familial hypercholesterolemia was severely limited. However, a breakthrough came in the laboratories of Yoshio Watanabe of Kobe University in Japan in 1980. Watanabe noticed that a male rabbit in his colony had ten times the normal concentration of cholesterol in its blood. By appropriate breeding, Watanabe obtained a strain of rabbits that had very high cholesterol levels. These rabbits spontaneously developed heart disease. To his surprise, Watanabe further found that the rabbits, like humans with familial hypercholesterolemia, lacked LDL receptors. Thus, scientists could study these Watanabe rabbits to gain a better understanding of familial hypercholesterolemia in humans. Prior to the breakthrough at Kobe University, it was known that LDL's are secreted from the liver in the form of a precursor, called very low-density lipoproteins (VLDL's), which carry triglycerides as well as relatively small amounts of cholesterol. The triglycerides are removed from the VLDL's by fatty and other tissues. What remains is a remnant particle that must be removed from the blood. What scientists learned by studying the Watanabe rabbits is that the removal of the VLDL remnant requires the LDL receptor. Normally, the majority of the VLDL remnants go to the liver where they bind to LDL receptors and are degraded. In the Watanabe rabbit, due to a lack of LDL receptors on liver cells, the VLDL remnants remain in the blood and are eventually converted to LDL's. The LDL receptors thus have a dual effect in controlling LDL levels. They are necessary to prevent oversynthesis of LDL's from VLDL remnants and they are necessary for the normal removal of LDL's from the blood. With this knowledge, scientists are now well on the way toward developing drugs that dramatically lower cholesterol levels in people afflicted with certain forms of familial hypercholesterolemia.

1. In the passage, the author is primarily concerned with

- (A) presenting a hypothesis and describing compelling evidence in support of it
- (B) raising a question and describing an important discovery that led to an answer
- (C) showing that a certain genetically caused disease can be treated effectively with drugs
- (D) explaining what causes the genetic mutation that leads to heart disease

2. Which of the following drugs, if developed, would most likely be an example of the kind of drug mentioned in line 53?

- (A) A drug that stimulates the production of VLDL remnants
- (B) A drug that stimulates the production of LDL receptors on the liver
- (C) A drug that stimulates the production of an enzyme needed for cholesterol production
- (D) A drug that suppresses the production of body cells that use cholesterol

3. The passage supplies information to answer which of the following questions?

- (A) Which body cells are the primary users of cholesterol?
- (B) How did scientists discover that LDL's are secreted from the liver in the form of a precursor?
- (C) Where in the body are VLDL remnants degraded?
- (D) Which body tissues produce triglycerides?

4. According to the passage, by studying the Watanabe rabbits scientists learned that

- (A) VLDL remnants are removed from the blood by LDL receptors in the liver
- (B) LDL's are secreted from the liver in the form of precursors called VLDL's
- (C) VLDL remnant particles contain small amounts of cholesterol
- (D) triglycerides are removed from VLDL's by fatty tissues

5. The development of drug treatments for some forms of familial hypercholesterolemia is regarded by the author as

- (A) possible, but not very important
- (B) interesting, but too costly to be practical
- (C) promising, but many years off
- (D) extremely unlikely

Passage - II

Students of United States history, seeking to identify the circumstances that encouraged the emergence of feminist movements, have thoroughly investigated the mid-nineteenth-century American economic and social conditions that affected the status of women. These historians, however, have analyzed less fully the development of specifically feminist ideas and activities during the same period. Furthermore, the ideological origins of feminism in the United States have been obscured because, even when historians did take into account those feminist ideas and activities occurring within the United States, they failed to recognize that feminism was then a truly international movement actually centered in Europe. American feminist activists who have been described as "solitary" and "individual theorists" were in reality connected to a movement— utopian socialism—which was already popularizing feminist ideas in Europe during the two decades that culminated in the first women's rights conference held at Seneca Falls, New York, in 1848. Thus, a complete understanding of the origins and development of nineteenth-century feminism in the United States requires that the geographical focus be widened to include Europe and that the detailed study already made of social conditions be expanded to include the ideological development of feminism. The earliest and most popular of the utopian socialists were the Saint- Simonians. The specifically feminist part of Saint-Simonianism has, however, been less studied than the group's contribution to early socialism. This is regrettable on two counts. By 1832 feminism was the central concern of Saint-Simonianism and entirely absorbed its adherents' energy; hence, by ignoring its feminism, European historians have misunderstood Saint-Simonianism. Moreover, since many feminist ideas can be traced to Saint-Simonianism, European historians' appreciation of later feminism in France and the United States remained limited. Saint-Simon's followers, many of whom were women, based their feminism on an interpretation of his project to reorganize the globe by replacing brute force with the rule of spiritual powers. The new world order would be ruled together by a male, to represent reflection, and a female, to represent sentiment. This complementarity reflects the fact that, while the Saint-Simonians did not reject the belief that there were innate differences between men and women, they nevertheless foresaw an equally important social and political role for both sexes in their utopia. Only a few Saint-Simonians opposed a definition of sexual equality based on gender distinction. This minority believed that individuals of both sexes were born similar in capacity and character, and they ascribed male-female differences to socialization and education. The envisioned result of both currents of thought, however, was that women would enter public life in the new age and that sexual equality would reward men as well as women with an improved way of life.

6. It can be inferred that the author considers those historians who describe early feminists in the United States as "solitary" to be

- (A) insufficiently familiar with the international origins of nineteenth-century American feminist thought.
- (B) overly concerned with the regional diversity of feminist ideas in the period before 1848
- (C) not focused narrowly enough in their geographical scope
- (D) insufficiently aware of the ideological consequences of the Seneca Falls conference

7. According to the passage, which of the following is true of the Seneca Falls conference on women's rights?

- (A) It was primarily a product of nineteenth-century Saint-Simonian feminist thought.
- (B) It was the work of American activists who were independent of feminists abroad.
- (C) It was the culminating achievement of the utopian socialist movement.
- (D) It was a manifestation of an international movement for social change and feminism.

8. The author's attitude toward most European historians who have studied the Saint-Simonians is primarily one of

- (A) approval of the specific focus of their research
- (B) disapproval of their lack of attention to the issue that absorbed most of the Saint-Simonians' energy after 1832
- (C) approval of their general focus on social conditions
- (D) disapproval of their lack of attention to links between the Saint-Simonians and their American counterparts

9. The author mentions all of the following as characteristic of the Saint-Simonians EXCEPT:

- (A) The group included many women among its members.
- (B) The group believed in a world that would be characterized by sexual equality.
- (C) The group was among the earliest European socialist groups.
- (D) Most members believed that women and men were inherently similar in ability and character.

10. It can be inferred from the passage that the Saint-Simonians envisioned a utopian society having which of the following characteristics?

- (A) It would be worldwide.
- (B) It would emphasize dogmatic religious principles.
- (C) It would most influence the United States.
- (D) It would have armies composed of women rather than of men.

Passage - III

As people age, their cells become less efficient and less able to replace damaged components. At the same time their tissues stiffen. For example, the lungs and the heart muscle expand less successfully, the blood vessels become increasingly rigid, and the ligaments and tendons tighten.

Few investigators would attribute such diverse effects to a single cause. Nevertheless, researchers have discovered that a process long known to discolor and toughen foods may also contribute to age-related impairment of both cells and tissues. That process is nonenzymatic glycosylation, whereby glucose becomes attached to proteins without the aid of enzymes. When enzymes attach glucose to proteins (enzymatic glycosylation), they do so at a specific site on a specific protein molecule for a specific purpose. In contrast, the nonenzymatic process adds glucose haphazardly to any of several sites along any available peptide chain within a protein molecule.

This nonenzymatic glycosylation of certain proteins has been understood by food chemists for decades, although few biologists recognized until recently that the same steps could take place in the body. Nonenzymatic glycosylation begins when an aldehyde group (CHO) of glucose and an amino group (NH₂) of a protein are attracted to each other. The molecules combine, forming what is called a Schiff base within the protein. This combination is unstable and quickly rearranges itself into a stabler, but still reversible, substance known as an Amadori product.

If a given protein persists in the body for months or years, some of its Amadori products slowly dehydrate and rearrange themselves yet again, into new glucose-derived structures. These can combine with various kinds of molecules to form irreversible structures named advanced glycosylation end products (AGE's). Most AGE's are yellowish brown and fluorescent and have specific spectrographic properties. More important for the body, many are also able to cross-link adjacent proteins, particularly ones that give structure to tissues and organs. Although no one has yet satisfactorily described the origin of all such bridges between proteins, many investigators agree that extensive cross-linking of proteins probably contributes to the stiffening and loss of elasticity characteristic of aging tissues.

In an attempt to link this process with the development of cataracts (the browning and clouding of the lens of the eye as people age), researchers studied the effect of glucose on solutions of purified crystallin, the major protein in the lens of the eye. Glucose-free solutions remained clear, but solutions with glucose caused the proteins to form clusters, suggesting that the molecules had become cross-linked. The clusters diffracted light, making the solution opaque. The researchers also discovered that the pigmented cross-links in human cataracts have the brownish color

and fluorescence characteristic of AGE's. These data suggest that nonenzymatic glycosylation of lens crystallins may contribute to cataract formation.

11. With which of the following statements concerning the stiffening of aging tissues would the author most likely agree?

- (A) It is caused to a large degree by an increased rate of cell multiplication.
- (B) It paradoxically both helps and hinders the longevity of proteins in the human body.
- (C) It can be counteracted in part by increased ingestion of glucose-free foods.
- (D) It probably involves the nonenzymatic glycosylation of proteins.

12. According to the passage, which of the following statements is true of the process that discolors and toughens foods?

- (A) It takes place more slowly than glycosylation in the human body.
- (B) It requires a higher ratio of glucose to protein than glycosylation requires in the human body.
- (C) It does not require the aid of enzymes to attach glucose to protein.
- (D) It proceeds more quickly when the food proteins have a molecular structure similar to that of crystallin proteins.

13. According to the passage, which of the following is characteristic of enzymatic glycosylation of proteins?

- (A) AGE's are formed after a period of months or years.
- (B) Proteins affected by the process are made unstable.
- (C) Glucose attachment impairs and stiffens tissues.
- (D) Glucose is attached to proteins for specific purposes.

14. According to the passage, which of the following statements is true of Amadori products in proteins?

- (A) They are more plentiful in a dehydrated environment.
- (B) They are created through enzymatic glycosylation.
- (C) They are composed entirely of glucose molecules.
- (D) They are derived from Schiff bases.

15. Which of the following best describes the function of the third paragraph of the passage?

- (A) It offers evidence that contradicts the findings described in the first two paragraphs.
- (B) It presents a specific example of the process discussed in the first two paragraphs.
- (C) It explains a problem that the researchers mentioned in the second paragraph have yet to solve.
- (D) It evaluates the research discoveries described in the previous paragraph.

Passage - IV

Mary Barton, particularly in its early chapters, is a moving response to the suffering of the industrial worker in the England of the 1840's. What is most impressive about the book is the intense and painstaking effort made by the author, Elizabeth Gaskell, to convey the experience of everyday life in working-class homes. Her method is partly documentary in nature: the novel includes such features as a carefully annotated reproduction of dialect, the exact details of food prices in an account of a tea party, an itemized description of the furniture of the Bartons' living room, and a transcription (again annotated) of the ballad "The Oldham Weaver." The interest of this record is considerable, even though the method has a slightly distancing effect.

As a member of the middle class, Gaskell could hardly help approaching working-class life as an outside observer and a reporter, and the reader of the novel is always conscious of this fact. But there is genuine imaginative re-creation in her accounts of the walk in Green Heys Fields, of tea at the Bartons' house, and of John Barton and his friend's discovery of the starving family in the cellar in the chapter "Poverty and Death." Indeed, for a similarly convincing re-creation of such families' emotions and responses (which are more crucial than the material details on which the mere reporter is apt to concentrate), the English novel had to wait 60 years for the early writing of D. H. Lawrence. If Gaskell never quite conveys the sense of full participation that would completely authenticate this aspect of Mary Barton, she still brings to these scenes an intuitive recognition of feelings that has its own sufficient conviction.

The chapter “Old Alice’s History” brilliantly dramatizes the situation of that early generation of workers brought from the villages and the countryside to the urban industrial centers. The account of Job Legh, the weaver and naturalist who is devoted to the study of biology, vividly embodies one kind of response to an urban industrial environment: an affinity for living things that hardens, by its very contrast with its environment, into a kind of crankiness. The early chapters—about factory workers walking out in spring into Green Heys Fields; about Alice Wilson, remembering in her cellar the twig-gathering for brooms in the native village that she will never again see; about Job Legh, intent on his impaled insects—capture the characteristic responses of a generation to the new and crushing experience of industrialism. The other early chapters eloquently portray the development of the instinctive cooperation with each other that was already becoming an important tradition among workers.

16. Which of the following best describes the author’s attitude toward Gaskell’s use of the method of documentary record in *Mary Barton*?

- (A) Uncritical enthusiasm
- (B) Unresolved ambivalence
- (C) Qualified approval
- (D) Resigned acceptance

17. According to the passage, *Mary Barton* and the early novels of D. H. Lawrence share which of the following?

- (A) Depiction of the feelings of working-class families
- (B) Documentary objectivity about working-class circumstances
- (C) Richly detailed description of working-class adjustment to urban life
- (D) Imaginatively structured plots about working-class characters

18. Which of the following is most closely analogous to Job Legh in *Mary Barton*, as that character is described in the passage?

- (A) An entomologist who collected butterflies as a child
- (B) A small-town attorney whose hobby is nature photography
- (C) A young man who leaves his family’s dairy farm to start his own business
- (D) A city dweller who raises exotic plants on the roof of his apartment building

19. It can be inferred from examples given in the last paragraph of the passage that which of the following was part of “the new and crushing experience of industrialism” (lines 46-47) for many members of the English working class in the nineteenth century?

- (A) Extortionate food prices
- (B) Geographical displacement
- (C) Hazardous working conditions
- (D) Alienation from fellow workers

20. It can be inferred that the author of the passage believes that *Mary Barton* might have been an even better novel if Gaskell had

- (A) concentrated on the emotions of a single character
- (B) made no attempt to re-create experiences of which she had no firsthand knowledge
- (C) made no attempt to reproduce working-class dialects
- (D) managed to transcend her position as an outsider

Passage - V

Over the years, biologists have suggested two main pathways by which sexual selection may have shaped the evolution of male birdsong. In the first, male competition and intrasexual selection produce relatively short, simple songs used mainly in territorial behavior. In the second, female choice and intersexual selection produce longer, more complicated songs used mainly in mate attraction; like such visual ornamentation as the peacock’s tail, elaborate vocal characteristics increase the male’s chances of being chosen as a mate, and he thus enjoys more reproductive success than his less ostentatious rivals. The two pathways are not mutually exclusive, and we can expect to find examples that reflect their interaction. Teasing them apart has been an important challenge to evolutionary biologists.

Early research confirmed the role of intrasexual selection. In a variety of experiments in the field, males responded aggressively to recorded songs by exhibiting territorial behavior near the speakers. The breakthrough for research into intersexual selection came in the development of a new technique for investigating female response in the laboratory. When female cowbirds raised in isolation in sound-proof chambers were exposed to recordings of male song, they responded by exhibiting mating behavior. By quantifying the responses, researchers were able to determine what particular features of the song were most important. In further experiments on song sparrows, researchers found that when exposed to a single song type repeated several times or to a repertoire of different song types, females responded more to the latter. The beauty of the experimental design is that it effectively rules out confounding variables; acoustic isolation assures that the female can respond only to the song structure itself.

If intersexual selection operates as theorized, males with more complicated songs should not only attract females more readily but should also enjoy greater reproductive success. At first, however, researchers doing fieldwork with song sparrows found no correlation between larger repertoires and early mating, which has been shown to be one indicator of reproductive success; further, common measures of male quality used to predict reproductive success, such as weight, size, age, and territory, also failed to correlate with song complexity.

The confirmation researchers had been seeking was finally achieved in studies involving two varieties of warblers. Unlike the song sparrow, which repeats one of its several song types in bouts before switching to another, the warbler continuously composes much longer and more variable songs without repetition. For the first time, researchers found a significant correlation between repertoire size and early mating, and they discovered further that repertoire size had a more significant effect than any other measure of male quality on the number of young produced. The evidence suggests that warblers use their extremely elaborate songs primarily to attract females, clearly confirming the effect of intersexual selection on the evolution of birdsong.

21. The passage is primarily concerned with

- (A) showing that intrasexual selection has a greater effect on birdsong than does intersexual selection
- (B) contrasting the role of song complexity in several species of birds
- (C) describing research confirming the suspected relationship between intersexual selection and the complexity of birdsong
- (D) demonstrating the superiority of laboratory work over field studies in evolutionary biology

22. The author mentions the peacock's tail in line 8 most probably in order to

- (A) cite an exception to the theory of the relationship between intrasexual selection and male competition
- (B) illustrate the importance of both of the pathways that shaped the evolution of birdsong
- (C) draw a distinction between competing theories of intersexual selection
- (D) give an example of a feature that may have evolved through intersexual selection by female choice

23. According to the passage, which of the following is specifically related to intrasexual selection?

- (A) Female choice
- (B) Territorial behavior
- (C) Complex song types
- (D) Large song repertoires

24. Which of the following, if true, would most clearly demonstrate the interaction mentioned in lines 11-13?

- (A) Female larks respond similarly both to short, simple songs and to longer, more complicated songs.
- (B) Male canaries use visual ornamentation as well as elaborate song repertoires for mate attraction.
- (C) Both male and female blackbirds develop elaborate visual and vocal characteristics.
- (D) Male jays use songs to compete among themselves and to attract females.

25. The passage indicates that researchers raised female cowbirds in acoustic isolation in order to

- (A) eliminate confounding variables
- (B) approximate field conditions
- (C) measure reproductive success
- (D) quantify repertoire complexity

Logical Reasoning

Passage - I

The CALM (Cognitive Affective Learning Model) system is an innovative approach designed to enhance psychological well-being and emotional intelligence in educational settings. This model focuses on the integration of cognitive, affective, and behavioral competencies, aiming to equip students with the necessary skills to navigate the complexities of modern life. As educational institutions increasingly recognize the importance of mental health and emotional literacy, the CALM system offers a structured framework to cultivate these critical abilities. At its core, the CALM system emphasizes the interplay between cognition and emotions, positing that effective learning occurs when individuals understand and regulate their feelings. This approach encourages self-awareness, allowing students to identify their emotional states and recognize how these feelings influence their behavior and decision-making processes. By fostering this self-understanding, the CALM system promotes resilience, enabling students to cope with stressors and challenges more effectively. The CALM system also integrates collaborative learning experiences, where students engage in group activities that facilitate emotional support and shared learning. Such interactions not only help build strong peer relationships but also encourage empathy and communication skills. The curriculum often includes mindfulness practices, which have been shown to enhance focus, reduce anxiety, and improve overall well-being. Schools implementing the CALM system report improved student engagement, better academic performance, and a decrease in behavioral issues. The model creates a positive school culture that values emotional wellness alongside academic achievement, promoting a holistic educational experience.

26. Which of the following best summarizes the primary purpose of the CALM system as described in the passage?

- A) To enhance academic performance through traditional teaching methods.
- B) To integrate emotional and cognitive learning to improve overall student well-being.
- C) To provide a framework for competitive behavior among students.
- D) To eliminate the need for emotional intelligence in educational settings.

27. If the CALM system is implemented successfully, which of the following outcomes would most likely contradict the claims made in the passage?

- A) Students report feeling more anxious and less engaged in their studies.
- B) Teachers observe an increase in collaborative learning among students.
- C) Students demonstrate improved emotional regulation during stressful situations.
- D) Schools experience a decline in behavioral issues among students.

28. Which of the following statements, if true, would most significantly support the argument that the CALM system is essential for modern education?

- A) Emotional intelligence has been linked to better job performance in adults.
- B) Traditional educational methods have been shown to be ineffective in promoting emotional well-being.
- C) Many students prefer learning in isolation rather than in collaborative settings.
- D) Schools that do not implement the CALM system report higher rates of student dropout.

29. If it is true that emotional intelligence can be developed independently of the CALM system, which of the following must also be true?

- A) The CALM system is unnecessary for fostering emotional intelligence in students.
- B) The CALM system is the only effective method for improving student well-being.
- C) Other educational frameworks can achieve similar outcomes as the CALM system.
- D) Emotional intelligence has no impact on academic success.

30. Which of the following would most weaken the argument that the CALM system leads to improved student engagement?

- A) Research showing that students who practice mindfulness report lower stress levels.
- B) Evidence that students in CALM-implemented schools have higher attendance rates.

- C) Studies indicating that students in traditional educational settings also show high engagement levels.
- D) Testimonials from students expressing satisfaction with collaborative learning experiences.

Passage -II

Small savings instruments are financial products designed to encourage saving among individuals, particularly those with limited income. These instruments offer a safe and accessible way for people to set aside money, cultivate a savings habit, and achieve financial goals. Typically backed by government guarantees, small savings instruments are regarded as low-risk options for savers, making them attractive to a wide demographic, including low-income families.

Common examples of small savings instruments include savings accounts, fixed deposits, recurring deposits, public provident funds (PPF), and various government-backed schemes like the National Savings Certificate (NSC). These products often come with features that cater to the needs of small savers, such as low minimum deposit requirements and flexible terms. For instance, a recurring deposit allows individuals to invest a small sum regularly, fostering disciplined saving over time. One of the key advantages of small savings instruments is their interest rate, which is generally higher than that offered by regular savings accounts. This enhanced return incentivizes savers to commit their funds for longer periods. Many of these instruments also provide tax benefits, further encouraging saving behavior. Additionally, small savings schemes play a crucial role in financial inclusion by providing individuals, especially in rural and semi-urban areas, with access to formal savings mechanisms. They empower individuals to accumulate wealth gradually and mitigate financial risks during emergencies. In conclusion, small savings instruments are vital financial tools designed to promote a culture of saving among the masses. By providing secure, flexible, and rewarding options, these instruments not only help individuals achieve their personal financial goals but also contribute to the overall economic stability and growth of a nation. As awareness of the importance of savings increases, these instruments are poised to play an even more significant role in personal finance management.

31. Which of the following assumptions is made in the passage regarding small savings instruments?

- A) All individuals are aware of the benefits of small savings instruments.
- B) Individuals with limited income will benefit from small savings instruments.
- C) People prefer higher interest rates over lower ones, regardless of risk.
- D) Financial literacy is a prerequisite for utilizing small savings instruments.

32. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage about the role of small savings instruments in financial inclusion?

- A) Small savings instruments help integrate lower-income individuals into the formal financial system.
- B) Small savings instruments are not accessible to individuals in rural areas.
- C) The government discourages savings through small savings instruments.
- D) Only high-income individuals benefit from small savings instruments.

33. Which of the following statements would most strengthen the argument that small savings instruments are essential for personal finance management?

- A) The majority of low-income families lack adequate savings for emergencies.
- B) Large banks are increasingly offering similar savings products with higher returns.
- C) Studies show that individuals who use small savings instruments are more financially secure than those who do not.
- D) Interest rates for small savings instruments have been declining over the past few years.

34. Which of the following is a parallel reasoning to the advantages of small savings instruments as described in the passage?

- A) Just as having a budget helps individuals manage their finances effectively, saving regularly can lead to better financial stability.
- B) Much like investing in stocks can yield high returns at risk, small savings instruments offer lower risks at modest returns.
- C) Similar to how luxury goods cater to high-income earners, small savings instruments are tailored for low-income earners.
- D) Just as health insurance protects against medical expenses, small savings instruments protect against financial emergencies.

35. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the argument that small savings instruments encourage saving behavior?

- A) Individuals report that they prefer more flexible savings options over fixed-term savings.
- B) Several studies indicate that many people have stopped using small savings instruments due to lower interest rates.
- C) Government incentives for small savings instruments have decreased in recent years.
- D) Many financial experts advocate for higher-risk, higher-return investment strategies.

Passage - III

The Balkan Wars, which took place in 1912 and 1913, were a series of conflicts that significantly altered the political landscape of Southeast Europe. The wars were primarily fought between the Balkan League—comprising Serbia, Bulgaria, Greece, and Montenegro—and the Ottoman Empire, as well as between the members of the Balkan League themselves. These conflicts arose from the longstanding nationalistic aspirations of Balkan states to liberate territories occupied by the decline of the Ottoman Empire, which had controlled much of the region for centuries. The First Balkan War began in October 1912, as the Balkan League launched a coordinated attack on the Ottoman Empire, aiming to seize control of European territories still under Ottoman rule. By the end of the war in May 1913, the League achieved significant territorial gains, including Thessaloniki and large portions of Macedonia. However, disagreements over the distribution of these territories soon emerged, leading to tensions between the former allies. In June 1913, the Second Balkan War erupted when Bulgaria, dissatisfied with its share of the spoils, attacked its former allies Serbia and Greece. Romania and the Ottoman Empire joined the conflict against Bulgaria, seeking to capitalize on the situation. The war was marked by fierce battles and shifting alliances, ultimately resulting in a decisive defeat for Bulgaria. The Treaty of Bucharest, signed in August 1913, concluded the conflicts, forcing Bulgaria to cede territory to its neighbors. The consequences of the Balkan Wars were profound. They not only strained relations among the Balkan states but also set the stage for increased tensions in Europe, contributing to the outbreak of World War I. The wars highlighted the complexities of nationalism and territorial disputes, leaving a legacy that continues to influence the region's political dynamics today. The Balkan Wars are thus a crucial chapter in understanding both the history of Southeast Europe and the broader context of early 20th-century conflicts.

36. Which of the following assumptions is made in the passage regarding the motivations behind the Balkan Wars?

- A) The Ottoman Empire was a unified force against the Balkan League.
- B) The Balkan states were primarily motivated by economic interests.
- C) Nationalistic aspirations played a crucial role in the conflicts.
- D) The Balkan League was formed with the intent of territorial expansion.

37. Which of the following can be inferred about the relationships among the Balkan League members after the First Balkan War?

- A) All members of the Balkan League were satisfied with the territorial gains.
- B) Cooperation among the members continued after the war.
- C) Disagreements arose regarding the distribution of conquered territories.
- D) The members decided to disband the Balkan League immediately after the war.

38. What conclusion can be drawn about the impact of the Balkan Wars on European relations?

- A) The wars fostered greater cooperation among European nations.
- B) The Balkan Wars improved the stability of Southeast Europe.
- C) Increased tensions from the wars contributed to the outbreak of World War I.
- D) The Balkan Wars had little effect on the broader European political landscape.

39. Which of the following statements provides parallel reasoning to the motivations behind the formation of the Balkan League?

- A) Just as states form alliances to achieve territorial security, countries often unite to strengthen their political power.
- B) Similar to how economic exploitation led nations to colonize others, territorial disputes incited the Balkan states to form a military alliance.
- C) Much like allies in a war may disagree on strategy, the Balkan League members faced disputes after their initial success.
- D) Just as countries may declare war to protect their borders, the Balkan states sought to attack to expand their territories.

40. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the argument that the Balkan Wars were a result of nationalist aspirations?

- A) The Ottoman Empire had begun implementing reforms that contributed to stability in the region.
- B) Economic factors were the primary motivation for the Balkan states to engage in warfare.
- C) Other global conflicts diverted attention from the Balkans during this period.
- D) The Balkan League members were influenced primarily by foreign powers.

Passage - IV

When researchers at Emory University in Atlanta trained mice to fear the smell of almonds (by pairing it with electric shocks), they found, to their consternation, that both the children and grandchildren of these mice were spontaneously afraid of the same smell. That is not supposed to happen. Generations of schoolchildren have been taught that the inheritance of acquired characteristics is impossible. A mouse should not be born with something its parents have learned during their lifetimes, any more than a mouse that loses its tail in an accident should give birth to tailless mice. . . . Modern evolutionary biology dates back to a synthesis that emerged around the 1940s-60s, which married Charles Darwin's mechanism of natural selection with Gregor Mendel's discoveries of how genes are inherited. The traditional, and still dominant, view is that adaptations - from the human brain to the peacock's tail - are fully and satisfactorily explained by natural selection (and subsequent inheritance).

Yet [new evidence] from genomics, epigenetics and developmental biology [indicates] that evolution is more complex than we once assumed. . . . In his book *On Human Nature* (1978), the evolutionary biologist Edward O Wilson claimed that human culture is held on a genetic leash. The metaphor [needs revision]. . . . Imagine a dog-walker (the genes) struggling to retain control of a brawny mastiff (human culture). The pair's trajectory (the pathway of evolution) reflects the outcome of the struggle. Now imagine the same dog-walker struggling with multiple dogs, on leashes of varied lengths, with each dog tugging in different directions. All these tugs represent the influence of developmental factors, including epigenetics, antibodies and hormones passed on by parents, as well as the ecological legacies and culture they bequeath. . . . The received wisdom is that parental experiences can't affect the characters of their offspring. Except they do. The way that genes are expressed to produce an organism's phenotype - the actual characteristics it ends up

with - is affected by chemicals that attach to them. Everything from diet to air pollution to parental behaviour can influence the addition or removal of these chemical marks, which switches genes on or off. Usually these so-called 'epigenetic' attachments are removed during the production of sperm and eggs cells, but it turns out that some escape the resetting process and are passed on to the next generation, along with the genes. This is known as 'epigenetic inheritance', and more and more studies are confirming that it really happens. Let's return to the almond-fearing mice. The inheritance of an epigenetic mark transmitted in the sperm is what led the mice's offspring to acquire an inherited fear. . . . Epigenetics is only part of the story. Through culture and society, [humans and other animals] inherit knowledge and skills acquired by [their] parents. . . . All this complexity . . . points to an evolutionary process in which genomes (over hundreds to thousands of generations), epigenetic modifications and inherited cultural factors (over several, perhaps tens or hundreds of generations), and parental effects (over single-generation timespans) collectively inform how organisms adapt. These extra-genetic kinds of inheritance give organisms the flexibility to make rapid adjustments to environmental challenges, dragging genetic change in their wake - much like a rowdy pack of dogs.

41. What flaw in the argument can be identified regarding the traditional view of inheritance mentioned in the passage?

- A) It exclusively considers genetic factors without acknowledging environmental influences.
- B) It fails to consider the influence of parental behavior on offspring.
- C) It relies too heavily on anecdotal evidence, such as the mice's fear of almonds.
- D) It suggests that all adaptations are due solely to natural selection.

42. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage about the role of epigenetics in inheritance?

- A) Epigenetic changes are always reversed in the next generation.
- B) Environmental factors can influence genetic expression in ways that impact future generations.
- C) Mice cannot inherit traits acquired from their parents.
- D) Epigenetic inheritance is a rare occurrence in the animal kingdom.

43. What conclusion can be drawn about the relationship between genes, epigenetics, and culture based on the passage?

- A) Genes alone are sufficient to explain an organism's traits and adaptations.
- B) Culture plays a more significant role than genes in determining traits.
- C) A combination of genes, epigenetic factors, and cultural influences shapes an organism's adaptations.
- D) Epigenetic changes are only relevant in the context of cultural inheritance.

44. Which of the following statements provides parallel reasoning to the concepts discussed regarding the evolution of traits?

- A) Just as environmental changes can modify the expression of traits in species, societal changes can impact cultural practices in human communities.
- B) Similar to how learned behaviors are passed down through generations, genetic information also transmits unchanged from parents to offspring.
- C) As educational systems adapt to societal values, genetic systems must also adapt to environmental pressures.
- D) Much like a river carves its path through the landscape, cultural evolution shapes the trajectory of human behavior over time.

45. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the argument that epigenetic inheritance significantly affects evolution?

- A) Many studies demonstrate that epigenetic inheritance occurs in various species.
- B) The majority of inherited traits in animals are determined solely by genetic factors without epigenetic modification.
- C) Animal behavior is predominantly learned rather than inherited.
- D) Epigenetic changes are frequently reversible and do not reliably pass to offspring.

Passage - V

The Abraham Accords mark a significant turning point in Middle Eastern diplomacy, representing a series of normalization agreements between Israel and several Arab nations. Announced in 2020, these accords were primarily facilitated by the United States and aimed to establish peaceful relations, promote economic cooperation, and enhance stability in the region. The first countries to sign the accords were the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Bahrain, with Sudan and Morocco joining shortly thereafter. The agreements are named after the patriarch Abraham, a figure revered in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, symbolizing a shared heritage and the potential for coexistence among diverse cultures. The accords signify a departure from the longstanding Arab consensus which conditioned peace with Israel on the resolution of the Palestinian issue. Instead, the Abraham Accords prioritize bilateral relations, trade, and investment, paving the way for new partnerships and mutual benefits. One of the key outcomes of the Abraham Accords has been increased economic cooperation, including trade agreements, technological partnerships, and tourism initiatives. For instance, direct flights between Israel and the UAE have bolstered travel and business opportunities. Additionally, the accords have opened avenues for collaboration on issues like water scarcity, renewable energy, and security, addressing critical challenges faced by the region. Critics argue that the accords do not sufficiently address the Palestinian plight and could further entrench divisions in the region. However, proponents assert that fostering relationships between Israel and Arab nations can create a more stable environment, ultimately leading to improved conditions for a future peace process.

46. What flaw in the argument can be identified regarding the Abraham Accords' potential impact on the Palestinian issue?

- A) The passage implies that economic benefits from the accords will automatically resolve political tensions.
- B) It assumes that all Arab nations support the accords unconditionally.
- C) The paragraph fails to acknowledge the influence of international opinion on the accords.
- D) It suggests that the accords eliminate the need for addressing the Palestinian plight directly.

47. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage about the economic implications of the Abraham Accords?

- A) Increased tourism will solely benefit Israel and the UAE.
- B) Technology partnerships will have minimal impact on the regional economy.
- C) The accords have created new opportunities for trade and investment between Israel and Arab nations.
- D) Economic cooperation will not address underlying political issues.

48. Which of the following statements would most strengthen the argument that the Abraham Accords could lead to broader peace in the region?

- A) Historical precedent shows that economic cooperation leads to lasting political agreements.
- B) Increased military cooperation between Israel and Arab nations has been observed.
- C) More Arab countries are considering normalization agreements with Israel.
- D) Anti-Israel sentiments among some Arab nations have decreased since the accords.

49. What is a flaw in the argument regarding the stability brought by the Abraham Accords?

- A) The passage overlooks the longstanding tensions in the region that could undermine new agreements.
- B) The argument wrongly emphasizes economic relationships over cultural relations.
- C) It fails to consider that normalization does not ensure peace and security for all parties.
- D) The passage does not provide any evidence of improved relations after the accords.

50. What conclusion can be drawn about the future implications of the Abraham Accords based on the passage?

- A) The accords are likely to lead to a permanent peace in the Middle East.
- B) The agreements may serve as a catalyst for addressing the Palestinian issue.
- C) Their success depends on further cooperation among Arab countries and Israel.
- D) The accords will likely remain a controversial topic in regional politics.

By Ready For Exam

General Knowledge

PASSAGE - I

Sir Creek, a 96-kilometre-long estuary located in the marshy region of the Rann of Kutch, has long been a contentious boundary between India and Pakistan. This narrow, winding strip of water runs between the state of Gujarat on the Indian side and Sindh province on the Pakistani side, eventually merging into the Arabian Sea. What makes Sir Creek geopolitically significant is not its size, but its implications for the maritime boundary and Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) demarcation between the two countries.

The origin of the dispute dates back to the 1890 agreement between the Government of Bombay (then under British India) and the Ruler of Kutch, which defined the boundary along the eastern bank of the creek. Pakistan, however, argues that the boundary should lie along the mid-channel of Sir Creek, based on a 1914 map that, according to Islamabad, supersedes the earlier understanding. India maintains that the eastern bank remains the legitimate demarcation line.

This disagreement carries far-reaching consequences: the side controlling the creek will gain access to approximately 250 square miles of the sea, which in turn determines fishing rights, potential oil and gas exploration zones, and maritime sovereignty. Diplomatic negotiations between India and Pakistan have been held intermittently since the 1960s, but without concrete resolution.

Environmentalists point out that Sir Creek's mudflats and mangrove ecosystems are ecologically sensitive, forming part of the Indus Delta, and serve as crucial habitats for migratory birds. Rising sea levels and salinity have already threatened biodiversity in the area, yet the absence of coordinated management between the two nations has made conservation efforts fragmented.

While the dispute occasionally becomes dormant in public discourse, it retains strategic importance in times of maritime patrol tensions or during Indo-Pak dialogues on boundary issues. Experts often cite Sir Creek as a classic example of how colonial-era maps, combined with postcolonial geopolitics, continue to influence modern territorial disputes in South Asia.

51. Which of the following natural features does NOT border Sir Creek?

- A. The Thar Desert
- B. The Rann of Kutch
- C. The Sindh province
- D. The Arabian Sea

52. Which of the following international law principles would be most relevant to resolving the Sir Creek dispute?

- A. The Law of the Sea Convention (UNCLOS)
- B. The Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations
- C. The Rio Declaration
- D. The Treaty of Tordesillas

53. Consider the following statements regarding the Sir Creek region:

1. It is an estuary that lies entirely within Indian territory.
2. It forms the maritime boundary between Gujarat and Sindh provinces.
3. It opens into the Arabian Sea near the Kori Creek.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

54. Why is Sir Creek geopolitically significant for both India and Pakistan?

1. It influences the demarcation of fishing zones.
2. It determines control over potential hydrocarbon reserves.
3. It affects the territorial claim over the Rann of Kutch region.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1 and 2 only B. 1 and 3 only C. 2 and 3 only D. 1, 2 and 3

55. Which of the following Indian naval establishments is located closest to the Sir Creek region?

- A. INS Kadamba B. INS Dwarka C. INS Valsura D. INS Kalinga

56. Consider the following statements about the ecological importance of Sir Creek:

1. It provides breeding grounds for several species of prawns and fish.
2. It acts as a natural barrier against coastal erosion.
3. It is part of the Ramsar-designated wetland network jointly managed by India and Pakistan.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only B. 1 only C. 2 and 3 only D. 1, 2 and 3

PASSAGE - II

The India–EFTA Free Trade Agreement (FTA), officially called the Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA), was signed in March 2024 between India and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), comprising Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein. This agreement marked the culmination of nearly 16 years of negotiations, making it one of the longest trade discussions India has engaged in with a regional bloc.

The TEPA aims to deepen economic integration by eliminating or reducing tariffs on a wide range of goods and services, while also promoting investment and technology exchange. It is India's first FTA with a European bloc and is designed to complement its engagements with other economic regions such as ASEAN and the UAE. Under this pact, EFTA countries have collectively committed to investing around USD 100 billion in India over 15 years, with the expectation of generating 1 million direct jobs.

Unlike traditional FTAs focused mainly on tariff cuts, the India–EFTA agreement introduces innovative elements like sustainable development provisions, commitments to intellectual property rights (IPR) protection, and cooperation on renewable energy, pharmaceuticals, and digital trade. These elements are seen as essential for India's long-term goal of integrating into global value chains (GVCs).

Switzerland, being EFTA's largest economy, is expected to play a key role through technology transfer and financial investment, while Norway is likely to collaborate in the field of green technologies and fisheries. Iceland and Liechtenstein, though smaller economies, bring specialized expertise in digital services and sustainable finance respectively.

Strategically, the TEPA is viewed as a response to India's limited presence in European markets and as a counterbalance to the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), which India opted out of in 2019. Analysts believe the deal may boost India's exports of pharmaceuticals, gems, textiles, and engineering goods, while increasing imports of high-value machinery and precision instruments. However, challenges remain in the form of non-tariff barriers, stringent product standards, and regulatory compliance issues across European markets.

Thus, the India–EFTA FTA signifies not only a trade pact but a broader framework of strategic cooperation, balancing India's global economic ambitions with sustainable and inclusive growth priorities.

57. Which of the following statements regarding India's engagement with global trade blocs is not mentioned in the passage but is factually relevant?

- A. India signed FTAs with Japan and South Korea prior to TEPA.
- B. India is a founding member of the OECD.
- C. India has signed RCEP but not ratified it.
- D. India has an FTA with the EU since 2012.

58. With reference to the India-EFTA TEPA, consider the following statements:

- 1. The EFTA countries are part of the European Union's customs union.
- 2. The TEPA is India's first trade agreement to include investment commitments from partner countries.
- 3. The agreement includes provisions on intellectual property and sustainable development.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

59. The TEPA agreement includes investment commitments from EFTA countries. Which of the following correctly matches the EFTA country with its expected contribution or area of cooperation?

- 1. Switzerland – Financial investment and precision technology
- 2. Norway – Fisheries and renewable energy cooperation
- 3. Iceland – Tourism and sustainable finance
- 4. Liechtenstein – Biotechnology and defence collaboration

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1, 2 and 3 only
- C. 2, 3 and 4 only
- D. 1 and 4 only

60. Consider the following statements regarding the European Free Trade Association (EFTA):

- 1. It was established in 1960 as an alternative to the European Economic Community.
- 2. All its members are also members of the Eurozone.
- 3. EFTA's secretariat is located in Geneva, Switzerland.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

61. Arrange the following trade agreements involving India in chronological order:

- 1. India-ASEAN FTA
- 2. India-UAE CEPA
- 3. India-EFTA TEPA
- 4. India-Japan CEPA

Select the correct sequence:

- A. 1 – 4 – 2 – 3
- B. 4 – 1 – 2 – 3
- C. 1 – 2 – 4 – 3
- D. 1 – 3 – 4 – 2

62. Consider the following pairs regarding India's recent FTAs and their key features:

FTA	Key Focus
1. India-UAE CEPA	Trade facilitation in services and digital economy
2. India-Australia ECTA	Tariff reduction on over 90% of goods
3. India-EFTA TEPA	Sustainable development and investment guarantees

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- A. 1 and 3 only B. 2 and 3 only C. 1, 2 and 3 D. 2 only

PASSAGE - III

India and Bhutan took a historic step in 2025 by announcing their first cross-border railway connections, marking Bhutan's entry into the international railway grid. Two new rail lines were agreed: one from Kokrajhar (Assam, India) to Gelephu (Bhutan), and another from Banarhat (West Bengal, India) to Samtse (Bhutan).

These dual alignments together span about 77 km (57 km plus 20 km) and are expected to cost approximately USD 450-483 million (Indian rupee equivalent Rs 4,033 crore) in total. (The Detailed Project Report for the Kokrajhar-Gelephu segment (about 69.04 km) has been completed. (The rail lines are slated to be operational within three to four years.

Strategically, this project aligns with India's Neighbourhood First and Act East policies, and is viewed as a step to strengthen India-Bhutan ties and to enhance regional economic integration. Economically, the rail links are expected to boost trade, tourism, and people-to-people exchange by lowering logistics costs and improving connectivity.

The terrain for the rail lines includes forested hills requiring bridges, tunnels, viaducts, and complex engineering. Bhutan's historically limited rail network (in fact, Bhutan has had essentially no operational railway) is now to be linked via these cross-border lines. Earlier, in 2005, India and Bhutan had signed a memorandum of understanding to connect Bhutan via several routes, but none had yet materialized until 2025.

Challenges include land acquisition, negotiating ecological clearances in sensitive Himalayan and forest ecosystems, ensuring cross-border customs and regulatory coordination, and addressing financial and engineering risks. (This is an inferred concern from the terrain and international links, though not all details are spelled out in agreements.)

In sum, India's first cross-border rail links with Bhutan are a landmark in South Asian connectivity, marrying ambition with complexity — a diplomatic, infrastructural, and strategic venture with high stakes for regional integration.

63. With reference to the India-Bhutan cross-border rail link project, consider the following statements:

1. The Kokrajhar-Gelephu and Banarhat-Samtse links are the first railway projects connecting Bhutan with India.
2. The project aims to operationalize both lines by 2028.
3. The rail gauge planned for the project is the same as India's standard broad gauge.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1 and 3 only D. 1, 2 and 3

64. Which of the following correctly represents the objectives behind India's cross-border rail link with Bhutan?

1. To enhance regional connectivity under India's "Neighbourhood First" policy.
2. To increase Bhutan's access to sea ports in eastern India.
3. To develop tourism and reduce logistics costs.
4. To create a counterweight to Chinese infrastructure influence in the Himalayas.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1 and 2 only B. 1, 3 and 4 only C. 2, 3 and 4 only D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

65. Consider the following statements regarding the Banarhat-Samtse rail link:

1. It originates in West Bengal and enters Bhutan's southwestern region.
2. It is expected to primarily serve Bhutan's hydropower export corridor.
3. The terrain of this line involves more plains and fewer tunnels compared to the Kokrajhar-Gelephu route.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1 only B. 1 and 2 only C. 1 and 3 only D. 2 and 3 only

66. The Kokrajhar-Gelephu line is being developed under the strategic framework of:

- A. Bharatmala Pariyojana B. Act East Policy C. Sagarmala Project
D. National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP)

67. The rail connectivity between India and Bhutan complements which of the following regional initiatives?

1. BBIN (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal) Motor Vehicles Agreement
2. BIMSTEC connectivity master plan
3. India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway
4. Asian Highway Network

Select the correct answer using the code below:

- A. 1 and 2 only
B. 1, 2 and 3 only
C. 2 and 4 only
D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

68. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding Bhutan's economic dependence on India?

1. India is Bhutan's largest trade partner and investor.
2. More than 70% of Bhutan's electricity exports go to India.
3. Bhutan's currency, the Ngultrum, is pegged to the Indian rupee.

Select the correct answer:

- A. 1 and 2 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1 and 3 only
D. 1, 2 and 3

PASSAGE - IV

After more than six decades of distinguished service, the Indian Air Force (IAF) officially bid farewell to the MiG-21 fleet on 26 September 2025, marking the end of an era in Indian aerial defence. The decommissioning ceremony was held at Chandigarh Air Force Station, where the final squadrons—No. 23 “Panthers” and No. 3 “Cobras”—flew the last salutes before retiring the iconic delta-wing supersonic fighter.

The MiG-21 was first inducted into IAF service in 1963. Over the years, India acquired more than 700 (or by some counts 800+) MiG-21s of various variants, many of which were licensed manufactured and upgraded domestically, especially into the Bison standard. The Bison variant featured modern avionics, radar upgrades, and compatibility with beyond-visual-range missiles, though persistent problems remained — notably with engine flameouts and an aging airframe.

Over its operational lifetime, the MiG-21 participated in India’s major conflicts: the 1965 and 1971 India–Pakistan wars, the 1999 Kargil conflict, and later operations such as Balakot. However, the aircraft also developed a controversial safety record: more than 500 crashes over 60 years, with significant loss of life among pilots, earned it the grim nickname “flying coffin.”

With the retirement of the MiG-21, the IAF’s fighter squadron strength is further strained: the force is reportedly down to 29 squadrons, well below the sanctioned strength of 42. To fill the gap, the IAF is accelerating induction of the Tejas Mk1A and other modern platforms.

In the months before the farewell, symbolic gestures were made: the Chief of Air Staff flew a solo sortie in a MiG-21, and veteran pilots participated in nostalgic flying displays. The ceremony itself included fly-pasts involving not just MiG-21s but also other IAF aircraft, a water-cannon salute, and public homage to its legacy.

The MiG-21’s story is one of paradox: an aircraft that transformed India’s aerial power, yet one that, in its later years, became increasingly burdensome due to maintenance, safety, and obsolescence challenges. Its retirement is symbolic of the IAF’s generational shift toward safer, more advanced, multi-role fighters.

69. With reference to the MiG-21’s retirement, which statements are correct?

1. The final retirement ceremony was at Chandigarh.
2. The No. 23 “Panthers” squadron was among the last to retire.
3. The MiG-21 was first inducted into the IAF in 1965.

A. 1 and 2 only B. 1 and 3 only C. 2 and 3 only D. 1, 2 and 3

70. With reference to the MiG-21’s service in India, consider the following statements:

1. The MiG-21 was India’s first supersonic fighter aircraft.
2. It was inducted into service in 1963.
3. It participated in every major conflict India fought after 1962.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1 and 3 only
D. 1, 2 and 3

71. The MiG-21 Bison upgrade programme undertaken by India included which of the following enhancements?

1. Integration of beyond-visual-range (BVR) missiles
2. Replacement of analog cockpit with digital avionics
3. Installation of a twin-engine system
4. Radar and electronic warfare upgrades

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1, 2 and 4 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

72. Consider the following statements regarding the operational legacy of MiG-21 in India:

1. It played a decisive role in the 1971 India–Pakistan war.
2. It was used in the Kargil conflict and Balakot operations.
3. It was also deployed during the 1962 war with China.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

73. Which of the following statements about the design and origin of MiG-21 are correct?

1. It was developed by the Soviet aircraft design bureau Mikoyan-Gurevich.
2. The MiG-21 has a delta-wing configuration optimized for supersonic flight.
3. It was one of the first aircraft in the world capable of flying beyond Mach 2.
4. It was developed in collaboration with the United States under Cold War defence exchanges.

Select the correct answer:

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 2 and 4 only
- D. 1, 3 and 4 only

74. Consider the following aircraft and match them to their origin:

1. Dassault Rafale — France
2. Tejas Mk1A — India
3. Sukhoi-30MKI — Russia–India joint project
4. Mirage-2000 — United Kingdom

Which of the pairs are correctly matched?

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 1, 2 and 4 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 3 and 4 only

PASSAGE - V

After a hiatus of nearly four years, direct passenger flights between India and China resumed in September 2025, marking a cautious revival of people-to-people and business exchanges between the two Asian giants. The resumption came after extended diplomatic and regulatory negotiations that followed the suspension of flights in early 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and deteriorating bilateral relations.

The first resumed flight, operated by Air India from Delhi to Shanghai, was welcomed as a symbolic thaw in ties that had remained strained since the Galwan Valley clashes of June 2020. According to officials, initial services will be limited to a few flights per week under a controlled bilateral air bubble arrangement, with the possibility of expansion based on mutual confidence and demand.

Before the suspension, over 42 weekly flights connected major Indian cities like Delhi, Mumbai, and Kolkata to Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangzhou, carrying tens of thousands of passengers, including business professionals, students, and tourists. The reactivation of this air corridor is seen as essential for reviving trade, educational exchange, and supply chain logistics, given that China remains India's second-largest trading partner after the United States.

However, the decision to resume direct flights was not devoid of strategic caution. India reportedly sought assurances on aviation safety standards, data transparency, and reciprocity in flight operations. Chinese carriers such as China Eastern and Air China are expected to operate reciprocal routes under the same arrangement.

Analysts note that while the reopening of air connectivity signals pragmatic engagement, it does not necessarily signify a normalization of political relations. Border tensions persist, trade deficits continue to grow, and mutual distrust remains visible in visa issuance and investment scrutiny. The step, therefore, is viewed as functional cooperation, not a full diplomatic rapprochement.

For Indian policymakers, the move underscores a broader theme of selective engagement — maintaining economic and civil connectivity while preserving strategic autonomy. The aviation sector, which suffered severely during the pandemic, views the partial resumption as a confidence booster for both business and academic mobility. Yet, experts caution that true normalization will depend on progress in border negotiations and trust-building measures, not merely air routes.

75. Which of the following statements regarding the resumption of India–China flights are correct?

1. Direct passenger flights resumed in September 2025.
2. The first resumed flight was operated by Air India from Delhi to Shanghai.
3. The arrangement currently allows unlimited weekly flights.

A. 1 and 2 only B. 2 and 3 only C. 1 and 3 only D. 1, 2 and 3

76. Before the suspension in 2020, which of the following Indian cities had direct flight connections with China?

1. Delhi
2. Mumbai
3. Kolkata
4. Bengaluru

A. 1, 2 and 3 only B. 1 and 4 only C. 2 and 4 only D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

77. India and China will resume direct flights after a five-year hiatus. Which city-pair route has been specifically mentioned to restart?

- A. Delhi – Beijing
- B. Mumbai – Shanghai
- C. Kolkata – Guangzhou
- D. Chennai – Chengdu

78. According to the passage, which of the following is a non-political objective behind resuming flights?

- A. Strengthening border cooperation.
- B. Reviving trade, education, and mobility.
- C. Resolving the Galwan Valley dispute.
- D. Negotiating long-term aviation rights.

79. Which of the following sectors in India was most affected by the suspension of flights to China?

- A. Textile exports
- B. Education and pharmaceuticals
- C. Space research
- D. Heavy machinery imports

80. Which of the following global developments may have indirectly influenced the reopening of India-China air routes?

1. Post-pandemic recovery of global aviation networks
 2. BRICS and SCO multilateral summits emphasizing connectivity
 3. ASEAN-led Indo-Pacific connectivity framework
 4. U.S.-China trade détente
- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
 - B. 1, 2 and 4 only
 - C. 2 and 3 only
 - D. 1 and 4 only

Legal Reasoning

Passage - I

In contract law, various principles govern the formation and enforceability of agreements between parties. One crucial principle is the concept of undue influence, which occurs when the relations between the parties are such that one party is in a position to dominate the will of the other and uses that position to obtain an unfair advantage. For instance, if an elderly person transfers property to a caregiver who exerts significant control over them, this transaction may be scrutinized for undue influence. Another important concept is the contingent contract, which is a contract to do or not to do something if a particular event, collateral to the contract, happens or does not happen. For example, an agreement to pay a sum of money if a specific event occurs, such as a sports player achieving a set number of goals in a match, is a contingent contract. The enforceability of such a contract hinges on the occurrence of the specified event. Contracts can also involve promises to do legal and illegal acts. When parties reciprocally promise to do certain legal things, the promises constitute a valid contract. However, if they also agree to do something illegal under specified circumstances, that part of the agreement is void. For example, a contract to sell a house is valid, but an additional clause that stipulates an illegal use for the property makes that part of the agreement void. In situations where one person lawfully performs an act for another or delivers something without intending it to be a gratuitous act, and the other person benefits from it, the latter is bound to compensate the former. For instance, if a professional service is rendered without prior agreement but with the expectation of payment, the beneficiary must compensate for the service. Moreover, a contract is generally not enforceable by or against a person who is not a party to it. However, if the contract explicitly confers a benefit upon a third party, that third party can enforce the contract to obtain the benefit. For example, if a contract includes a clause benefiting a third party, such as a family member, that third party can claim the benefit. Finally, for an agreement to be enforceable, it must be entered into with free will, consent, and for reasonable consideration. This means all parties must willingly agree to the contract terms without coercion, and there must be a lawful exchange of value. This ensures fairness and mutual consent in contractual relationships, upholding the integrity of agreements.

81. Radha, a very old lady, was residing with her grandson Sumit. Radha was actively involved in the management of her property. During her lifetime, Radha gifted all her property to Sumit, stating that she no longer held any interest in the property. She excluded her two sons from the gift deed. Upon Radha's death (after 4 years), her two sons challenged the gift, claiming it was obtained using undue influence.

- A. There is an undue influence as Radha was an old lady.
- B. There is no undue influence as Radha was in management of the property.
- C. There is an undue influence as Radha can easily be dominated by Sumit in his residence.
- D. There is no undue influence as Radha stated that she no longer had any interest in the property.

82. Sachin Pillai, a renowned football player for the Arsenal club, signed a contract with the club for Rs. 5 crores if he wore a t-shirt with the club's logo in the final match, and an additional Rs. 2 crore reward if he made two goals in the final. Sachin wore the t-shirt and made two goals, but the team lost the match as the other team scored three goals. Due to the loss, the club's manager decided not to pay the Rs. 2 crores to Sachin.

- A. The contract is a contingent contract so the club is liable to pay.
- B. There is no certainty in the contract so the club is not liable to pay.
- C. The collateral event was the victory of the club, so the club is not liable to pay.
- D. None of the above

83. Ram and Shyam agree that Ram shall sell Shyam a house for Rs. 5 lakhs, but that, if Shyam uses it as a gambling house, he shall pay Ram Rs. 10 lakhs for the same house. Decide the legality of both of the contracts.

- A. The agreement of selling the house for Rs. 5 lakhs is a contract.
- B. The agreement of selling the house for Rs. 10 lakhs if it is used as a gambling house is a contract.
- C. Both of the agreements are void agreements.
- D. Both of the agreements are valid.

84. A saves B's life as he was sinking in the river, by jumping in the river and keeping his life in danger. Once A took B out of the river, he stated that he is a professional lifesaver and charged a hefty amount of money. B decided not to pay any amount to him.

- A. B is liable to pay the amount as A was a professional lifesaver.
- B. B is liable to pay the amount as A endangered his life to save A.
- C. B is not liable to pay the amount as A worked in a gratuitous manner.
- D. B is not liable to pay the amount as A acted voluntarily without his consent.

85. A was a professional travel blogger. One day he met with an accident and, distressed and bleeding, he requested those present to bring him to the hospital, stating he would pay Rs. 5000 per month to whoever helped him. B took him to the hospital. A went back on his promise after paying for 2 years. B wants to file a case of breach of contract against A.

- A. A is liable as he freely consented to pay the money to B.
- B. A is not liable as A was distressed and bleeding, preventing free will and consent.
- C. A is not liable as there was no reasonable consideration.
- D. A is liable as the consideration was reasonable and given by free consent.

Passage - II

In criminal law, several principles determine the liability of individuals involved in criminal acts. One significant principle is that when a criminal act is committed by several persons in furtherance of their common intention, each person involved is liable for the act as if it were done by them alone. This means that all participants in a joint criminal enterprise share equal responsibility for the outcome, regardless of their individual roles. For example, in a bank robbery where one person plans the heist and another carries it out, both are equally liable for the crime. Another key principle is the definition of theft. Theft occurs when someone, with dishonest intent, takes any movable property out of another person's possession without their consent. The essential element here is the intention to dishonestly move the property to deprive the rightful owner of it. For instance, if someone takes a bicycle from another person's yard without permission and intends to keep it, they have committed theft. Culpable homicide is another grave offense defined by the intention behind causing death. If a person causes death by doing an act with the intention of causing death, or with the intention of causing bodily injury likely to result in death, or with the knowledge that their act is likely to cause death, they commit culpable homicide. This principle emphasizes the perpetrator's intent and awareness of the fatal consequences of their actions. An example is an individual who strikes another with a deadly weapon, knowing it could cause death. The concept of mischief involves causing wrongful loss or damage to property with intent or knowledge. Mischief is committed when someone intentionally destroys or diminishes the value or utility of property, thereby causing damage. For instance, if someone smashes the windows of a car to cause harm to the owner, they are liable for mischief. Finally, criminal trespass is defined as entering into or upon another person's property with the intent to commit an offense or to intimidate, insult, or annoy the person in possession of that property. The crucial aspect is the intent behind the entry. For example, if someone breaks into a house intending to threaten the inhabitants, they are guilty of criminal trespass. These principles collectively ensure that individuals are held accountable for their actions, maintaining law and order by addressing various forms of criminal behavior comprehensively.

86. Annu, Lahu, Bhanu, and Shanu were close friends who decided to rob a bank at Nalanda. Shanu stood outside the bank while the other three entered through the backdoor. They asked cashier Anari Lal to give them the money he was counting. When he refused, the three opened fire, killing him almost immediately. Seeing others running, Shanu also ran away, firing his pistol into the air. The police charged Shanu with murder and dacoity.

- A. Shanu is not liable for murder as he did not commit the murder.
- B. Shanu is not liable for murder as it was not done in furtherance of the common intention of robbery.
- C. Shanu is liable for murder as it was committed in furtherance of robbery.
- D. Shanu is not liable for any offense as he was just guarding the bank.

87. A left his car in a garage for repairs and painting. When he went to collect his car, he observed that no one was there, so A removed his car from outside the garage, intending to avoid paying for the repair. He got caught on CCTV and was later arrested by the police.

- A. A is not liable for theft as he was the owner of the car.
- B. A is not liable as he did not have any dishonest intention.
- C. A is liable for theft as he intended to take the property dishonestly.
- D. A is liable for theft as he should have taken permission from the garage owner before taking the car.

88. Jacob gave sudden provocation to Nina by commenting on her body. Nina, in response, fired a pistol at Jacob, neither intending nor knowing she was likely to cause death. Instead, she killed Jack, who was standing nearby.

- A. Nina is liable for the culpable homicide of Jack.
- B. Nina is not liable for culpable homicide as it was an accident.
- C. Nina is liable for the murder of Jack.
- D. Nina is liable for the attempt to murder Jack.

89. Ramesh and Shyam jointly owned a car. Ramesh drove the car at a very high speed with the intention to cause an accident, hoping to create wrongful damage to Shyam, the joint owner of the car. The car met with an accident, and Ramesh suffered serious injuries.

- A. Ramesh is not liable for mischief as he also suffered damage.
- B. Ramesh is not liable for mischief as he was the owner of the car.
- C. Ramesh is liable as he intentionally caused an accident to harm Shyam.
- D. None of the above

90. A went to B's house to play snooker and end their old business rivalry. While there, A and B had an argument, and B provoked A. In response, A insulted B using abusive language. B was very disappointed and decided to file a case of criminal trespass against A.

- A. A is liable as he insulted B by using abusive language, and the house was in B's possession.
- B. A is not liable as he did not have any intention to insult B when he entered the house.
- C. A is not liable as he insulted B under provocation.
- D. A is liable as he should be careful while on B's property.

Passage - III

The Indian Constitution stands as a cornerstone for securing justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity among its citizens. These foundational principles are enshrined in the preamble, which sets the tone for the entire constitutional framework. One of the critical safeguards within this framework is the restriction placed on the parliament, preventing it from passing laws that violate the basic structure of the preamble. This ensures that the core values of the Constitution remain inviolable and continue to guide the governance of the country. One significant policy direction mandated by the Constitution is towards ensuring equal pay for equal work for both men and women. This policy underscores the commitment to gender equality in the workplace, aiming to eliminate wage disparities and promote fairness. It is a crucial step in recognizing and valifying the contributions of all workers, regardless of gender, thereby fostering a more inclusive and equitable society. Furthermore, the Constitution guarantees that no person shall be discriminated against based on color, caste, creed, or place of birth. This guarantee is a powerful affirmation of the country's dedication to equality and non-discrimination. It ensures that all citizens, irrespective of their background, have equal access to opportunities and are treated with equal respect and dignity under the law. This principle is vital in promoting social harmony and preventing divisive practices that can undermine national unity. The principle of double jeopardy is another critical aspect of the Indian legal system, rooted in the Constitution. It ensures that no individual can be prosecuted and punished more than once for the same offense. This protection safeguards citizens from the potential abuse of legal processes and upholds the integrity of the judicial system. It ensures that once a person has been tried and acquitted or convicted, they cannot be subjected to legal jeopardy for the same offense again. Moreover, the concept of limitation in law is significant, as it bars the remedy but not the right. This means that while legal remedies may not be pursued after a certain period, the underlying right itself remains intact. This principle balances the need for timely justice with the recognition that rights do not simply disappear over time.

These constitutional provisions collectively reinforce the commitment to justice, equality, and the rule of law, ensuring that the fundamental rights and freedoms of citizens are protected and upheld.

91. A, born and residing in Odisha, wants to become a lawyer. He was denied admission to the National Law College of India University (NLCIU, Chandigarh), a government university, because he was not a resident of Punjab. A decided to file a case against the rule, stating it violated his rights under the Indian Constitution.

- A. A will succeed as it violates his right to equality based on place of birth.
- B. A will succeed as the separate rules made by the government cannot be challenged in court.
- C. A will not succeed as there is no violation of his fundamental right since the rule focuses on the upliftment of Punjab residents.
- D. A will not succeed as he is not being discriminated against based on place of birth.

92. Ajay, a serious student at a National Law University in Dhanbad, was falsely charged with ragging a junior named Namit. A departmental inquiry acquitted Ajay of all charges. Meanwhile, Namit's legal guardian, Ram Shankar, lodged a complaint against Ajay at a police station for ragging, resulting in Ajay's arrest. Ajay claimed double jeopardy.

- A. There is a case of double jeopardy as Ajay had already faced a departmental proceeding.
- B. There is a case of double jeopardy as Ajay was acquitted previously.
- C. There is no case of double jeopardy as a departmental inquiry does not constitute a legal proceeding.
- D. There is no case of double jeopardy as Ajay was not punished in the previous proceedings.

93. Mohit gave a loan of Rs. 25 Lakhs to Ankit. Ankit did not repay the loan within the 5-year limitation period. After the limitation period expired, Ankit paid Rs. 5 Lakhs to Mohit. Two years later, Mohit wanted to file a case against Ankit for the recovery of the remaining amount.

- A. Yes, as the part payment extends the period of limitation.
- B. No, as the case is limitation barred since the payment was made after the expiry of the limitation period.
- C. Yes, the limitation period is a right to claim remedy and is revived once a fresh payment is made.
- D. Yes, as the limitation period may extend beyond the limit of limitation.

94. The government of Madhya Pranth passed a law stating that a person under 50 years old cannot contest for the member of the legislative assembly of Madhya Pranth, aiming for experienced and senior citizens to contest. A challenged the legal validity of the law, stating it violated the basic doctrine of the preamble of the Indian Constitution.

- A. The law is void as it is against the doctrine of the preamble of the Indian Constitution.
- B. The law is valid as the state may impose reasonable restrictions on the preamble.
- C. The law is void as it is ultra vires to the power of parliament given by the Indian Constitution.
- D. The law is valid as it is about public welfare.

95. Hindustan Unilever Pvt. Ltd., a private company, had a regulation stating that all female workers would get Rs. 200/day and all male workers would get Rs. 250/day. The government of Himachal Pradesh passed new rules amending a previous act, directing all private companies to pay equally for equal work. Hindustan Unilever Pvt. Ltd. wants to approach the court stating such regulation is void.

- A. The rules are valid as the state made the policy toward equal pay for equal work for both men and women.
- B. The rules are void as the state directed regulation of private companies, and the rules are available for state policy.
- C. The rules are valid as they strive for public health and welfare.
- D. None of the above

Passage - IV

The principles of tort law encompass a wide range of responsibilities and liabilities, ensuring justice and fairness in civil wrongdoings. One such principle is the tort of conversion, which occurs when a person unlawfully interferes with another's chattel, depriving them of its use. This interference is seen as a violation of property rights, and the law ensures that no one enriches themselves at another's expense. For instance, if someone takes a neighbor's lawnmower and refuses to return it, they commit the tort of conversion. Negligence is another cornerstone of tort law. When a defendant breaches their duty of care, causing the plaintiff to suffer damages, it amounts to negligence. This principle holds individuals and entities accountable for their actions, especially when they fail to act as a reasonably prudent person would under similar circumstances. For example, if a store owner neglects to clean a spill and a customer slips and injures themselves, the store owner may be liable for negligence. The principle of Volenti non-fit injuria states that harm voluntarily suffered does not constitute a legal injury and is not actionable. However, rescue cases are an exception to this rule. If a person voluntarily risks their life to save another, the law recognizes this act of bravery and allows for legal remedies if they are harmed in the process. Additionally, under vicarious liability, an employer is responsible for the wrongful acts of their employees committed during the course of employment. This principle ensures that victims can seek compensation from the employer, who is in a better position to bear the financial burden. The maxim "Ubi jus ibi remedium" translates to "Where there is a legal right, there is a legal remedy." This foundational principle guarantees that individuals whose rights have been infringed can seek redress through the legal system. It underscores the importance of upholding legal rights and providing remedies for violations. A person is also liable for negligence if they fail to take care of their neighbor's interests. This duty of care extends to anyone whose interests should have been foreseeable. For instance, a construction company must ensure their activities do not harm nearby residents. Moreover, employers must be cautious, as they are liable for the actions of their employees within the scope of their employment. Third parties must also exercise reasonable care to verify whether a person is acting in the course of their employment to avoid liability issues. Lastly, if a person brings

anything dangerous onto their land, which could be harmful if it escapes, they must keep it at their peril. This principle ensures that individuals take adequate precautions to prevent potential hazards from causing harm to others.

96. Shubham was suffering from severe pain in the gallbladder. At J.K. hospital, he was diagnosed with the presence of an insect in the gallbladder. After the operation, doctors at J.K. hospital removed the insect and Shubham recovered. However, the hospital found unique qualities in the insect and successfully developed a vaccine for paralysis. When Shubham learned about the situation, he claimed a profit share from J.K. hospital.

- A. J.K. hospital is liable to share profit with Shubham as the insect was taken out from Shubham's body.
- B. J.K. hospital is not liable to share profit with Shubham as they were entitled to use the insect.
- C. J.K. hospital is liable to share profit as Shubham has a right over the insect, so the profit made from the insect also belongs to Shubham.
- D. J.K. hospital need not share its profit with Shubham because Shubham has nothing to do with the insect, actually benefitting from its removal.

97. Rameshwar was unreasonably scared of dogs. One day, Yash was wandering with his dog, Doremon, on a leash. Rameshwar was sitting on the opposite side of the road. Seeing Rameshwar, Doremon started barking aggressively, causing Rameshwar to jump in fear and collide with a roadside pole, resulting in injury.

- A. Yash is liable to pay compensation to Rameshwar as his dog barked aggressively, under Yash's duty of care.
- B. Yash is not liable as he was just wandering with his dog on a public road.
- C. Yash has to take care that Rameshwar is scared of dogs, so Yash must keep his dog far from Rameshwar.
- D. Yash is not liable as he took reasonable care and was on the other side of the road.

98. Ramesh is the owner of the construction company MG, and Suresh is an on-field employee of that company. In one of the MG company's projects, Bhoot Bungalow, Suresh is the on-field head employee. After a cylinder burst in Kashgar's restaurant 5 km away, the under-construction building (Bhoot Bungalow) started falling due to poor quality materials used. Raju, observing the incident, saw two children playing near the building. To protect them, Raju ran towards the building and was injured by falling bricks. Who can Raju sue?

- A. Raju should sue Kashgar as the incident happened after the cylinder burst.
- B. Raju should sue Suresh, as he negligently used poor materials in construction.
- C. Ramesh is liable for the act of his employee Suresh who was negligent during the course of employment.
- D. No one is liable as Raju voluntarily entered a situation where injury was foreseeable.

99. Deepu stays in an apartment. One day he was fed up with his gatekeeper, who usually slept and did not work actively. He directed the gatekeeper that if he did not work actively, he would complain against him at the next society meeting. The next day, the gatekeeper refused to open the gate. Deepu decided to sue the gatekeeper and claim damages.

- A. Deepu will be entitled to damages as there was a violation of his legal right, causing him to suffer.
- B. Although there was actual damage, there is no legal damage, hence no damages can be claimed.
- C. Deepu will not be entitled to damages as there was damage but no legal right was violated.
- D. Deepu is entitled to claim damages, but the matter is trivial in the eyes of the law.

100. A cricket match between India and Pakistan was going on in Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai. Shahrukh, who could not get into the stadium, was watching the game by climbing up a nearby TV tower and sitting there. During the game, Virat Kohli hit the ball, which went out of the stadium and hit Shahrukh, injuring him. Shahrukh filed a suit against the stadium authority.

- A. The stadium authority is liable as they have to take care of everyone watching the game.
- B. Virat Kohli is liable because he hit the ball, causing the incident.
- C. The stadium authority is not liable because organizers could not have foreseen somebody watching the game by climbing up a TV tower.
- D. Shahrukh is himself liable as he endangered his own life by climbing up the TV tower.

Passage - V

In 2013, India introduced its first legislation specifically addressing the issue of workplace sexual harassment: the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013, commonly referred to as the POSH Act. This significant law, enacted by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, was accompanied by the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Rules, 2013, or POSH Rules. That same year, the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013, was also promulgated, criminalizing offenses such as sexual harassment, stalking, and voyeurism. Despite the POSH Act being in force since 2013, there remains a lack of clarity on various aspects of the statute. Many people are still unsure about what constitutes sexual harassment, the obligations of employers, the remedies and safeguards available to victims, and the procedures for conducting investigations. Additionally, there is limited awareness of the criminal consequences of sexual harassment. Often, lewd jokes and inappropriate comments are dismissed as normal, and women may hesitate to take action due to fears of being disbelieved or ridiculed. This underpins the need for greater awareness and enforcement of the law. The POSH Act defines 'sexual harassment' in line with the Supreme Court's definition from the Vishaka Judgment. According to the POSH Act, sexual harassment includes unwelcome sexually tinted behavior, whether directly or by implication, such as physical contact and advances, demand or request for sexual favors, making sexually colored remarks, showing pornography, or any other unwelcome physical, verbal, or non-verbal conduct of a sexual nature.

Additionally, the POSH Act outlines specific circumstances that, if present in relation to any act of sexual harassment, may exacerbate the situation. These circumstances include an implied or explicit promise of preferential treatment in employment, an implied or explicit threat of detrimental treatment in employment, an implied or explicit threat regarding present or future employment status, and humiliating treatment likely to affect the woman employee's health or safety. The need for comprehensive understanding and implementation of the POSH Act and related laws is crucial to creating a safe and respectful workplace environment for women. Increased awareness and stricter enforcement are essential to combat the pervasive issue of sexual harassment in the workplace, ensuring that all women feel secure and supported in their professional environments.

101. Kamala was working as a domestic servant in the house of Mr. Kishore. Mr. Kishore was a divorcee. Kishore fell in love with Kamala. Kishore proposed to Kamala and expressed his feelings that he wanted to marry her. Kamala decided to file a police complaint against Kishore for sexual harassment at the workplace under the POSH Act. In view of the author of the passage, which of the following is the most appropriate answer?

- A. Kamala will not succeed, since a domestic workplace cannot be covered under the definition of 'at workplace.'
- B. Kamala will not succeed under the POSH Act, but she can file a police complaint under the Indian Penal Code, 1860.
- C. Kamala will not succeed, since she can seek an internal inquiry against Kishore but cannot file a police complaint against him under the POSH Act.
- D. Kamala will not succeed, since she has not been sexually harassed by Kishore.

102. Kratika was working in a multinational IT company. Kratika had been working in the company for the past 12 years. Kratika had been seeking a promotion in her job for the past 10 years but had not received a single promotion over the span of 12 years. She was the most deserving and qualified candidate for the promotion. When the promotion list of the year 2019 was published, she did not get promoted. Later, she came to know that her boss was promoting only those female employees who were giving sexual favors to him. Kratika decided to challenge such promotion and filed a police complaint against her boss under the POSH Act. Whether Kratika will succeed, in view of the author?

- A. Yes, since she had an opportunity to be equal to other female employees by giving sexual favors to her boss.
- B. Yes, since she was the most deserving candidate for the promotion but was stopped as other female employees gave sexual favors to the boss.
- C. No, since she was not sexually harassed by her boss.
- D. No, since she had an equal opportunity to get promoted by giving sexual favors to her boss.

103. In the previous question, Kratika had sexual intercourse with her boss to get the promotion, and once she got promoted, she decided to file a case of sexual harassment under the POSH Act. In view of the author, decide whether she will succeed (irrespective of the answer to 1.2).

- A. Yes, since Kratika's boss made an implied promise of preferential treatment when she gave a sexual favor to her boss.
- B. Yes, since Kratika's boss put her in a threat of detrimental treatment when she gave a sexual favor to her boss.
- C. No, since the one who seeks justice must come with clean hands. In the present case, Kratika also took unfair advantage of her position.
- D. Both A & B.

104. In view of the author, which of the following is a lacuna of the POSH Act?

- I. The act discriminates against male and female employees in cases of sexual harassment.
 - II. The act does not provide any specific provision for the liability of the employer.
 - III. The act does not provide any specific grievance redressal to the victim.
- A. Only I follows B. Only II follows C. Only II and III follow D. Only I and III follow

105. Sangeeta is employed as a secretary in a private firm owned by Mr. Arjun. Over time, Mr. Arjun began making unwelcome advances toward Sangeeta, including asking her to stay late after work and making comments about her appearance. On one occasion, he sent her a text message requesting that she meet him outside of work hours for "discussions about her career." Sangeeta, feeling uncomfortable and harassed, decided to file a complaint with the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) of the firm under the POSH Act. However, during the inquiry, Mr. Arjun argued that his actions were just friendly gestures and did not amount to sexual harassment. In view of the passage and the scenario above, which of the following is the most appropriate answer?

- A. Sangeeta will succeed in her complaint, as Mr. Arjun's behavior constitutes sexual harassment under the POSH Act.
- B. Sangeeta will not succeed, as Mr. Arjun's actions do not involve physical contact, which is necessary to prove sexual harassment.
- C. Sangeeta will not succeed, as the text message and comments are not sufficient to prove sexual harassment under the POSH Act.
- D. Sangeeta will succeed only if she can prove that Mr. Arjun's actions were intended to threaten her employment status.

Passage - VI

In the landmark case of Sakiri Vasu vs. State of U.P. and Others, the Supreme Court of India held that if a person has a grievance that the police station is not registering their First Information Report (FIR) under Section 154 of the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 (Cr.P.C.), they can approach the Superintendent of Police under Section 154(3) Cr.P.C. by submitting a written application. If this approach does not result in the registration of the FIR or if, despite registration, the investigation is not conducted properly, the aggrieved person can file an application under Section 156(3) Cr.P.C. before the concerned Magistrate. Upon receiving such an application, the Magistrate has the authority to direct the registration of the FIR and to ensure a proper investigation is conducted. Additionally, the Magistrate can monitor the investigation to ensure its thoroughness and adequacy. The court emphasized that the practice of insisting on the registration of FIRs directly at police stations should be discouraged by the High Court, as there are other remedies available under Section 156(3) Cr.P.C. This provision allows for judicial oversight and ensures that grievances regarding the non-registration of FIRs and improper investigations can be addressed effectively. In the case of Mohd. Yousuf vs. Smt. Afaq Jahan & Anr., the Supreme Court observed that any Judicial Magistrate, before taking cognizance of an offense, can order an investigation under Section 156(3) Cr.P.C. In doing so, the Magistrate does not need to examine the complainant on oath because they are not yet taking cognizance of any offense. This procedure allows for an unbiased preliminary investigation to determine the merits of the complaint.

Moreover, in Union of India vs. Prakash P. Hinduja and another, the Supreme Court clarified that a Magistrate cannot interfere with an ongoing police investigation. However, this restriction applies only when a proper investigation is being conducted by the police. If the Magistrate, upon an application under Section 156(3) Cr.P.C., finds that the investigation has not been conducted properly, they can direct the officer-in-charge of the police station to conduct a thorough investigation and can monitor the process, though the Magistrate should not undertake the investigation themselves. These rulings collectively ensure that there are robust mechanisms for addressing grievances related to the registration of FIRs and the conduct of police investigations, thereby upholding the principles of justice and fair play in the criminal justice system.

106. Anil married Savita 20 years ago. Recently, Savita decided to divorce Anil because he was causing domestic violence. Savita decided to file an FIR against Anil. In view of the author of the passage, decide the available options for Savita at the initial stage.

- A. Savita can file an FIR at the nearest police station against the domestic violence caused by Anil to her.
- B. Savita can report her matter to the Superintendent of Police under Section 154 (3) of Cr.P.C.
- C. Savita can file an application before a magistrate under Section 156 of Cr.P.C.
- D. All of the above.

107. In the previous question, the police officer registered an FIR against Anil. The police officer was a close friend of Anil and did not conduct a proper investigation. Savita was dissatisfied as the police officer did not conduct a proper investigation and mentioned in the report that Savita was falsely alleging Anil. Savita made an application to the magistrate. The magistrate himself was not satisfied with the investigation done by the police officer. In view of the author of the above passage, define the power/powers of the magistrate. (This question is irrespective of the answer to Q. No. 2.1)

- I. The Magistrate can order the police officer to conduct a fresh investigation.
 - II. The Magistrate can direct the police officer by describing the way of investigation.
 - III. The Magistrate can supervise the progress reports of the investigation at regular intervals.
 - IV. The Magistrate himself can investigate the matter.
- A. Only I, III follow. B. Only II, III follow.
C. Only I, II & III follow. D. All follow.

108. The government introduces a new law that curbs the powers of the magistrate by stating that a magistrate can only order an investigation or direct the police officer in the investigation of the matter when two conditions have been satisfied. The conditions are as follows:

- I. The complainant made an application to the magistrate for the proper investigation of the matter.
- II. The police officer has filed a wrong charge sheet in court.

Based on the information and arguments in the given passage, is the author likely to support such a law?

- A. Yes, since the judiciary is completely separate from the executive organs of the state and both are independent.
- B. No, since the judiciary should be given independent authority to investigate the matter.
- C. No, since it will increase the powers of the police officers while investigating the matter.
- D. Yes, since it will help the police to investigate the matter independently.

109. Ravi, a small business owner, discovered that one of his competitors, Shyam, was spreading false rumors about his business, leading to a significant loss of customers. Ravi approached the local police station to file an FIR against Shyam for defamation and causing harm to his business reputation. However, the police refused to register the FIR, stating that it was a civil matter. Ravi, feeling frustrated, wants to take further action. In view of the passage and the scenario above, which of the following is the most appropriate course of action for Ravi?

- A. Ravi can file an FIR at another police station.
- B. Ravi can submit a written application to the Superintendent of Police under Section 154(3) Cr.P.C.
- C. Ravi can file a civil suit against Shyam directly in a civil court.
- D. Ravi has no other legal remedy since the police refused to register the FIR.

110. Meena, a school teacher, discovered that a local politician, Mr. Rao, was misusing public funds allocated for school development. Meena decided to file an FIR against Mr. Rao. She went to the police station, but the officer-in-charge refused to register the FIR, claiming that the case was too sensitive due to Mr. Rao's political influence. Undeterred, Meena approached the Superintendent of Police, but no action was taken. In view of the passage and the scenario above, what should Meena do next?

- A. Meena can approach the High Court directly for the registration of the FIR.
- B. Meena can file an application before a Magistrate under Section 156(3) Cr.P.C. for the registration of the FIR.
- C. Meena can confront the police officers to pressure them into registering the FIR.
- D. Meena can no longer pursue the matter as the Superintendent of Police did not take any action.

Quantitative Techniques

Direction (Q.No. 111-115) Study the following information carefully to answer the question given below:

A survey was conducted on 1000 train passengers. They are travelling with AC first class, AC second class and AC third class. Among them 120 passenger are travelling with none AC class. 15% of the total passengers are travelling with all the three class. 33% passenger are travelling with ac first class and ac second class both, 12% passenger are travelling with AC second class and 3rd class only. 13% passenger are travelling with ac first class and ac third class both but not travelling in AC second class. The ratio of passengers who are travelling with only AC first class, only AC second class, and only AC third class is 4:5:6.

111. How many passengers are travelling in AC first class?

- (a) 540 (b) 560 (c) 760 (d) 500

112. How many passengers are travelling with only in AC third class?

- (a) 140 (b) 160 (c) 260 (d) 120

113. How many passengers are travelling with at least in two class?

- (a) 550 (b) 580 (c) 560 (d) 500

114. Total passenger travelling with AC 3rd class, is what % to the total passengers travelling with AC 2nd class? (approx.)

- (a) 95% (b) 84% (c) 76% (d) 50%

115. The ratio of male to female passengers who are travelling with AC 2nd class is 3:2. Then how many female passenger are travelling with AC 2nd class?

- (a) 550 (b) 220 (c) 330 (d) 480

Direction (116-120) : Study the following information carefully and answer the questions given below.

Total number of people in the Colony is 4000 and each of them live four different colours of flats – Red, Blue, Green and Pink. Total number of people live Green flat is 1100. Number of males who live in Red flat is 55% of the total number of people in the Colony who live in Red flat. The ratio of the number of males to females live in Pink flat on the colony is 4:5. The ratio of the number of males who live in Blue flat to Pink flat is 3:2. Number of males who live Green flat is 20% more than the number of females who live Pink flat. The ratio of number of people who live Red and Blue colour flat in the ratio of 2:3 and the ratio of the number of people live Blue to Pink colour flat is 4:3.

116. What is the difference between the number of females who live in Green flat and the number of males who live in Red flat?

- (a) 50 (b) 40 (c) 60 (d) 80

117. What is the total number of females who live in the colony?

- (a) 1700 (b) 1560 (c) 1890 (d) 1960

118. The number of males who lives in Pink flat is approximately what percent of the total number of people who live in Blue flat?

- (a) 25% (b) 33% (c) 60% (d) 15%

119. The total number of males who live in the colony is approximately what percent of the total number of people who live in the colony?

- (a) 65% (b) 50% (c) 51% (d) 69%

120. What is the ratio of the number of females who live in Red flat to the number of females who live in Blue flat?

- (a) 2:3 (b) 4:5 (c) 1:7 (d) 3:5

Result में No.1

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1

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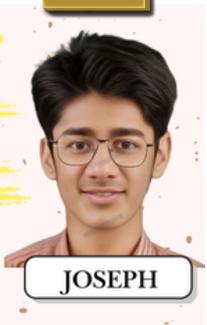
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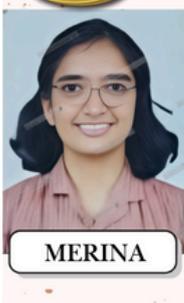
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2



JOSEPH

3



MERINA

4



ARSALAN AHMAD

5



HARIPRIYA

6



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