

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

Woodrow Wilson was referring to the liberal idea of the economic market when he said that the free enterprise system is the most efficient economic system. Maximum freedom means maximum productiveness; our “openness” is to be the measure of our stability. Fascination with this ideal has made Americans defy the “Old World” categories of settled possessiveness versus unsettling deprivation, the cupidity of retention versus the cupidity of seizure, a “status quo” defended or attacked. The United States, it was believed, had no status quo ante. Our only “station” was the turning of a stationary wheel, spinning faster and faster. We did not base our system on property but opportunity—which meant we based it not on stability but on mobility. The more things changed, that is, the more rapidly the wheel turned, the steadier we would be. The conventional picture of class politics is composed of the Haves, who want a stability to keep what they have, and the Have-Nots, who want a touch of instability and change in which to scramble for the things they have not. But Americans imagined a condition in which speculators, self-makers, runners are always using the new opportunities given by our land. These economic leaders (front-runners) would thus be mainly agents of change. The nonstarters were considered the ones who wanted stability, a strong referee to give them some position in the race, a regulative hand to calm manic speculation; an authority that can call things to a halt, begin things again from compensatorily staggered “starting lines.”

“Reform” in America has been sterile because it can imagine no change except through the extension of this metaphor of a race, wider inclusion of competitors, “a piece of the action,” as it were, for the disenfranchised. There is no attempt to call off the race. Since our only stability is change, America seems not to honor the quiet work that achieves social interdependence and stability. There is, in our legends, no heroism of the office clerk, no stable industrial work force of the people who actually make the system work. There is no pride in being an employee (Wilson asked for a return to the time when everyone was an employer). There has been no boasting about our social workers—they are merely signs of the system’s failure, of opportunity denied or not taken, of things to be eliminated. We have no pride in our growing interdependence, in the fact that our system can serve others, that we are able to help those in need; empty boasts from the past make us ashamed of our present achievements, make us try to forget or deny them, move away from them. There is no honor but in the Wonderland race we must all run, all trying to win, none winning in the end (for there is no end).

1. The primary purpose of the passage is to

- (A) criticize the inflexibility of American economic mythology
- (B) contrast “Old World” and “New World” economic ideologies
- (C) challenge the integrity of traditional political leaders
- (D) champion those Americans whom the author deems to be neglected

2. According to the passage, “Old World” values were based on

- (A) ability
- (B) property
- (C) family connections
- (D) guild hierarchies

3. In the context of the author’s discussion of regulating change, which of the following could be most probably regarded as a “strong referee” in the United States?

- (A) A school principal
- (B) A political theorist
- (C) A federal court judge
- (D) A social worker

4. The author sets off the word “Reform” with quotation marks in order to

- (A) emphasize its departure from the concept of settled possessiveness
- (B) show his support for a systematic program of change
- (C) underscore the flexibility and even amorphousness of United States society
- (D) assert that reform in the United States has not been fundamental

5. It can be inferred from the passage that the author most probably thinks that giving the disenfranchised “a piece of the action” is

- (A) a compassionate, if misdirected, legislative measure
- (B) an example of Americans’ resistance to profound social change

(C) an innovative program for genuine social reform (D) a monument to the efforts of industrial reformers

Passage - II

How many really suffer as a result of labor market problems? This is one of the most critical yet contentious social policy questions. In many ways, our social statistics exaggerate the degree of hardship. Unemployment does not have the same dire consequences today as it did in the 1930's when most of the unemployed were primary breadwinners, when income and earnings were usually much closer to the margin of subsistence, and when there were no countervailing social programs for those failing in the labor market. Increasing affluence, the rise of families with more than one wage earner, the growing predominance of secondary earners among the unemployed, and improved social welfare protection have unquestionably mitigated the consequences of joblessness. Earnings and income data also overstate the dimensions of hardship. Among the millions with hourly earnings at or below the minimum wage level, the overwhelming majority are from multiple-earner, relatively affluent families. Most of those counted by the poverty statistics are elderly or handicapped or have family responsibilities which keep them out of the labor force, so the poverty statistics are by no means an accurate indicator of labor market pathologies.

Yet there are also many ways our social statistics underestimate the degree of labor-market-related hardship. The unemployment counts exclude the millions of fully employed workers whose wages are so low that their families remain in poverty. Low wages and repeated or prolonged unemployment frequently interact to undermine the capacity for self-support. Since the number experiencing joblessness at some time during the year is several times the number unemployed in any month, those who suffer as a result of forced idleness can equal or exceed average annual unemployment, even though only a minority of the jobless in any month really suffer. For every person counted in the monthly unemployment tallies, there is another working part-time because of the inability to find full-time work, or else outside the labor force but wanting a job. Finally, income transfers in our country have always focused on the elderly, disabled, and dependent, neglecting the needs of the working poor, so that the dramatic expansion of cash and in-kind transfers does not necessarily mean that those failing in the labor market are adequately protected.

As a result of such contradictory evidence, it is uncertain whether those suffering seriously as a result of labor market problems number in the hundreds of thousands or the tens of millions, and, hence, whether high levels of joblessness can be tolerated or must be countered by job creation and economic stimulus. There is only one area of agreement in this debate—that the existing poverty, employment, and earnings statistics are inadequate for one their primary applications, measuring the consequences of labor market problems.

6. Which of the following is the principal topic of the passage?

- (A) How social statistics give an unclear picture of the degree of hardship caused by low wages and insufficient employment opportunities
- (B) Why income measures are imprecise in measuring degrees of poverty
- (C) Which of the currently used statistical procedures are the best for estimating the incidence of hardship that is due to unemployment
- (D) Where the areas of agreement are among poverty, employment, and earnings figures

7. The author uses "labor market problems" in lines 1-2 to refer to which of the following?

- (A) The overall causes of poverty
- (B) Deficiencies in the training of the work force
- (C) Trade relationships among producers of goods
- (D) Shortages of jobs providing adequate income

8. The author contrasts the 1930's with the present in order to show that

- (A) more people were unemployed in the 1930's
- (B) unemployment now has less severe effects
- (C) social programs are more needed now
- (D) there now is a greater proportion of elderly and handicapped people among those in poverty

9. Which of the following proposals best responds to the issues raised by the author?

- (A) Innovative programs using multiple approaches should be set up to reduce the level of unemployment.
- (B) A compromise should be found between the positions of those who view joblessness as an evil greater than economic control and those who hold the opposite view.
- (C) New statistical indices should be developed to measure the degree to which unemployment and inadequately paid employment cause suffering.
- (D) Consideration should be given to the ways in which statistics can act as partial causes of the phenomena that they purport to measure.

10. The author's purpose in citing those who are repeatedly unemployed during a twelve-month period is most probably to show that

- (A) there are several factors that cause the payment of low wages to some members of the labor force
- (B) unemployment statistics can underestimate the hardship resulting from joblessness
- (C) recurrent inadequacies in the labor market can exist and can cause hardships for individual workers
- (D) a majority of those who are jobless at any one time do not suffer severe hardship

Passage - III

Flatfish, such as the flounder, are among the few vertebrates that lack approximate bilateral symmetry (symmetry in which structures to the left and right of the body's midline are mirror images). Most striking among the many asymmetries evident in an adult flatfish is eye placement: before maturity one eye migrates, so that in an adult flatfish both eyes are on the same side of the head. While in most species with asymmetries virtually all adults share the same asymmetry, members of the starry flounder species can be either left-eyed (both eyes on the left side of head) or right-eyed. In the waters between the United States and Japan, the starry flounder populations vary from about 50 percent left-eyed off the United States West Coast, through about 70 percent left-eyed halfway between the United States and Japan, to nearly 100 percent left-eyed off the Japanese coast.

Biologists call this kind of gradual variation over a certain geographic range a "cline" and interpret clines as strong indications that the variation is adaptive, a response to environmental differences. For the starry flounder this interpretation implies that a geometric difference (between fish that are mirror images of one another) is adaptive, that left-eyedness in the Japanese starry flounder has been selected for, which provokes a perplexing question: what is the selective advantage in having both eyes on one side rather than on the other?

The ease with which a fish can reverse the effect of the sidedness of its eye asymmetry simply by turning around has caused biologists to study internal anatomy, especially the optic nerves, for the answer. In all flatfish the optic nerves cross, so that the right optic nerve is joined to the brain's left side and vice versa. This crossing introduces an asymmetry, as one optic nerve must cross above or below the other. G. H. Parker reasoned that if, for example, a flatfish's left eye migrated when the right optic nerve was on top, there would be a twisting of nerves, which might be mechanically disadvantageous. For starry flounders, then, the left-eyed variety would be selected against, since in a starry flounder the left optic nerve is uppermost.

The problem with the above explanation is that the Japanese starry flounder population is almost exclusively left-eyed, a natural selection never promotes a purely less advantageous variation. As other explanations proved equally untenable, biologists concluded that there is no important adaptive difference between left-eyedness and right-eyedness, and that the two characteristics are genetically associated with some other adaptively significant characteristic. This situation is one commonly encountered by evolutionary biologists, who must often decide whether a characteristic is adaptive or selectively neutral. As for the left-eyed and right-eyed flatfish, their difference, however striking, appears to be an evolutionary red herring.

11. According to the passage, starry flounder differ from most other species of flatfish in that starry flounder

- (A) are not basically bilaterally symmetric
- (B) do not become asymmetric until adulthood
- (C) do not all share the same asymmetry
- (D) have both eyes on the same side of the head

12. The author would be most likely to agree with which of the following statements about left-eyedness and right-eyedness in the starry flounder?

- I. They are adaptive variations by the starry flounder to environmental differences.
- II. They do not seem to give obvious selective advantages to the starry flounder.
- III. They occur in different proportions in different locations.

- (A) I only
- (B) II only
- (C) I and III only
- (D) II and III only

13. According to the passage, a possible disadvantage associated with eye migration in flatfish is that the optic nerves can

- (A) adhere to one another
- (B) detach from the eyes
- (C) twist
- (D) stretch

14. Which of the following best describes the organization of the passage as a whole?

- (A) A phenomenon is described and an interpretation presented and rejected.
- (B) A generalization is made and supporting evidence is supplied and weighed.

- (C) A contradiction is noted and a resolution is suggested and then modified.
(D) A series of observations is presented and explained in terms of the dominant theory.

15. The passage supplies information for answering which of the following questions?

- (A) Why are Japanese starry flounder mostly left-eyed?
(B) Why should the eye-sidedness in starry flounder be considered selectively neutral?
(C) Why have biologists recently become interested in whether a characteristic is adaptive or selectively neutral?
(D) How do the eyes in flatfish migrate?

Passage - IV

The historian Frederick J. Turner wrote in the 1890's that the agrarian discontent that had been developing steadily in the United States since about 1870 had been precipitated by the closing of the internal frontier—that is, the depletion of available new land needed for further expansion

of the American farming system. Not only was Turner's thesis influential at the time, it was later adopted and elaborated by other scholars, such as John D. Hicks in *The Populist Revolt* (1931). Actually, however, new lands were taken up for farming in the United States throughout and beyond the nineteenth century. In the 1890's, when agrarian discontent had become most acute, 1,100,000 new farms were settled, which was 500,000 more than had been settled during the previous decade. After 1890, under the terms of the Homestead Act and its successors, more new land was taken up for farming than had been taken up for this purpose in the United States up until that time. It is true that a high proportion of the newly farmed land was suitable only for grazing and dry farming, but agricultural practices had become sufficiently advanced to make it possible to increase the profitability of farming by utilizing even these relatively barren lands.

The emphasis given by both scholars and statesmen to the presumed disappearance of the American frontier helped to obscure the great importance of changes in the conditions and consequences of international trade that occurred during the second half of the nineteenth century. In 1869 the Suez Canal was opened and the first transcontinental railroad in the United States was completed. An extensive network of telegraph and telephone communications was spun: Europe was connected by submarine cable with the United States in 1866 and with South America in 1874. By about 1870 improvements in agricultural technology made possible the full exploitation of areas that were most suitable for extensive farming on a mechanized basis. Huge tracts of land were being settled and farmed in Argentina, Australia, Canada, and in the American West, and these areas were joined with one another and with the countries of Europe into an interdependent market system. As a consequence, agrarian depressions no longer were local or national in scope, and they struck several nations whose internal frontiers had not vanished or were not about to vanish. Between the early 1870's and the 1890's, the mounting agrarian discontent in America paralleled the almost uninterrupted decline in the prices of American agricultural products on foreign markets. Those staple-growing farmers in the United States who exhibited the greatest discontent were those who had become most dependent on foreign markets for the sale of their products. Insofar as Americans had been deterred from taking up new land for farming, it was because market conditions had made this period a perilous time in which to do so.

16. The author is primarily concerned with

- (A) showing that a certain interpretation is better supported by the evidence than is an alternative explanation
(B) developing an alternative interpretation by using sources of evidence that formerly had been unavailable
(C) questioning the accuracy of the evidence that most scholars have used to counter the author's own interpretation
(D) reviewing the evidence that formerly had been thought to obscure a valid interpretation

17. According to the author, changes in the conditions of international trade resulted in an

- (A) emphasis on the importance of market forces in determining the prices of agricultural products
(B) underutilization of relatively small but rich plots of land
(C) overexpansion of the world transportation network for shipping agricultural products
(D) extension of agrarian depressions beyond national boundaries

18. The author implies that the change in the state of the American farmer's morale during the latter part of the nineteenth century was traceable to the American farmer's increasing perception that the

- (A) costs of cultivating the land were prohibitive within the United States
(B) proceeds from the sales of American agricultural products on foreign markets were unsatisfactory

- (C) American farming system was about to run out of the new farmland that was required for its expansion
- (D) prices of American agricultural products were deteriorating especially rapidly on domestic markets

19. According to the passage, which of the following occurred prior to 1890?

- (A) Frederick J. Turner's thesis regarding the American frontier became influential.
- (B) The Homestead Act led to an increase in the amount of newly farmed land in the United States.
- (C) The manufacturers of technologically advanced agricultural machinery rapidly increased their marketing efforts.
- (D) Direct lines of communication were constructed between the United States and South America.

20. The author implies that, after certain territories and countries had been joined into an interdependent market system in the nineteenth century, agrarian depressions within that system

- (A) spread to several nations, excluding those in which the internal frontier remained open
- (B) manifested themselves in several nations, including those in which new land remained available for farming
- (C) encouraged several nations to sell more of their agricultural products on foreign markets
- (D) affected the local and national prices of the nonagricultural products of several nations

Passage - V

Oil companies need offshore platforms primarily because the oil or natural gas the companies extract from the ocean floor has to be processed before pumps can be used to move the substances ashore. But because processing crude (unprocessed oil or gas) on a platform rather than at facilities onshore exposes workers to the risks of explosion and to an unpredictable environment, researchers are attempting to diminish the need for human labor on platforms and even to eliminate platforms altogether by redesigning two kinds of pumps to handle crude. These pumps could then be used to boost the natural pressure driving the flow of crude, which, by itself, is sufficient only to bring the crude to the platform, located just above the wellhead. Currently, pumps that could boost this natural pressure sufficiently to drive the crude through a pipeline to the shore do not work consistently because of the crude's content. Crude may consist of oil or natural gas in multiphase states—combinations of liquids, gases, and solids under pressure—that do not reach the wellhead in constant proportions. The flow of crude oil, for example, can change quickly from 60 percent liquid to 70 percent gas. This surge in gas content causes loss of "head", or pressure inside a pump, with the result that a pump can no longer impart enough energy to transport the crude mixture through the pipeline and to the shore.

Of two pumps being redesigned, the positive-displacement pump is promising because it is immune to sudden shifts in the proportion of liquid to gas in the crude mixture. But the pump's design, which consists of a single or twin screw pushing the fluid from one end of the pump to the other, brings crude into close contact with most parts of the pump, and thus requires that it be made of expensive, corrosion-resistant material. The alternative is the centrifugal pump, which has a rotating impeller that sucks fluid in at one end and forces fluid out at the other. Although this pump has a proven design and has worked for years with little maintenance in waste-disposal plants, researchers have discovered that because the swirl of its impeller separates gas out from the oil that normally accompanies it, significant reductions in head can occur as it operates.

Research in the development of these pumps is focused mainly on trying to reduce the cost of the positive-displacement pump and attempting to make the centrifugal pump more tolerant of gas. Other researchers are looking at ways of adapting either kind of pump for use underwater, so that crude could be moved directly from the sea bottom to processing facilities onshore, eliminating platforms

21. Which one of the following best expresses the main idea of the passage?

- (A) Oil companies are experimenting with technologies that may help diminish the danger to workers from offshore crude processing.
- (B) Oil companies are seeking methods of installing processing facilities underwater.
- (C) Researchers are developing several new pumps designed to enhance human labor efficiency in processing facilities.
- (D) Researchers are seeking to develop equipment that would preempt the need for processing facilities onshore.

22. The passage supports which one of the following statements about the natural pressure driving the flow of crude?

- (A) It is higher than that created by the centrifugal pump.
- (B) It is constant regardless of relative proportions of gas and liquid.

(C) It is able to carry the crude only as far as the wellhead. (D) It is able to carry the crude to the platform.

23. Which one of the following best describes the relationship of the second paragraph to the passage as a whole?

- (A) It offers concrete detail designed to show that the argument made in the first paragraph is flawed.
- (B) It provides detail that expands upon the information presented in the first paragraph.
- (C) It enhances the author's discussion by objectively presenting in detail the pros and cons of a claim made in the first paragraph.
- (D) It detracts from the author's discussion by presenting various problems that qualify the goals presented.

24. Which one of the following phrases, if substituted for the word "head" in line 47, would LEAST change the meaning of the sentence?

- (A) the flow of the crude inside the pump
- (B) the volume of oil inside the pump
- (C) the pressure inside of the pump
- (D) the speed of the impeller moving the crude

25. With which one of the following statements regarding offshore platforms would the author most likely agree?

- (A) If a reduction of human labor on offshore platform is achieved, there is no real need to eliminate platforms altogether.
- (B) Reducing human labor on offshore platforms is desirable because researchers' knowledge about the transportation of crude is dangerously incomplete.
- (C) The dangers involved in working on offshore platforms make their elimination a desirable goal.
- (D) The positive-displacement pump is the better alternative for researchers, because it would allow them to eliminate platforms altogether.

Logical Reasoning

Passage - I

In the debate over the morality of euthanasia, two principal viewpoints often clash. Proponents argue that the right to die is a fundamental human right, especially in cases where individuals suffer from terminal illnesses or chronic pain. Allowing individuals to make autonomous decisions about their own death is seen as an extension of the right to live with dignity. On the other hand, opponents raise concerns about potential abuses, particularly towards vulnerable groups like the elderly or disabled. They contend that legalizing euthanasia could lead to a slippery slope, where societal pressures or financial burdens may influence people to choose death over life. In countries where euthanasia has been legalized, data shows that while instances of assisted death have increased, there have been few reports of abuse or coercion, suggesting that safeguards are in place. Yet, the moral dilemma persists: Can the right to die with dignity coexist with the duty to protect life.....

26. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument that euthanasia should be legalized?

- A. Surveys from countries where euthanasia is legal show that the majority of the population supports the practice for terminally ill patients.
- B. Studies demonstrate that terminally ill patients who are allowed the option of euthanasia experience a better quality of life in their final months compared to those who are not.
- C. Research indicates that many elderly patients are pressured by their families to choose euthanasia, raising concerns about the voluntary nature of the decision.
- D. Psychological studies show that patients requesting euthanasia often suffer from depression, calling into question their ability to make rational decisions.

27. Which of the following conclusions can be most logically drawn from the passage?

- A. Legalizing euthanasia would lead to widespread abuse, particularly among vulnerable groups.
- B. Safeguards in countries that have legalized euthanasia have been effective in preventing widespread abuse or coercion.
- C. The increasing number of euthanasia cases is proof that legalizing it is morally justified.
- D. Vulnerable groups, such as the elderly, are at greater risk if euthanasia is legalized.

28. In the passage, the statement "data shows that while instances of assisted death have increased, there have been few reports of abuse or coercion" serves which of the following purposes?

- A. It provides evidence to weaken the claim that euthanasia leads to abuse.
- B. It illustrates the concern that euthanasia might be normalized in society.
- C. It serves as a counterpoint to the argument that euthanasia should not be legalized.
- D. It strengthens the argument that euthanasia can be implemented safely with appropriate safeguards.

29. Which of the following statements best resolves the apparent paradox in the passage: that although opponents claim legalizing euthanasia could lead to abuse, there have been few reports of such incidents?

- A. Euthanasia laws in most countries include strict regulations and safeguards, reducing the likelihood of abuse.
- B. Many families do not report abuses of euthanasia because they do not want to admit coercing their relatives into making the decision.
- C. The lack of reports about abuse may be due to the fact that such incidents are difficult to detect or prove.
- D. In countries with legalized euthanasia, there is a cultural stigma against reporting abuses, even when they occur.

30. Which of the following scenarios is most parallel in its reasoning to the concerns expressed by opponents of euthanasia in the passage?

- A. A school is debating whether to allow students to opt out of mandatory physical education classes, with concerns that this will lead to students being pressured into choosing easier subjects by parents or peers.
- B. A government is considering legalizing the use of recreational drugs under strict conditions, but critics worry that it might encourage more widespread drug use despite safeguards.
- C. A company is offering its employees the option to work from home, but opponents argue that this could lead to some employees being pressured into choosing remote work even when it's not in their best interest.
- D. A country is debating whether to legalize the sale of alcohol in public spaces, with concerns that this could lead to an increase in underage drinking despite legal restrictions in place.

Passage - II

On a stormy night, in a secluded village nestled between jagged mountains, a renowned explorer named Lucian arrived at the doorstep of an old friend, Victor. Victor was an inventor, known for his unyielding ambition and desire to transcend human limitations. Lucian had been traveling the world for years, searching for ancient artifacts and forbidden knowledge, but tonight, his journey was driven by something far more personal: the mysterious disappearance of his younger brother, Felix. Word had reached Lucian that Victor, with his arcane machines and daring experiments, had recently unlocked secrets that could "revive the dead."

As they sat by the flickering fireplace, Lucian confronted Victor. "I've heard unsettling things, Victor. They say you have discovered a way to bring back the deceased, and I fear my brother is somehow involved." Victor, though initially reticent, finally admitted that Felix had volunteered for one of his experiments but had vanished before its completion. He argued that his work, though dangerous, was humanity's last hope to achieve immortality. **"If we do not push the boundaries of life and death, we will forever remain slaves to nature's cruel laws,"** Victor asserted passionately. **"you, Victor, are meddling with forces you do not fully comprehend,"** Lucian replied sternly, his face shadowed by concern. He feared the consequences of Victor's experiments might lead to irreversible chaos.

As the storm raged outside, the two friends debated the ethical and moral implications of transcending human mortality. Victor, blinded by his ambitions, dismissed Lucian's warnings, convinced that science could conquer death itself. Lucian, burdened by the loss of Felix, saw a deeper danger—one that threatened the very fabric of human existence.

31. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen Victor's argument that his experiments are humanity's last hope to achieve immortality?

- A. Research has shown that the aging process in humans is inevitable, but Victor's experiments can potentially reverse cellular decay.
- B. Several ancient cultures believed in rituals to summon the dead, but none of these methods have been proven scientifically.
- C. Victor's previous experiments with animals successfully extended their lifespans by several years, though they eventually succumbed to natural causes.
- D. Philosophers argue that the pursuit of immortality is inherently flawed, as death is an essential aspect of the human experience.

32. Which of the following conclusions can be most logically drawn from the passage?

- A. Felix has been successfully revived and is hiding due to the dangerous nature of Victor's experiment.
- B. Victor's unwavering ambition to conquer death has led him to disregard the potential dangers of his experiments.
- C. Lucian secretly harbors a desire to join Victor in his quest for immortality, despite his outward criticism.
- D. The storm symbolizes the inner turmoil of both Lucian and Victor, reflecting the chaos that their debate will inevitably lead to.

33. In the passage, two statements are in boldface. What is the relationship between these two statements?

- A. The first is Victor's justification for his experiments, while the second is Lucian's acceptance of his perspective.
- B. The first statement presents Victor's belief in the necessity of his work, while the second expresses Lucian's counterargument, emphasizing the danger of such endeavors.
- C. The first is a fact about the laws of nature, and the second is an emotional appeal to stop Victor from his dangerous path.
- D. Both statements are different aspects of Lucian's internal conflict about whether to stop Victor or support him.

34. Which of the following scenarios is most parallel in its reasoning to Victor's insistence on pushing the boundaries of life and death?

- A. A scientist, despite warnings from environmentalists, continues to conduct experiments on genetic modification in crops, convinced that it will solve global food shortages.
- B. A political leader chooses to negotiate with a hostile nation, believing that diplomacy is the only way to achieve lasting peace, despite historical failures in such efforts.
- C. A doctor, aware of the risks, performs an experimental surgery on a terminally ill patient because it is the patient's only hope for survival.
- D. An athlete, despite being told that his body cannot handle further exertion, continues training for the Olympics, believing that his willpower can overcome physical limitations.

35. Which of the following statements best resolves the paradox in Victor's argument: that while his work is portrayed as essential for human progress, it could also result in catastrophic consequences?

- A. Victor has implemented fail-safe mechanisms in his experiments to ensure that, if they go wrong, the subject can be safely returned to a non-living state.
- B. The catastrophic consequences are only theoretical at this point, as no experiment has ever gone to completion, leaving the dangers purely speculative.
- C. Victor's experiments have always been conducted on volunteers who fully understood the risks, making it ethically acceptable even if the outcomes are dangerous.
- D. Despite the potential for catastrophic outcomes, Victor believes that humanity must accept risks in order to achieve the greater good of immortality.

Passage - III

In the heart of a forgotten forest, deep within an ancient and decaying castle, lived an enigmatic alchemist named Draven. His reputation for manipulating elements and bending nature's laws had earned him both fear and reverence in equal measure. Draven had long pursued the fabled Philosopher's Stone, a legendary artifact said to grant immortality and infinite wisdom. For decades, he delved into arcane texts and conducted perilous experiments. However, his experiments had taken a toll on him, both physically and mentally. His once sharp mind had become clouded, and his body bore the scars of many failed attempts.

One fateful evening, a stranger arrived at the castle, claiming to possess the key to unlocking the Stone's power. Draven, desperate and on the brink of madness, eagerly accepted the stranger's assistance. However, the stranger warned that the Stone required a sacrifice—one of unimaginable magnitude. Draven, blinded by his obsession, agreed without hesitation.

In the days that followed, Draven's experiments grew darker. The castle's once tranquil halls echoed with the sound of ancient incantations and unnerving energies. Soon, it became clear that the stranger's intentions were far from noble. He had orchestrated Draven's downfall, intending to harness the Stone's power for his own malevolent ends. As the castle crumbled around him, Draven realized that the true cost of his ambition had been his humanity.

36. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument that Draven's downfall was inevitable?

- A. Draven had already alienated his closest allies, making him vulnerable to manipulation by strangers.
- B. Historical records indicate that every previous seeker of the Philosopher's Stone had met a tragic end.
- C. Draven's mental state had significantly deteriorated over the years, impairing his judgment and increasing his susceptibility to deception.
- D. The Philosopher's Stone is a myth, and no real artifact exists, leading to inevitable failure for all who seek it.

37. Which of the following conclusions can be most logically drawn from the passage?

- A. The stranger had always intended to betray Draven and claim the Philosopher's Stone for himself.
- B. Draven's lifelong obsession with the Philosopher's Stone had clouded his judgment, making him susceptible to manipulation.
- C. The ancient incantations Draven recited were responsible for the crumbling of the castle.
- D. Draven's downfall was a result of his inability to see the moral and physical consequences of his ambition.

38. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the argument that Draven's downfall was the result of his obsession with the Philosopher's Stone?

- A. Draven had been manipulated by many before but had never faltered in his experiments until meeting the stranger.
- B. The Philosopher's Stone had previously been found and used by another alchemist, proving it was not a mere obsession but a tangible goal.
- C. Draven's experiments had been progressing successfully until the arrival of the stranger, suggesting that the stranger, not Draven's obsession, caused his downfall.
- D. Draven's closest ally had sabotaged his earlier experiments out of jealousy, leading to a series of failures long before the stranger arrived.

39. The stranger's ability to manipulate Draven's actions is based on which of the following assumptions?

- A. Draven's physical and mental deterioration had weakened his resolve, making him more willing to trust outsiders.
- B. The Philosopher's Stone requires a sacrifice that only someone as powerful as Draven could provide.
- C. The stranger was aware of the exact rituals and incantations needed to unlock the power of the Philosopher's Stone.
- D. Draven had always sought external help in his experiments, making him prone to trusting others without suspicion.

40. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage about the nature of the Philosopher's Stone?

- A. The Stone's power comes with an unavoidable cost, which those who seek it fail to foresee until it is too late.
- B. The Stone was nothing more than a myth, and Draven's belief in it was a result of his deteriorating mental state.
- C. The stranger had already unlocked the Stone's power before meeting Draven, which is why he knew how to manipulate him.
- D. The Stone's power is purely destructive, and no alchemist can hope to control it without suffering irreversible consequences.

Passage - IV

Metropolitan cities across the globe, including New York, Mumbai, and São Paulo, are grappling with escalating urbanization challenges. As populations burgeon, these cities struggle with an array of issues such as traffic congestion, inadequate housing, air pollution, and overwhelmed public services. Despite ambitious urban planning projects, the rapid influx of people has outpaced the infrastructure development needed to accommodate them. Governments have introduced various policies to combat these challenges, but many believe the measures have been insufficient or misdirected. The reliance on private vehicles has exacerbated air pollution, and mass transit systems remain underfunded. Moreover, the cost of living in metropolitan cities has skyrocketed, pushing lower-income residents to the fringes or into slums, further widening socioeconomic divides.

Some argue that only stricter government intervention—such as more robust public transportation networks and affordable housing initiatives—can resolve these problems. Critics, however, claim that bureaucratic inefficiencies and corruption within city administrations prevent meaningful change. These challenges persist, raising the question: Can metropolitan cities sustain their growth without compromising their residents' quality of life?

41. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument that stricter government intervention is necessary to solve metropolitan cities' problems?

- A. Cities that have implemented comprehensive public transportation systems and housing reforms, like Tokyo and Singapore, have seen significant reductions in congestion and pollution.
- B. Private vehicle ownership has increased in most metropolitan cities, contributing to more traffic congestion.

- C. Cities with higher populations typically experience more severe urban challenges than smaller cities.
D. Mass transit systems are underfunded in many metropolitan areas, making it difficult to implement effective solutions.

42. Which of the following conclusions can be most logically drawn from the passage?

- A. The rise in population in metropolitan cities is due solely to rural-to-urban migration.
B. Public transportation systems are the only solution to the pollution problem in metropolitan areas.
C. The problems faced by metropolitan cities cannot be solved without substantial international cooperation.
D. Metropolitan cities are currently struggling to keep pace with the rapid growth of their populations, leading to multiple urban challenges.

43. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the argument that metropolitan cities' reliance on private vehicles is a primary cause of pollution?

- A. Many metropolitan cities have introduced stringent emissions standards for vehicles, resulting in a reduction in pollution levels.
B. Studies show that industries and factories contribute more significantly to air pollution in metropolitan areas than private vehicles.
C. In some cities, the government has promoted electric vehicles, which do not emit harmful pollutants
D. Advances in green energy technology have reduced pollution levels across all sectors of metropolitan life, including transportation.

44. The argument that stricter government intervention is necessary to solve urban problems relies on which of the following assumptions?

- A. Private sector solutions are not capable of addressing urban infrastructure challenges.
B. Governments in metropolitan cities have sufficient resources to implement effective urban reforms.
C. Stricter regulations will reduce the number of private vehicles on the road and increase the use of public transportation.
D. Housing affordability can only be improved through direct government intervention.

45. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage about the relationship between population growth and urban infrastructure in metropolitan cities?

- A. Population growth in metropolitan cities has consistently outpaced the development of urban infrastructure, leading to a range of problems.
B. The slow rate of urban infrastructure development is a result of poor planning rather than the rapid pace of population growth.
C. Cities with stagnant or declining populations tend to have better-functioning urban infrastructure.
D. The lack of adequate public services is the primary cause of increasing socioeconomic divides in metropolitan areas.

Passage - V

We have turned the human mind into a source of unending frustration, depression, and self-destruction. Evidently so because we have allowed the mind to mortgage its happiness entirely to some external sources. Without ideas of **'my money, my home, my family, my job, my position, my name, my history, my politics, my religion,'** most people have no clue as to who they are! As these identities grow more precarious, people are seized by terror.

In framing our identities, we have forgotten that the psychological is not the existential; it is, by definition, fluid, changing, inconsistent. If you take the norms and biases of society and imprint them on your mind, you will end up in a big psychological confusion – not only because society is imperfect, but because your mind will give you a distorted reflection of it.

Many lament the terrible state of the economy today, but economics matters to us only because we are alive. How did we create educational systems that teach us how to acquire knowledge, technology, and wealth, but never how to be joyful? A spiritual process is not a luxury or an extra option. It is a vital necessity because it awakens us to a fundamental lesson – how to differentiate between psychological drama and authentic life and become architects of our own well-being.

In a bullock cart drawn by two bulls, both bulls need to work in alignment to reach the destination. Right now, your mental bull – a shadow, a creation of your own – is running amok. Ironically, the only bull that is out of control is the shadow bull. The real bull, life itself, is always fine, irrespective of external calamities. If you pay attention to the life within, you will realize it is not seeking riches or fame, security, identity, or exclusivity. Life within is just seeking to happen in as exuberant and effervescent a way as possible.

We cannot be proud of a civilization dominated by insatiable greed and conquest, by a mind that is vagrant and chronically incapable of differentiating things. In a truly great civilization, all people are granted equal place and offered tools of self-determination that empower them to create their own peace and joy. **A pandemic is the right time to rewrite the rules and take charge of our own narratives. A conscious planet – its time has come. Let us make it happen.**

46. What purpose do the statements in boldface serve?

- A. Statement 1 presents the solution, and statement 2 presents the problem.
- B. Statement 1 presents a problem, and statement 2 poses an ideal solution.
- C. Statement 1 is a partial conclusion, and statement 2 is the basis of the partial conclusion.
- D. Statement 1 is the basis of the conclusion, and statement 2 is the conclusion.

47. Why is the human mind frustrated according to the passage?

- 1. Because we have traded happiness with external sources.
 - 2. Because we have forgotten that the psychological is not existential.
- A. 1 and 2 B. 1 only C. 2 only D. None of these

48. Why does the author say most people have no clue as to who they are?

- A. Because we have traded happiness with external sources.
- B. Because we have traded our conscience to external sources.
- C. Because we have forgotten that psychological is not existential.
- D. Because we have a blurred vision of ourselves.

49. What is the inference of the passage?

- 1. Life is looking to pass on with enthusiasm.
 - 2. It is highly probable that we create a happy society.
 - 3. A conscious planet is what we need today.
 - 4. Our education system needs an overhaul.
- A. 1 and 2 B. 3 and 4 C. 2 only D. 1 and 3

50. Why, according to the passage, is the mind incapable?

- 1. Because it takes pride in greed.
 - 2. It mistakes the psychological to be existential.
 - 3. Because it fails to realize what life actually is or wants to be.
- A. 1 and 2 B. 3 and 4 C. 2 only D. 1 and 3

Legal Reasoning

Passage-I

Disclaimer: *The following passage is a constructed legal summary of the Forest Rights Act, 2006 and related judicial developments. The facts, figures, and principles here are to be accepted as given. You must rely only on this passage's facts and principles to answer the questions, without using external legal knowledge.*

Recently, the Supreme Court directed states to free forest tracts held by individuals whose claims under the *Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006* were rejected. This decision provoked protests from forest rights groups, which argued that natural justice and due process must not be sacrificed in favor of conservation.

Historically, forest communities—especially Scheduled Tribes (STs) and other traditional forest dwellers (OTFDs)—have maintained centuries-long symbiotic relations with forests. They established customary rights over extraction, grazing, and resource use, governed by local traditions that generally sought sustainability. During colonial and post-colonial periods,

these customary rights were progressively curtailed by forest laws (e.g. Indian Forest Acts of 1865, 1894, 1927) and state forest policies, converting forests into State assets.

The FRA, 2006, was enacted to correct these historic injustices. It formally recognizes forest rights and occupation for FDST (forest-dwelling Scheduled Tribes) and OTFD who have lived in these lands for generations. The Act vests in them four types of rights: (1) *Title rights*—ownership over up to 4 hectares of cultivated forest land; (2) *Use rights*—rights to collect minor forest produce, grazing, and pastoral routes; (3) *Relief & development rights*—rehabilitation when illegally evicted; and (4) *Forest management rights*—rights to conserve, regenerate, or manage community forest resources.

Not every right-holder is eligible—only those who (a) primarily depend on forest lands for livelihood, or (b) have lived in forest land for at least three generations (75 years) before December 13, 2005. The Gram Sabha (village assembly) initiates claim recommendations, which then pass through *taluka- and district-level screening committees*. These committees include three elected members and three government officials. Concerns or objections can be raised during the screening process. Once granted, such rights are non-transferable and cannot be sold.

The Act also mandates that rights-holders maintain ecological balance and sustainable use. The FRA thus attempts a dual purpose: ensuring both forest conservation and community livelihoods. It builds on related statutes: the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, which regulates protection of wild animals; the National Forest Policy, 1988, which emphasizes forest conservation and afforestation; and PESA, 1996, which empowers local tribal governance through Gram Sabhas and consultation in land matters.

In practice, the FRA faces severe implementation challenges: (i) Administrative apathy, where forest departments delay or reject claims; (ii) Lack of awareness among claimants and local officials; (iii) Dilution of community rights, with preference given to individual rights; (iv) Resistance by forest bureaucracy and vested interests reluctant to cede control; (v) Technical and institutional obstacles, such as weak mapping skills, lack of clear time limits for adjudication, and limited capacity at village level.

The Supreme Court’s order to evict rejected claimants raises tension between judicial enforcement of conservation and principles of natural justice and procedural fairness. While evictions may restore ecological integrity, many claimants may be denied an adequate hearing or fair re-consideration. The future of the FRA depends on reconciling *forest protection* with the *rights of traditional forest dwellers* and ensuring that rejected claims are addressed justly, not summarily evicted.

51. In State X, the Gram Sabha recommends claims of forest-dwelling families for individual forest rights (IFR). A subset of these is rejected by the district screening committee for alleged lack of documentary proof. The Supreme Court mandates that these tracts be freed from occupation. One rejected claimant, Meena, petitions that her claim was rejected without giving her an opportunity to respond to objections raised by third parties. She argues that summary eviction violates natural justice. The State replies that once rejection is final, eviction must follow, as directed by the Court and FRA logic.

How should the Court reconcile the eviction order with the principles of procedural fairness embodied in the FRA?

- A. The eviction must be stayed unless Meena is given a chance to respond before final rejection.
- B. Eviction should be deferred only for those with long occupation.
- C. The eviction may proceed immediately, since rejected claims carry no right.
- D. Eviction cannot proceed unless the Gram Sabha re-endorses the claim.

52. In Forest Region Y, a tribal community secures *community forest rights (CFR)* under FRA, including rights to jointly manage forest resources. A commercial developer obtains state permission to divert a portion of this forest for infrastructure. The community resists, asserting their management rights, but the state claims that broader “public purpose” permits override of CFR. The state cites Wildlife Protection Act regulations superseding local rights for species protection.

Which position should prevail under the FRA as described in the passage?

- A. The State may override CFR if public purpose is shown, regardless of community objections.
- B. The community's CFR rights prevail unless expressly overridden by law.
- C. State must compensate the community before diverting forest land.
- D. CFR rights are always subordinate to wildlife or forest acts.

53. Raju's family applies for IFR cultivation rights over 5 hectares (above the 4-hectare limit) of forest land they had farmed for decades. The Gram Sabha recommends full 5 hectares, arguing local custom. The district committee allows only 4 hectares, citing statutory maximum. Raju argues that historic injustice requires granting full extent. The State counters that FRA explicitly caps title rights at 4 hectares.

Which rule must prevail under the passage's principles?

- A. All 5 hectares must be granted if majority of Gram Sabha supports it.
- B. Only 2 hectares should be given to balance equity and conservation.
- C. The statutory cap of 4 hectares must be enforced; excess must be rejected.
- D. The excess must be granted due to customary equity considerations.

54. A claimant, Leela, claims forest title rights under FRA by showing continuous residence, but the Gram Sabha declines to recommend her. She appeals to the district level committee, but her appeal is rejected without any reasons recorded. She contends that the law requires reasoned decisions at each stage and that blank rejections are arbitrary. The State responds that no requirement of reasoned recording exists in FRA text, so decisions may be summary.

How should the courts approach this under the passage's norms?

- A. The rejection must be referred back to Gram Sabha for reconsideration.
- B. The rejection is valid—reasoning requirement not mandated.
- C. The rejection is valid only if the claim lacks merit on face value.
- D. The rejection is invalid for lack of recorded reasons, violating fairness.

55. A tribal community in District Z files CFR claims and obtains approval. Later, the state notifies an eco-sensitive zone overlapping a portion of their granted forest area, restricting tree harvesting. The community argues that their management rights under FRA protect their usage. The State argues that FRA rights are qualified and subject to conservation restrictions.

Which outcome aligns with the passage's integration of FRA and conservation norms?

- A. The restriction is invalid, because granted rights are absolute.
- B. The restriction is valid only after compensating the community.
- C. The restriction is valid, since FRA rights are subject to conservation duties.
- D. The restriction is invalid unless community consent is waived.

56. In State W, many claims under FRA remain pending for decades due to lack of capacity. The passage notes that FRA does **not specify any time limit** for adjudicating claims and this has caused dragging delays. A group of claimants petitions the court to direct timelines and eviction moratorium until decisions. The State argues that judicial diktats imposing deadlines will interfere with State's domain.

Under the passage's principles, what should be the appropriate judicial stance?

- A. The Court must refrain from interference, leaving delays to the State.
- B. The Court may impose reasonable timelines and stay evictions until claims are decided.
- C. The Court should delegate timeline setting to Gram Sabhas, not itself.
- D. Evictions may proceed despite pending claims, as delays do not bar State's rights.

Passage-II

Disclaimer: *The following passage is based on the provisions of a recently enacted law and may not represent the actual position of law. You must go strictly by the facts and principles provided in this passage to answer the questions.*

The Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025, consolidates and modernizes India's immigration framework by repealing and merging older laws — the Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920; the Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939; the Foreigners Act, 1946; and the Immigration (Carriers' Liability) Act, 2000. The law seeks to simplify visa processes and ensure stricter compliance through uniform registration, record-keeping, and reporting obligations.

Under the Act, foreign nationals must register with the designated Registration Office within 14 calendar days of arrival. Employers hiring foreign workers are legally responsible for ensuring compliance. Late or failed registration attracts monetary penalties and, in repeated cases, suspension of visa privileges.

The Act imposes strict reporting obligations on various institutions. Universities must report the enrollment of foreign students within 24 hours of admission; hospitals must report the admission, discharge, or death of foreign nationals within 24 hours; and hotels or other lodging providers must digitally record the stay details of foreign guests for inspection.

To ensure compliance, the Act authorizes audits and inspections by immigration authorities at any employer or institutional premises. The Bureau of Immigration is tasked with enforcement and coordination with state agencies. The law also permits the government to capture biometric data of all foreign nationals at arrival or any time during their stay for identification and monitoring purposes.

Violations under the Act are met with higher fines and imprisonment compared to prior laws. While the government justifies these powers as essential for national security and transparency, critics argue that the Act increases surveillance, lacks procedural safeguards, and risks harassment of genuine visitors. The Act's success, therefore, depends on striking a balance between robust enforcement and respect for procedural fairness and individual privacy.

57. Lena, an architect from Sweden, arrives in Delhi on a one-year work visa. Her employer's HR department fails to register her within 14 days due to a national holiday. The Registration Office issues a penalty notice for delayed registration. The employer argues that minor procedural lapses caused by unavoidable circumstances should not attract punishment under the new Act, which aims to balance enforcement with fairness. Immigration authorities, however, maintain that the 14-day deadline is absolute and any delay constitutes an offence.

Based on the passage, what is the most appropriate outcome?

- A. The delay should be excused, as fairness requires reasonable flexibility in procedural matters.
- B. The penalty is valid since deadlines are absolute under the Act.
- C. The penalty applies only if the employer deliberately avoided registration.
- D. The penalty is valid only if prior notice of delay was not given.

58. A Bangalore university hosting 400 foreign students fails to report their enrollment within 24 hours as required by the new Act, citing an internal server outage. The Bureau of Immigration imposes a heavy penalty. The university challenges this, arguing that technical issues during initial compliance should be excused. The Bureau responds that the 24-hour deadline is mandatory and vital for security monitoring.

What should be the correct legal interpretation under the passage?

- A. The university's delay is excused because the breach was unintentional.
- B. The penalty stands, as the 24-hour reporting duty is strict and mandatory.
- C. The penalty is valid only if the delay exceeds 48 hours.

D. The penalty is invalid if the Bureau did not issue a warning first.

59. A multinational company in Hyderabad refuses an immigration audit, claiming that inspection without judicial authorization violates its “corporate privacy.” The immigration bureau argues that the Act explicitly empowers audits of employer premises to verify compliance. The company insists that unannounced visits are excessive and arbitrary. The issue reaches court.

How should the inspection power be interpreted under the passage’s principles?

- A. The audit is valid only if conducted with advance notice.
- B. The audit is invalid without a warrant.
- C. The audit is valid, as the Act expressly empowers on-site inspections.
- D. The audit is valid only when a violation is first suspected.

60. A French tourist staying in Mumbai refuses to provide biometric data at a government center, claiming that it violates her privacy. The Bureau of Immigration warns her that refusal to share biometric data violates Section 19 of the Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025. She files a writ petition alleging invasion of privacy. The government contends that biometric collection is explicitly authorized for identity verification and public safety.

What should the Court decide under the principles in the passage?

- A. Biometric collection is unconstitutional because it infringes privacy.
- B. Biometric collection is valid since it is authorized and justified by national security concerns.
- C. Biometric collection is valid only if consent is taken.
- D. Biometric collection is invalid unless limited to high-risk travelers.

61. Before the Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025 came into effect, Daniel, a foreign journalist, overstayed his visa by 10 days. The new law imposes harsher penalties than older statutes. Authorities seek to penalize him under the new regime, arguing that it consolidates all existing laws retrospectively. Daniel challenges the penalty, claiming that harsher punishments cannot apply to past acts.

What should the Court decide, based on the passage?

- A. The new penalties cannot apply to past acts; they must operate prospectively.
- B. The new penalties apply to all pending matters to ensure deterrence.
- C. The new penalties apply only if the overstay occurred after the law took effect.
- D. The new penalties are valid only after written confirmation by the Bureau.

62. A hotel in Kochi submits the guest data of foreign visitors but mistakenly types one guest’s checkout date incorrectly. During inspection, the Bureau penalizes the hotel for inaccurate data entry. The hotel claims it was a clerical mistake that caused no harm or risk. The Bureau argues that strict compliance prevents misuse and false reporting.

Under the passage, which interpretation best aligns with the legislative intent?

- A. The penalty should be withdrawn, as unintentional clerical errors do not amount to noncompliance.
- B. The penalty must stand, since the Act requires strict accuracy in data reporting.
- C. The penalty is valid only if the error remains uncorrected after audit.
- D. The penalty is invalid unless a pattern of repeated mistakes is found.

Passage-III

Disclaimer: The following passage is a reconstructed legal reasoning summary of the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2025. The facts and principles here may not represent the actual provisions of the law. You must rely solely on the passage to answer the questions.

The Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2025 continues India's reformist approach to ease compliance burdens, rationalize penalties, and enhance trust-based governance. Building upon the Jan Vishwas Act, 2023, which decriminalized 183 provisions across 42 Central Acts, the 2025 Bill extends these changes to 16 additional Acts under 10 Ministries.

The Bill embodies the philosophy that not every procedural or technical error warrants criminal prosecution. It introduces a graded approach to compliance, where *first-time contraventions* attract only advisory or warnings rather than punishment. Imprisonment clauses for minor or technical violations are being replaced with monetary fines or cautions, aiming to prevent harassment and reduce judicial workload.

An important structural reform under the Bill is the adjudication mechanism, empowering designated officers to impose penalties administratively. This decentralizes enforcement, reduces litigation, and promotes quick resolution. Additionally, an automatic revision clause increases fines by 10% every three years, ensuring penalties remain relevant without recurring parliamentary amendments.

The Bill's foundation lies in process reforms, which differ from structural reforms. While structural reforms (like GST or the Insolvency Code) redesign entire frameworks, process reforms improve operational efficiency within existing systems. They involve simplifying rules, reducing approvals, and eliminating redundant paperwork. The Economic Survey 2020–21 emphasized such reforms as vital for sustainable economic growth, describing them as “nuts and bolts” improvements that make governance agile and transparent.

The Bill reflects the government's broader objective: to instill *trust* in citizens and businesses by shifting from punitive to facilitative administration. It recognizes that over-criminalization creates fear and inefficiency. By replacing archaic compliance mechanisms with self-certification, digital transparency, and graded enforcement, it seeks to modernize India's regulatory culture.

Critics, however, caution that over-reliance on self-regulation might dilute deterrence. Without strong oversight, trust-based systems could lead to misuse. Proponents argue that penalties for repeat offences remain stringent, ensuring accountability while reducing harassment for honest operators.

The Jan Vishwas (Amendment) Bill, 2025 thus represents a policy experiment in blending *leniency, efficiency, and accountability* — an attempt to ensure that regulation facilitates rather than frustrates economic activity.

63. A small manufacturing firm, “EcoMetal Works,” fails to renew its registration under the Legal Metrology Act by the prescribed deadline for the first time. The designated officer issues an advisory warning but no fine or imprisonment. A consumer rights group files a petition, claiming that such leniency weakens deterrence and violates the rule of law. The government defends the action, citing the 2025 Bill's policy of graded enforcement for first-time contraventions.

How should the adjudicating authority interpret this issue under the principles of the passage?

- A. The officer erred because administrative leniency undermines equality before law.
- B. The officer must impose at least a monetary fine to preserve deterrence.
- C. The officer acted correctly since first-time technical violations merit only advisory action.
- D. The officer should seek prior judicial approval before issuing an advisory.

64. A pharmaceutical company, “MediCore Labs,” repeatedly fails to update safety data under a Central health law now governed by the 2025 Bill. It claims immunity because its earlier violation received only an advisory under the “first-time contravention” rule. The regulator insists that repeat offences attract enhanced penalties. The company challenges this as arbitrary discrimination between first and repeat violators.

Under the passage’s principles, which interpretation is correct?

- A. All offences, first or repeat, must be treated equally to avoid discrimination.
- B. Repeat offences invite rationalized penalties to maintain accountability.
- C. The first warning immunizes the company from all future action for the same offence.
- D. Only judicial authorities can impose penalties for repeat offences.

65. The Ministry of Commerce delegates penalty powers to designated officers under the adjudication mechanism introduced by the Bill. A business group contends that only courts can impose penalties and that such delegation violates the separation of powers. The government argues that administrative adjudication improves efficiency without removing judicial review.

How should this conflict be resolved according to the passage?

- A. Delegation of penalty powers to executive officers is unconstitutional.
- B. Only quasi-judicial tribunals can impose penalties, not departmental officers.
- C. The delegation is valid as administrative adjudication reduces delays and preserves judicial review.
- D. Delegation is valid only if approved by Parliament each time.

66. A start-up fined under the rationalized penalty structure challenges the *automatic 10% increase clause*, arguing that Parliament cannot pre-authorize future hikes without fresh legislative approval. The government defends the clause, saying it ensures the deterrent value of penalties without repetitive amendments.

Which reasoning best aligns with the principles of the Bill?

- A. The clause is invalid since periodic legislative oversight is mandatory.
- B. The automatic increase is valid as it maintains relevance of penalties over time.
- C. The clause applies only if inflation rates justify it.
- D. The clause is unconstitutional delegation of legislative power.

67. A civil society group claims that decriminalizing minor offences in industrial laws will encourage corruption and misuse by companies. The government counters that process reforms, by simplifying rules and promoting transparency, actually reduce corruption.

How should this policy debate be evaluated under the passage’s principles?

- A. Corruption inevitably increases when offences lose criminal consequences.
- B. Transparency cannot replace punishment as a deterrent.
- C. Decriminalization with transparency reduces rent-seeking and enhances compliance.
- D. Companies should remain under strict criminal liability to ensure discipline.

68. Under a new administrative rule framed pursuant to the Bill, designated officers may issue online show-cause notices instead of physical hearings. An affected business claims that this denies them natural justice. The government maintains that digital procedures improve efficiency and preserve due process through e-hearings.

Under the passage's reasoning, how should this be resolved?

- A. Digital notices violate procedural fairness and must be struck down.
- B. Online notices are valid only for repeat offenders, not first-timers.
- C. Digital processes are valid if they ensure fairness and opportunity to respond.
- D. Online adjudication is unconstitutional unless explicitly approved by Parliament.

Passage-IV

Passage-I

Disclaimer: *The following passage is based on factual and legal information and may not represent the exact position of law. You must go strictly by the facts and principles given in the passage to answer the questions.*

The National Security Act (NSA), 1980 is a preventive detention law that empowers the Central and State Governments to detain individuals who are suspected of acting in a manner prejudicial to national security, public order, or the maintenance of essential supplies and services. Preventive detention under the NSA allows authorities to confine a person not for a past act, but to prevent potential future harm to public safety or national integrity.

Article 22(3)(b) of the Indian Constitution authorizes preventive detention, while Article 22(4) provides that no preventive detention law shall permit detention for more than three months unless approved by an advisory board. Under the NSA, a person may be detained for up to 12 months, though the government must periodically review the detention order.

The Act also led to the establishment of the National Security Council (NSC), a high-level body advising the Prime Minister on defense, strategic policy, and national security. The NSC, formed in 1998, is chaired by the Prime Minister and includes the National Security Advisor (NSA), Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), and key ministers in charge of defense, home, external affairs, and finance. It reviews emerging threats, coordinates intelligence and defense policies, and recommends strategic responses to ensure national safety.

Despite its objectives, the NSA remains controversial. Critics argue that it violates fundamental rights, particularly the right to personal liberty and fair trial under Articles 21 and 22. The government may detain individuals without trial, and detainees are often not informed of the grounds for their detention — leading to allegations of misuse, political targeting, and human rights violations. The Supreme Court has repeatedly emphasized that preventive detention must not be used as a substitute for ordinary law enforcement.

Supporters of the NSA argue that it is an essential tool to address threats that ordinary criminal law cannot anticipate — such as terrorism, fake news capable of causing riots, or coordinated subversive activity. However, concerns persist regarding the lack of transparency in detention orders and limited judicial oversight.

Legal experts have suggested reforms: enhancing transparency, strengthening judicial review of detention orders, and prioritizing intelligence-based prevention over arbitrary confinement. While the Act aims to protect national security, its misuse undermines constitutional guarantees, making the balance between liberty and security one of India's enduring constitutional challenges.

69. Ramesh, a journalist in Uttar Pradesh, publishes a report alleging corruption in defense procurement. The State Government issues a detention order under the National Security Act, claiming that his article may provoke public unrest and harm national integrity. Ramesh files a habeas corpus petition, arguing that criticism of the government cannot be equated with a threat to national security. The State argues that the NSA allows detention to prevent potential threats, even if no actual violence has occurred yet.

Under the principles from the passage, how should the Court decide?

- A. The detention is invalid, as dissent and criticism do not constitute threats to national security.
- B. The detention is valid since the State can act preventively to avert potential unrest.
- C. The detention is valid only if the Advisory Board subsequently approves it.
- D. The detention is invalid unless prior judicial sanction was obtained.

70 The Tamil Nadu government detains Sunil under the NSA, alleging that his social media post about food shortages could incite public panic. He challenges the detention, arguing that the post was based on verified data and that preventive detention cannot be used where ordinary penal laws (like IPC or IT Act) suffice. The State contends that preventive detention is necessary to avoid chaos and maintain essential supplies.

What is the correct interpretation under the passage?

- A. The detention is unconstitutional since the NSA cannot replace normal criminal law.
- B. The detention is valid as the State can act to maintain essential services.
- C. The detention is valid if the NSC approves the preventive measures.
- D. The detention is invalid only if the post did not go viral.

71. Meena, an activist, is detained under the NSA for allegedly organizing protests against rising prices, which authorities claim could disturb “public order.” Her lawyers argue that the protests were peaceful and that preventive detention cannot be used against lawful expression. The State justifies its action by citing potential “future disruption” of supplies and public tranquility.

How should the matter be resolved under the passage?

- A. The detention is illegal, as peaceful protest does not amount to a threat to public order.
- B. The detention is valid since preventive detention allows preemptive action.
- C. The detention is valid if approved by the National Security Council.
- D. The detention is illegal unless the protest caused actual violence.

72. A suspected smuggler detained under the NSA challenges his detention, arguing that he was not informed of the reasons for his arrest. The State claims that revealing such details could compromise national security operations. His lawyer contends that the lack of information violates the detainee’s right to legal defense.

According to the principles from the passage, how should the Court decide?

- A. The detention violates due process since the detainee must be informed of the grounds.
- B. The detention is valid if disclosure threatens national security interests.
- C. The detention is valid only after advisory board confirmation.
- D. The detention is invalid unless judicial review is conducted immediately.

73. The Central Government detains a political leader under the NSA, alleging that his public speeches criticizing the army demoralize security forces. His supporters claim that the detention is politically motivated. The government argues that preventive detention laws exist to stop harmful rhetoric before it affects national morale.

Applying the principles from the passage, what is the correct outcome?

- A. The detention is unconstitutional, as NSA cannot be used for political targeting or dissent suppression.
- B. The detention is valid since criticism of the army threatens national security.
- C. The detention is valid if the speeches were made in a sensitive border area.
- D. The detention is unconstitutional only if the leader is an elected representative.

74. A review committee under the NSA extends the detention of an accused for another six months without providing any reasons. The detainee challenges the extension as arbitrary. The government claims that reasons cannot be disclosed for “confidentiality.” The Supreme Court must determine whether the extension violates constitutional principles.

Under the passage, how should the Court rule?

- A. The extension is unconstitutional since preventive detention requires transparency and review.
- B. The extension is valid if classified information justifies secrecy.
- C. The extension is valid once approved by the NSC.
- D. The extension is invalid only if the period exceeds 12 months.

Passage-VI

Disclaimer: The following passage is a constructed legal summary of the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025. The facts and principles may not reflect the exact law. You must rely solely on the facts and reasoning provided in the passage to answer the questions.

The Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025, marks India’s first comprehensive law to manage and encourage responsible growth in the online gaming industry. The Act aims to balance promotion of digital sports and innovation with protection against harmful online money games.

It classifies games into three categories — E-sports, Online Social Games, and Online Money Games. *E-sports* are competitive digital sports based on skill, recognized as legitimate sport activities under the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports. *Online Social Games* are primarily for entertainment and social interaction, often free to play. *Online Money Games*, however, involve financial stakes — whether based on chance, skill, or both — and are completely prohibited from being offered, advertised, or facilitated within India.

The Act bans all financial transactions and advertisements related to online money games. Banks and financial intermediaries are forbidden from processing payments for such platforms. The Central Government and agencies under the IT Act, 2000 are empowered to block websites, apps, or advertisements that host or promote unlawful games.

To regulate the industry, the Act establishes a National Online Gaming Regulatory Authority (NOGRA), tasked with:

- Registering and categorizing online games;
- Determining whether a game qualifies as a “money game”;
- Investigating complaints and violations;
- Imposing penalties and recommending blocking orders.

The Act’s offences are cognisable and non-bailable. Offering money games may attract up to 3 years’ imprisonment and ₹1 crore fine, while advertising such games invites 2 years and ₹50 lakh fine. Company executives are personally liable unless they prove due diligence.

At the same time, the Act encourages promotion of e-sports and skill-based social gaming. The government may establish training academies, gaming research centres, and recognition systems to nurture India's digital talent.

Critics argue that the blanket ban on money games blurs the legal distinction between games of skill and chance and could deter investment in India's thriving gaming sector. Proponents counter that addiction, gambling losses, and youth exploitation demand strict control. The Act's success depends on clear classification criteria, procedural fairness in enforcement, and a balance between economic innovation and consumer protection.

75. A company, "PlayRight India," develops a digital cricket platform where users pay ₹100 to join matches and earn prizes based on their performance. The company claims that since outcomes depend entirely on skill, it should qualify as an e-sport. The regulatory authority, however, categorizes it as an "Online Money Game" and blocks its platform. PlayRight argues that the Act violates their right to promote skill-based gaming and that a complete ban is arbitrary.

Based on the passage's principles, how should this dispute be resolved?

- A. The ban is valid since any financial stake converts a game into an online money game.
- B. The ban is invalid, as games based on skill qualify as e-sports.
- C. The authority must review classification based on dominant skill component before banning.
- D. The company should be exempt as long as users voluntarily pay to participate.

76. "GameLoop Academy," an educational gaming platform, offers free coding-based puzzle games for school students but accepts sponsorships from beverage companies. A complaint alleges that advertising brands on the gaming interface violates the ban on "advertising" within the gaming ecosystem. The academy argues that such advertisements are unrelated to gaming outcomes and do not promote money games.

What should the regulator decide under the Act?

- A. Advertising unrelated brands on legitimate social games is permissible.
- B. All advertising on gaming platforms is prohibited, regardless of content.
- C. Advertisements must first be approved by the National Regulatory Authority.
- D. Educational games cannot host commercial advertisements under any circumstances.

77. A YouTube influencer promotes an offshore online poker app accessible in India, earning a commission per download. Authorities initiate prosecution, arguing that the influencer "advertised a prohibited money game." The influencer claims that foreign-based apps are outside Indian jurisdiction.

What is the correct interpretation under the passage?

- A. The Act applies only to Indian platforms, not offshore services.
- B. The influencer is liable since the Act covers games "offered or accessible in India."
- C. The influencer is not liable unless the app itself conducts business in India.
- D. The influencer is liable only if the government issues a blocking order first.

78. An IT company's CFO is arrested because its subsidiary hosted a banned money game. The CFO claims he had no direct involvement and had conducted internal compliance checks. The regulator insists that all corporate officers are strictly liable under the Act.

How should liability be determined according to the passage?

- A. All directors are automatically liable for company violations.
- B. Liability extends only to officers directly involved, unless others failed due diligence.
- C. Independent and non-executive directors are equally liable under strict liability.
- D. Only the CEO can be held liable as company head.

79. A startup launches “EduPlay,” a paid mobile app combining quiz competitions with small entry fees and prizes in the form of scholarships. The regulator bans it, calling it an “online money game.” The company argues that its intent is educational, not profit-making, and that the fees fund prizes, not gambling.

Under the Act’s framework, how should this issue be decided?

- A. The ban is justified since any monetary entry fee creates a financial stake.
- B. The platform should be allowed if the regulator finds predominant educational purpose.
- C. The platform is exempt automatically because it awards scholarships, not cash.
- D. The ban is invalid because the government encourages educational gaming.

80. An e-sports athlete livestreams his professional matches on a platform monetized through advertisements and donations. Tax authorities issue notice under the Integrated GST Act, arguing that the stream qualifies as a commercial gaming service. The athlete argues that e-sports are recognized as a legitimate sport, not a taxable digital service.

Based on the passage, what is the most consistent outcome?

- A. E-sports income should be taxed like any online service.
- B. E-sports are exempt as legitimate sport, not digital service.
- C. The tax depends on whether the athlete plays solo or for a team.
- D. The regulator must first classify whether e-sports fall under taxable category.

General Knowledge

Passage - I

Natural farming represents a paradigm shift from chemical-based agriculture to an ecologically harmonious system rooted in traditional wisdom. The concept was popularized by Subhash Palekar in the late 1990s under the model known as “Zero Budget Natural Farming” (ZBNF), emphasizing minimal external inputs and reliance on locally available resources. The approach discourages the use of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides, instead promoting microbial culture-based soil enrichment methods such as Jeevamrutha and Beejamrutha.

ZBNF gained policy prominence when states like Andhra Pradesh adopted it on a mission mode, under initiatives such as the Community Managed Natural Farming (APCNF) program. The Government of India has also recognized natural farming as a key element of sustainable agriculture, reflected in budget speeches and NITI Aayog reports. The focus is on reducing input costs, enhancing soil fertility, conserving water, and improving farm resilience to climate variability.

Natural farming practices include mulching for moisture retention, intercropping for pest management, and using desi cow dung and urine as bio-inputs. Unlike organic farming, natural farming avoids certification complexities and external market dependencies. It operates on the principle of “Ahimsa” towards the soil — treating it as a living entity rather than a medium for chemical reactions.

Empirical studies, including those conducted by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), suggest that while initial yields may drop slightly, long-term benefits include improved soil carbon levels, biodiversity restoration, and better income stability for small farmers. However, challenges remain — notably, the lack of standardized metrics for productivity, the need for farmer training, and skepticism among policymakers accustomed to the Green Revolution paradigm.

In the context of India’s climate commitments and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), natural farming aligns with the objectives of climate-resilient agriculture and reduced carbon footprint. The success of this movement, however, depends on building scientific validation and institutional support rather than romanticizing traditional practices without evidence-based assessment.

81. Which of the following best describes the concept of “Ahimsa towards the soil” as applied in natural farming?

- A. Avoidance of tilling, ploughing, or any physical disturbance of soil microorganisms.
- B. Total abstinence from all animal-based agricultural inputs.
- C. Use of pesticides in minimal quantities to protect soil fauna.
- D. Cultivation of crops that do not exhaust soil nutrients.

82. With reference to agricultural sustainability, which of the following indicators can be directly improved by the adoption of natural farming practices?

- 1. Soil organic carbon levels
- 2. Groundwater recharge rate
- 3. Farm mechanization index
- 4. Soil microbial diversity

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

83. Which of the following correctly represents the distinction between Natural Farming and Organic Farming?

- A. Natural Farming requires third-party certification while Organic Farming does not.
- B. Natural Farming discourages external inputs even if organic, while Organic Farming allows certified inputs.
- C. Organic Farming entirely prohibits the use of animal-based manure.
- D. Natural Farming allows genetically modified seeds while Organic Farming prohibits them.

84. Which organization conducted studies indicating long-term benefits of natural farming?

- A. NABARD
- B. ICAR
- C. FAO
- D. UNEP

85. Which of the following practices is *not* a component of natural farming?

- A. Mulching
- B. Crop rotation
- C. Use of synthetic pesticides
- D. Application of Jeevamrutha

86. The term “Zero Budget” in ZBNF primarily refers to:

- A. Farming without government subsidies
- B. Farming without financial loans or external inputs
- C. Complete elimination of labor cost
- D. No expenditure on irrigation

Passage - II

Launched on 13 October 2021, the PM Gati Shakti – National Master Plan (NMP) represents India’s ambitious approach to creating an integrated, multi-modal infrastructure ecosystem. It aims to break departmental silos, ensuring synchronized planning and execution among more than 16 ministries and departments. The platform integrates various digital databases through a Geographic Information System (GIS)-based interface that enables real-time coordination and project monitoring.

The NMP is guided by the vision of making logistics efficient and cost-effective. India’s logistics cost, currently around 13–14 percent of GDP, is significantly higher than developed nations, and the Plan aspires to bring it down to near 8 percent. By promoting inter-connectivity among roads, railways, ports, airports, and waterways, Gati Shakti seeks to ensure “Last-Mile Connectivity” and faster movement of goods and services across the country.

A critical institutional pillar supporting the Plan is the Network Planning Group (NPG) under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT). The NPG vets major infrastructure projects to ensure alignment with the National Master Plan principles. At the state level, similar planning groups have been constituted to ensure coordination between central and state projects.

The Plan dovetails with several existing initiatives such as Bharatmala, Sagarmala, UDAN, and Inland Waterways, thereby creating synergy rather than duplication. A Digital Dashboard provides project-wise visibility, helping identify bottlenecks in advance. Moreover, the PM Gati Shakti Yojana extends these principles to industrial corridors and logistics parks, aiming to improve India’s Ease of Doing Business ranking and export competitiveness.

While the initiative is widely lauded, challenges persist. These include data accuracy across departments, harmonization of standards, environmental clearances, and capacity constraints at the state level. Analysts also emphasize the need to balance rapid infrastructure growth with sustainability and local livelihood protection.

In the broader context, PM Gati Shakti complements the National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) and serves as a foundation for the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision—transforming India into a globally connected, logistics-efficient economy powered by technology-driven governance.

87. Consider the following statements:

1. PM Gati Shakti integrates databases through a GIS-based platform.
2. It subsumes Bharatmala and Sagarmala projects entirely.
3. Its vision includes reducing logistics costs to about 8 percent of GDP.

Which of the statements is/are correct?

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

88. Which of the following is *not* mentioned as a challenge for PM Gati Shakti in the passage?

- A. Data standardization B. Environmental clearances
C. Financing constraints due to low budgetary allocation D. Capacity constraints at the state level

89. Which of the following pairs is *correctly matched*?

Initiative	Sector/Objective
1. Bharatmala	Aviation infrastructure
2. Sagarmala	Port-led development
3. UDAN	Rural electrification
4. PM Gati Shakti	Industrial corridor development only

Select the correct answer:

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

90. Which of the following correctly links Gati Shakti with international initiatives?

- A. It was launched under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).
- B. It aligns with India's commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure).
- C. It forms part of India's obligations under the Paris Agreement.
- D. It is supported financially by the World Bank through IBRD loans.

91. Assertion (A): PM Gati Shakti helps improve India's *Ease of Doing Business* ranking.

Reason (R): It focuses on policy reforms in taxation and labour laws.

- A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- C. A is true, R is false.
- D. A is false, R is true.

92. Which of the following ministries is *not* among the core ministries initially integrated under PM Gati Shakti?

- A. Ministry of Civil Aviation
- B. Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
- C. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- D. Ministry of Railways

Passage – III

India is now planning Maitri-2, a new research station in Antarctica to replace the aging Maitri station by January 2029. The Finance Ministry has granted in-principle approval and allocated a budget of about ₹2,000 crore for the project. Leading its planning is the National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR) under the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES).

Maitri-2 is to be built in East Antarctica, close to the existing Maitri station in the Schirmacher Oasis region, thereby leveraging the existing geographic familiarity and logistical corridors. The new station is intended to be larger, greener, and technologically advanced: power via solar during summer, wind energy year-round, and inclusion of automated instruments that can relay data even during unmanned periods.

Logistics are complex. Construction can occur only in the Antarctic summer months (October–March). Materials must be prefabricated, shipped (often via South Africa), and then assembled onsite. The preparatory phase—contract awarding, site surveys, terrain mapping—will take about 18 months, and the material procurement/transport another 18 months before final assembly.

The existing Maitri station, operational since 1989, is located in the Schirmacher Oasis, roughly 5 km from the Russian Novolazarevskaya station. Maitri can host 25–40 scientists depending on mission and season; it includes living quarters, laboratory modules, power systems, fuel stores, and logistical support facilities.

One of the water sources for Maitri is Lake Priyadarshini, a freshwater lake in the Schirmacher Oasis, which provides potable water. India's Antarctic research programme began in the early 1980s under the Indian Antarctic Programme, coordinated by NCPOR, with earlier stations like Dakshin Gangotri (1983) and Bharati station (commissioned 2012) preceding Maitri and now leading into the Maitri-2 project.

Maitri-2 is thus envisaged as a next-generation research outpost combining sustainability, automation, and extended scientific reach in glaciology, climate science, biodiversity, and polar governance.

93. Which of the following statements best describes the primary reason for establishing Maitri-2?

- A. To expand India's territorial claims in Antarctica
- B. To replace the existing Maitri station whose infrastructure is aging
- C. To convert Maitri station into a tourism facility
- D. To use Maitri as a logistics hub for South Pole expeditions

94. Which of the following is true about the power sources proposed for Maitri-2?

- A. It will rely solely on diesel generators year-round.
- B. It will use solar power in summer and wind power in other seasons.
- C. It will only use geothermal energy under the ice.
- D. It will import power from nearby Russian stations via cables.

95. Which of the following is *not* explicitly stated as a characteristic or feature of Maitri-2 in the passage?

- A. It will house automated instruments capable of unmanned operation.
- B. It will use prefabricated modular construction.
- C. It will be powered by tidal energy from nearby seas.
- D. It will be completed by January 2029.

96. Considering India's Antarctic research history, which statement is accurate (but not in passage)?

- A. Dakshin Gangotri was India's first station, established in 1983.
- B. Bharati station was commissioned in 2000.
- C. India has never decommissioned any Antarctic station.
- D. Maitri was the first station to be built in Antarctica by India.

97. Which of the following correctly aligns with the location details given or implied in the passage?

- A. Maitri-2 will be situated in West Antarctica near the Ross Ice Shelf.
- B. The existing Maitri is located in the Schirmacher Oasis of East Antarctica.
- C. Maitri is located 50 km inland from the coastline.
- D. Maitri-2 will be built near Lake Vostok region.

98. Which of the following is a valid inference (not directly in passage) about instrumentation at Maitri-2?

- A. The station will run with no human presence ever once operational.
- B. Instruments may operate autonomously during harsh periods when no crew is present.
- C. All instruments will be physically maintained year-round by staff.
- D. Instruments will primarily measure tectonic plate movements only.

By Ready For Exam

Passage - IV

India's IndiaAI Mission has placed "Safe & Trusted AI" at the centre of its strategy to scale AI responsibly across the economy. The IndiaAI Mission—implemented by IndiaAI (an independent business division under MeitY)—was approved with an allocation of around ₹10,300 crore over five years to build compute, datasets, skilling and safety capabilities; the initiative also provisions a national common computing facility with tens of thousands of GPUs for democratized access.

The Safe & Trusted AI pillar focuses on technical safety, governance, and standards. It supports projects on deepfake detection, bias mitigation, explainability, privacy-preserving ML, auditing, and robustness testing. In the most recent selection rounds, IndiaAI announced five pioneering projects — including Saakshya, AI Vishleshak, Real-Time Voice Deepfake Detection, Evaluating Gender Bias in Agricultural LLMs, and Anvil — aimed at practical tools for detection, benchmarking and penetration testing of AI systems.

To institutionalize safety work, the government published an Expression of Interest (EoI) for partners for the IndiaAI Safety Institute, signalling plans to create a coordinating institute for research, testing, standards and partnerships. The Safety Institute is intended to advance indigenous research into machine-unlearning, model auditing, fairness testing, explainability, and privacy-preserving techniques — and to coordinate with standards bodies (BIS/ISO) and international peers.

India's regulatory posture is incremental and hybrid: rather than a single omnibus AI statute, policymakers intend to leverage existing law (IT Act, sectoral regulation, forthcoming data-protection norms) and layer sectoral oversight, governance-by-design requirements, and technical standards. Key implementation challenges include data quality and bias, cross-institutional capacity gaps, accountability and attribution in complex models, and the trade-off between safety measures and innovation speed. International collaboration and standards harmonization are emphasised to ensure interoperability and public trust.

As AI adoption grows across health, agriculture, finance and governance, the Safe & Trusted pillar is presented not as an obstacle to growth but as the foundation for sustained public trust, ethical deployment, and India-centric technical leadership in AI.

99. Which of the following best describes the central objective of the Safe & Trusted AI pillar in India?

- A. To guarantee that all AI systems are open source and free for public use.
- B. To ensure reliable, ethical, inclusive AI deployment through guardrails, governance, and standards.
- C. To restrict foreign AI firms from operating in India.
- D. To mandate that all AI models must be developed exclusively by government agencies.

100. Which of the following projects is *not* included among the five pioneering initiatives under Safe & Trusted AI as per the passage?

- A. Saakshya (deepfake detection)
- B. AI Vishleshak (audio-visual deepfake & forgery)
- C. Quantum AI Secure Network
- D. Anvil (penetration testing for AI)

101. India's approach to AI regulation (as per passage) is best characterized by which statement?

- A. Enacting a dedicated AI law that supersedes existing laws.
- B. Doing away with all sectoral regulation and relying only on opaque self-regulation.
- C. Strengthening existing laws and using sectoral oversight plus governance-by-design in AI systems.
- D. Allowing completely unregulated deployment of AI until standards emerge.

102. Which of the following is *not* explicitly named as a technical method supported by the Safe & Trusted AI pillar?

- A. Machine unlearning
- B. Explainability
- C. Blockchain consensus for AI outputs
- D. Auditing tools

103. Which statement best expresses the institutional setup for Safe & Trusted AI in India as per the passage?

- A. Safe & Trusted AI is managed under a newly created Ministry of AI.
- B. IndiaAI, under MeitY, coordinates the Safe & Trusted AI pillar.
- C. Safe & Trusted AI is entirely run by BIS (Bureau of Indian Standards).
- D. Each state will have an independent Safe & Trusted AI authority, disconnected from central oversight.

104. Which statement regarding India's regulatory stance toward AI (outside what is explicitly stated) is most consistent with broader analyses?

- A. India plans to immediately ban all AI systems until safety protocols are proven.
- B. India is combining legal, technical, and governance approaches instead of a single law.
- C. India is not concerned with bias or fairness in AI models.
- D. India has outsourced all AI governance to international organizations.

Passage - V

The Black Sea, Red Sea, and Arabian Sea are three distinct water bodies of immense geopolitical, ecological, and economic significance connecting Europe, Africa, and Asia. Despite their names, their “colors” are largely symbolic and stem from historical or geographical associations rather than literal coloration.

The Black Sea lies between Eastern Europe and Western Asia, bordered by countries like Ukraine, Russia, Georgia, Turkey, Bulgaria, and Romania. It connects to the Mediterranean Sea via the Bosphorus, Sea of Marmara, and the Dardanelles Strait. The Black Sea is almost enclosed, with limited exchange with the open ocean, giving it a unique anoxic layer (oxygen-free deep waters) due to low circulation and stratification. This feature preserves ancient shipwrecks exceptionally well.

The Red Sea, separating Africa from the Arabian Peninsula, is one of the world’s warmest and saltiest seas, linked to the Indian Ocean through the Bab el-Mandeb Strait and the Gulf of Aden. It plays a critical role in global trade through the Suez Canal, making it a vital maritime corridor connecting the Mediterranean and Indian Oceans. Its name possibly arises from seasonal blooms of *Trichodesmium erythraeum*, a reddish cyanobacterium that can tint the water’s surface.

The Arabian Sea, an important arm of the Indian Ocean, borders India, Oman, Yemen, Iran, Pakistan, and the Maldives. It hosts key maritime routes of the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) and major ports such as Mumbai, Karachi, Muscat, and Salalah. The Monsoon wind system dominates its climate, and the sea sustains large fisheries and deep-sea ecosystems. Historically, it facilitated the Indian Ocean trade network linking East Africa, the Middle East, and South Asia.

While the Black Sea exemplifies a semi-enclosed, stratified basin with limited exchange, the Red Sea highlights tectonic activity and high salinity, and the Arabian Sea represents an open, monsoon-driven maritime expanse. Together, these seas demonstrate the interplay of geography, geopolitics, and marine ecology, influencing both historical trade and modern strategic alignments.

105. Which of the following seas is directly connected to the Mediterranean through the Suez Canal?

- A. Arabian Sea B. Red Sea C. Black Sea D. Caspian Sea

106. Which of the following countries does *not* border the Black Sea?

- A. Georgia B. Bulgaria C. Croatia D. Romania

107. Consider the following statements about the Arabian Sea:

1. It is part of the Pacific Ocean system.
2. It is influenced by monsoon wind systems.
3. It borders Oman and India.

Which of the above are correct?

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

108. Which of the following pairs is *incorrectly* matched?

Sea	Connecting Strait
1. Black Sea	Bosphorus and Dardanelles
2. Red Sea	Bab el-Mandeb
3. Arabian Sea	Strait of Gibraltar

- A. 1 only B. 2 only C. 3 only D. None of the above

109. Which of the following statements about salinity is correct?

- A. The Red Sea has higher salinity due to intense evaporation and low freshwater inflow.
 B. The Black Sea has the highest salinity among all three.
 C. The Arabian Sea is nearly freshwater due to monsoon rains.
 D. The Red Sea is the least saline tropical sea.

110. Which sea among the three plays the most critical role in global energy trade routes?

- A. Black Sea B. Red Sea C. Arabian Sea D. Caspian Sea

Quantitative Technique

Direction (Q.No. 111-115) Answer the question on the basis of the given table below.

Production of major minerals and metals (million tones)

Years	Aluminium	Coal	Copper	Gold	Iron Ore
2005	69	91	71	15	100
2006	75	88	75	18	120
2007	81	97	79	21	102
2008	98	107	88	25	131
2009	93	110	92	24	143
2010	99	116	97	20	154
2011	105	122	103	25	163

111. Find out the average production in million tones of Coal during 2005 to 2011?

- (a) 88.45 (b) 104.42 (c) 100.65 (d) 67.89

112. The production of copper in the year 2007 is what % more than from the previous year?

- (a) 4% (b) 6.8% (c) 5% (d) 5.33%

113. In the year 2009, out of total coal production, the ratio of Lignite Coal ,Bituminous coal and Anthracite Coal is 2:3:6 respectively. What % Anthracite Coal produced in this year?

- (a) 45.54% (b) 54.55% (c) 55.45% (d) 54.15%

114. Find out the ratio of total production of Iron Ore in the year 2005 and 2006 together to the total production of copper in the year 2010 and 2011 together?

- (a) 11:10 (b) 10:11 (c) 2:3 (d) 12:17

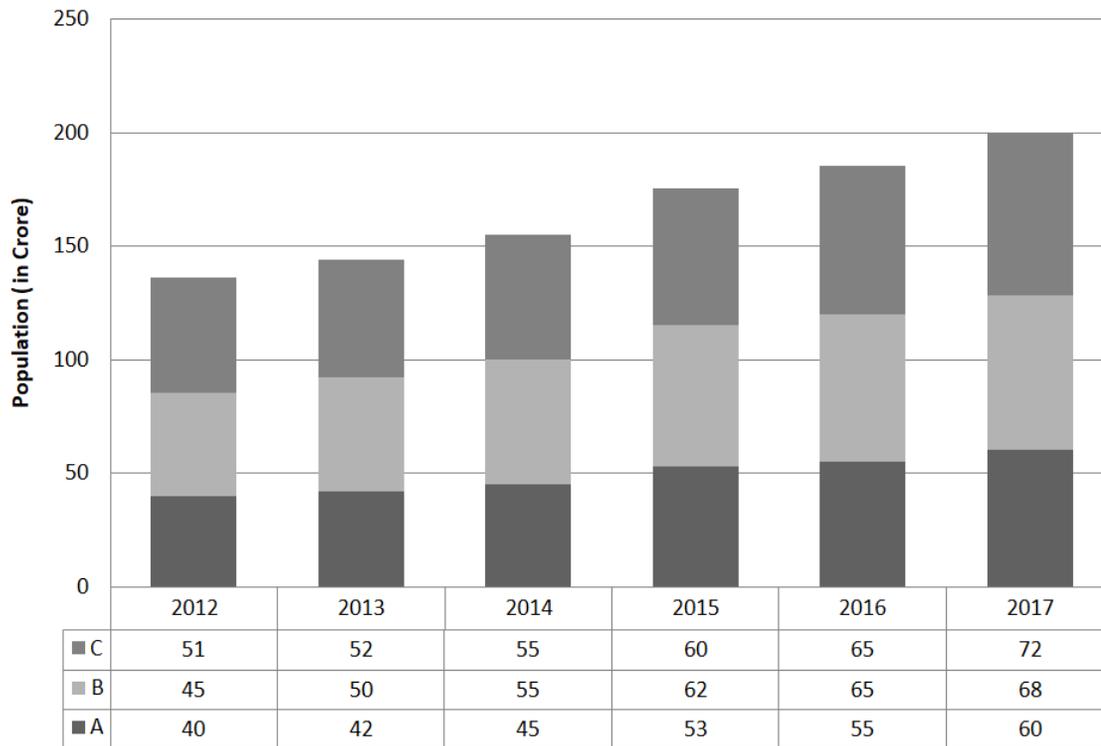
115. In the year 2008, out of total production of Gold, 20% Gold export to China. How much Gold is export to China?

- (a) 5 million tones (b) 10 million tones (c) 20 million tones (d) 7.5 million tones

Space for Rough:

By Ready For Exam

Direction Q.No (116-120) The following graph shows the populations of three countries during the years 2012-17.



116. What % of total population is accounted by the country A in the year 2017?

- (a) 30% (b) 40% (c) 35% (d) 25%

117. The ratio of male to female population in country B and C in the year 2016 were 7:6 and 3:2 respectively. Find the ratio of number of male of country B to the number of female of country C.

- (a) 26:35 (b) 35:26 (c) 45:23 (d) CND

118. Find out the average population of country B in all the years together.

- (a) 56 cr (b) 57.5 cr (c) 58 cr (d) 60 cr

119. Population of country C is by much % increase in the year 2015 from the previous year.

- (a) 11.11% (b) 9.90% (c) 9.09% (d) 90.9%

120. Total population of all the three country together in the year 2013 was how much % to the total population in the year 2017.

- (a) 70% (b) 72% (c) 67% (d) 80%

Space for Rough:

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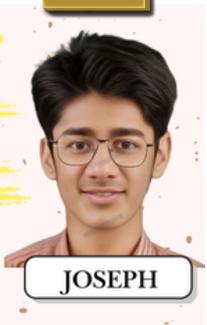
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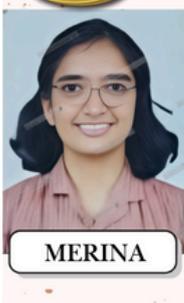
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2



JOSEPH

3



MERINA

4



ARSALAN AHMAD

5



HARIPRIYA

6



YASH RAJYA VARDHAN