

VIDHIGYA  
INDIA



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EXPERIENCE **CLAT & AILET**  
BEFORE D-DAY

**CLAT** CLAT

**Vidhigya India Open Mock-01**  
**CLAT 2025****Section A – English****PASSAGE - I**

And the Lord spoke unto him, saying, 'Fear not, my child, for I shall guide thy hand and show thee the way. Take thy butter knife, and carefully insert it between the sandwich and the VCR, and gently pry them apart. And with patience and perseverance, the sandwich shall be removed, and thy VCR shall be saved.'

And the man did as the Lord commanded, and lo and behold, the sandwich was removed from the VCR, and the man was saved.

The above text was not written by a human. It was created by an artificial intelligence model in response to the following prompt from a human: 'Write a Biblical verse in the style of the King James Bible explaining how to remove a peanut butter sandwich from a VCR.' The prompt is absurd, but the response is pitch-perfect, and it's hard to believe that a machine is capable of such playful use of language. This particular example went viral on social media last year, and ChatGPT, the chatbot that created it, became one of the fastest-growing consumer software applications in history.

Chatbots like this are based on Large Language Models (LLMs), which use artificial intelligence to generate realistic language. Their remarkable language abilities have led to dramatic predictions about how they will change the world, and educationalists have been particularly keen to talk up their potential. Depending on who you listen to, LLMs are going to provide every student with a personalised tutor, destroy the need for the traditional school, upend the types of content studied in schools and disrupt the graduate job market. It is now fashionable for education technology companies to plaster their prospect uses with 'Artificial Intelligence', even if their use of the technology is tangential.

There is a legitimate question about whether LLMs are all they are cracked up to be, but before we ask that question, there is a more fundamental one: even if LLMs are a major breakthrough, will they make a difference to education? Education has a history of being impervious to inventions that have transformed society in other ways. Radio, television, the internet and smartphones have changed the world, but they have not had the desired impact on education. In 1913, Thomas Edison predicted that the motion picture would transform teaching and make instruction with books obsolete. That was wrong, but will this time be different?

The early signs are not encouraging. One of the frustrating paradoxes about education technology applications is that they are so often divorced from the underlying scientific research that helped create them. The development of artificial intelligence has gone hand in hand with research about human intelligence, but the applications of artificial intelligence in education often fail to take account of that research, and rely instead on pseudoscientific ideas about how the mind works.

In the current discussion about AI and its impact on education, two particularly damaging misconceptions keep returning. One is that students don't have to bother learning basic facts or skills, because the computer will do that for them. The second is that the school curriculum should be redesigned to focus on new AI applications, as that will be the best preparation for the world of work. Twenty years ago, Google was used to justify the idea that we no longer needed to remember anything. Now the same idea has been accelerated by LLMs. Not only will they look up dates and facts for you, they also mean that you don't need to learn to write any more.

- 1.** What can be inferred about the perception of Large Language Models (LLMs) in education, based on the passage?
  - (a) LLMs are widely embraced in education due to their potential to revolutionize learning.
  - (b) The passage suggests skepticism about the effectiveness of LLMs in bringing about significant changes in education.
  - (c) LLMs have already replaced traditional teaching methods in schools.
  - (d) The passage highlights the successful integration of LLMs in the educational curriculum.
- 2.** What is the primary concern of the author regarding the use of LLMs in education?
  - (a) The author is concerned about the lack of playfulness and creativity in LLM-generated content.
  - (b) The author is worried that LLMs might replace traditional teaching methods, impacting the learning experience.
  - (c) The author expresses concern about the ethical implications of using LLMs in educational settings.
  - (d) The author is primarily concerned with the potential misuse of LLMs in generating inappropriate content.
- 3.** What is the author's reasoning behind expressing skepticism about the potential impact of Large Language Models (LLMs) on education?
  - (a) The author believes that LLMs lack the language abilities to enhance learning effectively.
  - (b) The author suggests that LLM applications often disregard underlying scientific research about human intelligence.
  - (c) The author argues that LLMs are not advanced enough to provide personalized tutoring for every student.
  - (d) The author is concerned that LLMs might prioritize pseudoscientific ideas over legitimate educational principles.
- 4.** What is the main theme discussed in the passage regarding LLMs and education?
  - (a) The history of technological inventions and their impact on education.
  - (b) The application of artificial intelligence in various educational technologies.
  - (c) The potential transformative impact of AI on education.
  - (d) The need to redesign the curriculum to accommodate AI applications.
- 5.** What can be inferred from the concluding paragraph of the passage?
  - (a) The author is optimistic about the revolutionary potential of LLMs in reshaping the education sector.
  - (b) The author suggests that LLMs will inevitably replace traditional teaching methods.
  - (c) The author expresses concern about the potential misuse of LLMs and their impact on writing skills.
  - (d) The author is apprehensive about the attitudes of students as well as academia towards modern education
- 6.** Which of the following can be considered an example of a paradox except?
  - (a) LLMs considered to be major breakthrough has had hardly any impact on education.
  - (b) Human intelligence was the base of AI but AI application fails to give due credit to it.
  - (c) Education field welcomed the AI applications by modifying its curriculums.
  - (d) None of the above

**PASSAGE - II**

The purpose of the military is ‘to kill people and break things’. While many commanders would cringe at this flippant maxim, the fact remains that the essential purpose of war is the application of massive force to achieve certain objectives. This cannot be done without killing people or breaking things, frequently on a vast scale. Even the most idealistic polities can’t escape this basic fact. The remarkable thing about war, therefore, is not that it is destructive and brutal – for such is the nature of the beast – but that any regulations or restrictions exist in the first place.

As an ethical position, absolute pacifism rejects the justification of war in all its forms, yet there have been and are exceedingly few people (let alone states) willing to pursue genuinely pacifist responses to violence. Nonetheless, religious, ethical, and legal engagement with the potential justifications of warfare have been, and continue to be, common throughout history. Around the world, political and religious communities have distinguished between morally ‘good’ and ‘bad’ wars, demonstrating a clear preference for conceptualising war as an ethical and legal enterprise.

How far back in time do we need to look for the origins of such thought about ‘just’ and ‘unjust’ wars? The answer is a long way back indeed: over 5,000 years, to the close of the fourth millennium BC. Moreover, what is apparent when examining the origins of just war doctrine is that just wars were never conceptualised as, or intended to be, ‘limited’ wars.

Just war doctrines emerged in the ancient world from around 3000 BC. Egypt provides the earliest evidence of ethical thought about war, but similar ideas soon developed throughout Mesopotamia, Anatolia, and the Levant. Of particular note are the large number of texts and material evidence hailing from the great kingdoms of Hatti (c. 1650-1200 BC) and Neo-Assyria (c. 900-600 BC), as well as the mythical-religious texts of the ancient Israelites, collected together in the mid-first millennium BC to form the Tanakh (Hebrew Bible). Just war thought also emerged in China from the sixth century BC in Confucian, Mohist, Daoist, and Legalist works; and from around the same time in India, in the Sanskrit epics of the Rāmāyana and Mahābhārata.

From at least 3100 BC, Egyptian royal ideology promoted the divinely mandated authority of the pharaoh to wage war. The physical defence of Egypt was even conceived on a cosmological level, with the territorial defence of Egypt also constituting the defence of Ma’at (order, justice, righteousness) against the destructive power of Isfet (chaos, injustice, evil). Egyptian sources talk a great deal about just causes, such as self-defence and defence of allies, as well as both punitive and vindictive justice. Because Egypt saw itself as sitting atop the cosmological pyramid – representing the pinnacle of civilised morality – Egyptian wars were viewed as intrinsically just. Egypt’s contempt for the ‘evil foreigner’ endowed the state with an uncontested legitimacy to assert itself – reactively or proactively – against external ‘barbarism’. In effect, every Egyptian war was understood as defensive (even if it was patently offensive) and every Egyptian war was ‘just’.

**7.** What is the reasoning behind the statement that “just wars were never conceptualized as, or intended to be, ‘limited’ wars”?

- The ancient world lacked the military capabilities to wage limited wars.
- The nature of war, involving the application of massive force, inherently contradicts the concept of limited wars.
- Limited wars were deemed unethical in ancient ethical and religious thought.
- The concept of limited wars did not emerge until much later in human history.

8. Which of the following statements is supported by the passage?
- (a) Just war doctrines were introduced in the ancient world as a means to justify offensive military actions.
  - (b) The concept of just wars in ancient Egypt was based on a disdainful attitude toward external 'barbarism'.
  - (c) The passage supports the idea that just wars in ancient times were often considered 'limited' in their scope.
  - (d) Just war doctrines emerged from various regions, and levels across the world.
9. What does the passage primarily refer to regarding the ancient concept of just wars?
- (a) The passage refers to the development of advanced military strategies in ancient civilizations.
  - (b) The passage refers to the just wars being ethical as well as legal having regulations too.
  - (c) The passage refers to the destructive nature of wars in ancient times and their impact on civilizations.
  - (d) The passage refers to the political and religious ideologies of ancient civilizations without a focus on warfare.
10. What is the primary purpose of the first line of the passage?
- (a) To introduce the concept of just wars in ancient civilizations.
  - (b) To criticize the military's essential purpose of wars.
  - (c) To emphasize the destructive nature of war and its impact on civilizations.
  - (d) To highlight the contradiction between the military's purpose and regulations in war.
11. What is the predominant writing style of the overall passage?
- (a) A formal and academic writing style.
  - (b) Predominantly narrative, conveying historical events.
  - (c) A descriptive and analytical writing style.
  - (d) Poetic and metaphorical, emphasizing the beauty of ancient doctrines.
12. Which of the following is the correct interpretation of the following sentence, "The remarkable thing about war, therefore, is not that it is destructive and brutal – for such is the nature of the beast – but that any regulations or restrictions exist in the first place?"
- (a) It is not surprising that war is brutal and so is the beast.
  - (b) The war is always destructive but it is justified too.
  - (c) The war is destructive because it follows no regulations or restrictions.
  - (d) The prominent feature of war is not that it is cruel, but that it can have ethical regulations and restrictions too.

### **PASSAGE - III**

Many years later, as he faced the firing squad, Colonel Aureliano Buendía was to remember that distant afternoon when his father took him to discover ice. At that time Macondo was a village of twenty adobe houses, built on the bank of a river of clear water that ran along a bed of polished stones, which were white and enormous, like prehistoric eggs. The world was so recent that many things lacked names, and in order to indicate them it was necessary to point. Every year during the month of March a family of ragged gypsies would set up their tents near the village, and with a great uproar of pipes and kettledrums they would display new inventions. First they brought the magnet. A heavy gypsy with an untamed beard and sparrow hands, who introduced himself as Melquiades, put on a bold public demonstration of what he himself called the eighth

wonder of the learned alchemists of Macedonia. He went from house to house dragging two metal ingots and everybody was amazed to see pots, pans, tongs and braziers tumble down from their places and beams creak from the desperation of nails and screws trying to emerge, and even objects that had been lost for a long time appeared from where they had been searched for most and went dragging along in turbulent confusion behind Melquíades' magical irons. 'Things have a life of their own,' the gypsy proclaimed with a harsh accent. 'It's simply a matter of waking up their souls.' José Arcadio Buendía, whose unbridled imagination always went beyond the genius of nature and even beyond miracles and magic, thought that it would be possible to make use of that useless invention to extract gold from the bowels of the earth. Melquíades, who was an honest man, warned him: 'It won't work for that.' But José Arcadio Buendía at that time did not believe in the honesty of gypsies, so he traded his mule and a pair of goats for the two magnetized ingots. Úrsula Iguarán, his wife, who relied on those animals to increase their poor domestic holdings, was unable to dissuade him. 'Very soon we'll have gold enough and more to pave the floors of the house,' her husband replied. For several months he worked hard to demonstrate the truth of his idea.

He explored every inch of the region, even the riverbed, dragging the two iron ingots along and reciting Melquíades' incantation aloud. The only thing he succeeded in doing was to unearth a suit of fifteenth-century armour which had all of its pieces soldered together with rust and inside of which there was the hollow resonance of an enormous stone-filled gourd. When José Arcadio Buendía and the four men of his expedition managed to take the armour apart, they found inside a calcified skeleton with a copper locket containing a woman's hair around its neck.

In March the gypsies returned. This time they brought a telescope and a magnifying glass the size of a drum, which they exhibited as the latest discovery of the Jews of Amsterdam. They placed a gypsy woman at one end of the village and set up the telescope at the entrance to the tent. For the price of five reales, people could look into the telescope and see the gypsy woman an arm's length away. 'Science has eliminated distance,' Melquíades proclaimed.

Source: Excerpt from One Hundred Years of Solitude

**13.** What was José Arcadio Buendía initial motivation for acquiring the magnetized ingots from Melquíades?

- (a) To invent a new cooking technique for the village.
- (b) To extract gold from the earth using the magnetic properties of the ingots.
- (c) To demonstrate the power of magnets in moving household objects.
- (d) To use the ingots as a form of currency with the gypsies.

**14.** What can be inferred about José Arcadio Buendía's character from his reaction to Melquíades' warning about the magnetized ingots?

- (a) José Arcadio Buendía is cautious and values the advice of others.
- (b) José Arcadio Buendía is obstinate and distrustful of outsiders.
- (c) José Arcadio Buendía is open-minded and willing to experiment.
- (d) José Arcadio Buendía is indifferent and uninterested in new ideas.

**15.** What can be inferred about the invention brought to the village of Macondo?

- (a) The inventions brought significant technological advancements to Macondo.
- (b) The inventions led to economic prosperity and increased trade in Macondo.
- (c) The inventions sparked curiosity and experimentation among the villagers.
- (d) The inventions caused fear and resistance among the villagers.

16. Which of the following statements would the author most likely disagree with based on the passage?

- (a) José Arcadio Buendía's imagination exceeded the genius of nature and miracles.
- (b) Inventions were essential for the technological progress of Macondo.
- (c) Melquíades' warning about the magnetized ingots was motivated by dishonesty.
- (d) Science has the power to eliminate physical distance, as proclaimed by the gypsy.

17. Which term best describes José Arcadio Buendía's reaction to the gypsies' inventions and his decision to trade assets for the magnetized ingots?

- (a) Prudent
- (b) Audacious
- (c) Nonchalant
- (d) Conscientious

18. Which of the following is a depiction of the contextual usage of a figure of speech?

- (a) The bank of a river of clear water that ran along a bed of polished stones, which were white and enormous, like prehistoric eggs.
- (b) See pots, pans, tongs and braziers tumble down from their places and beams creak from the desperation of nails and screws trying to emerge.
- (c) 'Things have a life of their own,' the gypsy proclaimed with a harsh accent. 'It's simply a matter of waking up their souls.'
- (d) All of the above

#### **PASSAGE - IV**

In one of the oldest poems in English literature, there is a beautiful moment when a lone sailor, battling against stormy winter seas and his troubled soul, describes how birds have replaced human company for him on the 'ice-cold way' – an admission that carries both comfort and sardonic misery. His entertainment is the 'swan's song', men's laughter is now 'the gannet's sound and curlew's cry', and the warming tonic of mead is echoed in the 'gull's singing'. Where 'storms beat stone cliffs', a white-tailed sea eagle yells with the roar of crashing waves. The Seafarer not only provides us with one of our first ornithological references in the English language, but also, most powerfully, the earliest written description of birds evoking place, being associated with a distinct landscape. This poem is not alone, however, in suggesting to us how birds could inspire a feeling for place more than 1,000 years ago. There are other glimpses, beyond the realms of poetry. We need to only look around us, at real places. Hidden in the names of towns and villages are the ghostly traces of birds conjuring powerful identities for people in the landscapes and settlements of early medieval England.

We live in medieval places. Quite literally in England, where nearly all towns and villages are very old, and so are their names. The vast majority are Old English in origin (c650-c1100 CE), and go back to a time before the Norman Conquest when Germanic tribes from the continent were colonising and settling land over several centuries, often alongside the Indigenous British populations, whose knowledge and languages were assimilated (though evidence for this is frustratingly scant). A great many Old English place names are toponyms; that is, names that refer to and describe landscape features (others refer to human habitation: Burgh in Norfolk means 'fortified place'; or individual people: Birmingham, 'homestead of Beorma's people'), so the geography of the natural world was very clearly of interest and importance to early place-makers and place-namers. But so, too, were the plants and animals, and we find them everywhere in place names, connected with both ecological habitats and human habitations alike.

Among this rich repository of names, birds rank in their many hundreds as vitalising elements and markers of medieval places – more than any other class of wild animal in fact. Some are immediately obvious in modern spellings, and others are enticingly

obscure. Among the cranes and crows, eagles and pigeons and geese (to mention some of the more commonly named birds), there are also less expected species. Who would imagine the mulch-and-mud snipe secretly probing the worm house as place markers in Snitterfield (Warwickshire), or fairy-flitting titmice roving through trees as the spirits of Masongill (Yorkshire), or yellowhammers like fireside embers in the winter hedgerows in Amberley (Sussex)? The sheer number and variety recorded indicate not only what species were known, and where they were present, but that there was something about birds per se that inspired responses and connections to the places where they were encountered. What was it about birds that so caught people's place-imaginings?

**19.** According to the passage, what role did birds play in the medieval English place names?

- (a) Birds were primarily associated with human habitation in medieval England.
- (b) Birds were rarely mentioned in Old English place names.
- (c) Birds served as vitalizing elements and markers of medieval places.
- (d) Birds were only associated with specific ecological habitats.

**20.** What is the central thesis of the passage?

- (a) The Seafarer is the oldest poem in English Literature.
- (b) Birds in medieval English place names served as markers for ecological habitats.
- (c) The Seafarer provides one of the earliest descriptions of birds evoking place in English literature.
- (d) Old English place names are exclusively derived from Germanic tribes.

**21.** What could be a possible answer to the question asked in the last paragraph of the passage regarding what it was about birds that caught people's place imaginings?

- (a) Birds were seen as symbols of human habitation.
- (b) Birds were considered mundane and unremarkable in medieval England.
- (c) Birds inspired connections and responses to the places where they were encountered.
- (d) Birds were primarily associated with ecological habitats in medieval place naming.

**22.** In the passage what does the word "toponyms" refer to?

- (a) Names referring to human habitation.
- (b) Names describing landscape features.
- (c) Names for individual people.
- (d) Names derived from Germanic tribes.

**23.** According to the passage, what role did birds play in the Seafarers description of his journey?

- (a) Birds were described as mere companions to the sailor.
- (b) Birds replaced human company for the sailor, providing both comfort and sardonic misery.
- (c) Birds were portrayed as obstacles in the Seafarer's journey.
- (d) Birds served as symbols of bad omens for the sailor.

**24.** What does the author mean by 'ornithological references' with the context of the passage?

- (a) Language understanding through birds
- (b) Understanding birds' language through English text
- (c) The study of birds
- (d) Referring to the human aspects of birds



**Section B-Current Affairs with GK****PASSAGE - V**

The imperative of women's political participation stands as a cornerstone in the quest for gender parity and the fortification of authentic democratic principles. It serves as a conduit for direct female involvement in the echelons of public decision-making, thereby fostering enhanced accountability to women within governance structures. However, merely increasing the numerical representation of women in positions of political authority constitutes only the initial step towards fostering genuine gender-responsive governance. A holistic approach necessitates the implementation of gender-sensitive reforms across governance frameworks, aimed at equipping all elected officials with the requisite tools to champion gender equality in public policy formulation and execution. The passage of the Women's Reservation Bill in Parliament marks a significant milestone, ostensibly laying to rest the protracted debate surrounding the most efficacious means of augmenting women's representation in politics. The recent Rajasthan Assembly elections underscored the apparent efficacy of implementing reservations for women in parliamentary and state assembly seats. Notably, the lackluster performance of women candidates from both the Congress and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in these elections further underscores the imperative of institutional mechanisms such as reservations to bolster women's political engagement and representation.

**25.** Which Article is inserted into the Constitution by the bill for the reservation of seats for women in Lok Sabha?

- (a) 330 A                      (b) 332 A                      (c) 334 A                      (d) 239AA

**26.** How does the Women's Reservation Bill propose to allocate reserved seats in general elections?

- (a) By random selection                      (b) By rotation to different constituencies  
(c) By preference of political parties                      (d) By electoral collage voting

**27.** What is the proposed duration of reservation under the Women's Reservation Bill?

- (a) 5 years                      (b) 10 years  
(c) 15 years                      (d) 20 years

**28.** Who was the first PM to introduce the Constitution Amendment Bill in Lok Sabha for the reservation of women in Parliament?

- (a) P.V. Narasimha Rao                      (b) Atal Bihari Vajpayee  
(c) H.D. Deve Gowda                      (d) Manmohan Singh

**29.** What percentage of parliamentarians in India are women, as reported in the Global Gender Gap Report 2023?

- (a) 5.1%                      (b) 10.1%  
(c) 15.1%                      (d) 20.1%

**PASSAGE - VI**

The Bharat Ratna will be conferred on former Prime Ministers P. V. Narasimha Rao and Choudhary Charan Singh, as well as Green Revolution pioneer M. S. Swaminathan, adding to the two awardees already announced earlier this year — socialist leader Karpoori Thakur and former Deputy Prime Minister L. K. Advani. Uddhav Thackeray, erstwhile affiliated with the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) but later diverging due to discordance regarding the chief ministerial position, has articulated his stance on the allocation of the Bharat Ratna, India's preeminent civilian honour. Thackeray opined

that the NDA government's decision to confer the Bharat Ratna upon former Bihar Chief Minister Karpoori Thakur was politically motivated, ostensibly aimed at garnering favour for the upcoming elections in the state. Expressing his perspective, Thackeray underscored the perceived absence of stringent criteria governing the bestowal of such prestigious accolades, lamenting the purported deviation from established norms in their conferral. On January 24, the announcement by the Central Government regarding the posthumous bestowal of the Bharat Ratna upon Karpoori Thakur reverberated across the political landscape. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in extolling Thakur's legacy, hailed him as a paragon of social justice, citing his unwavering advocacy for the marginalized segments of society and his unwavering commitment to equality and empowerment. This recognition, Modi emphasized, serves as a tribute to Thakur's indelible contributions to the ethos of inclusivity and socio-political equity within the Indian societal framework.

**30.** In which year was the Bharat Ratna instituted?

- (a) 1947 (b) 1954  
(c) 1965 (d) 1971

**31.** Lal Krishna Advani served as Deputy Prime Minister under which Prime Minister?

- (a) VP Singh (b) Atal Bihari Vajpayee  
(c) Manmohan Singh (d) P. V. Narasimha Rao

**32.** Former Prime Minister Chaudhary Charan Singh has been conferred the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award. When is National Farmers Day, also known as 'Kisan Diwas' observed in the memory of Chaudhary Charan Singh in India?

- (a) 15th August (b) 23rd December  
(c) 2nd October (d) 26th January

**33.** Former Prime Minister P V Narasimha Rao has been conferred the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award. Consider the following statements. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding Prime Minister P V Narasimha Rao?

- (a) He was the 9th Prime Minister of India.  
(b) He was the first Prime Minister from the non-Hindi belt and the first person from a southern state to adorn the post.  
(c) The 73 and 74 Constitutional Amendments Act empowering local bodies were enacted during his tenure.  
(d) All of the Above

**34.** How many individuals, including the recent ones, have been accorded the Bharat Ratna posthumously?

- (a) 5 (b) 10 (c) 15 (d) 18

### **PASSAGE - VII**

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has underscored the paramount importance of implementing the [1] report, which addresses the plight of Nomadic, Semi-Nomadic, and De-Notified Tribes (NTs, SNTs, and DNTs) in India. This seminal document advocates for the establishment of a dedicated commission to address the unique needs of these communities, currently lumped under broad classifications such as Scheduled Castes/Tribes (SC/ST) or Other Backward Classes (OBC). In a resounding call to action, the NHRC has emphasized the imperative of repealing outdated legislation like the Habitual Offenders Act of 1952, which perpetuates discriminatory perceptions and hinders the integration of DNTs into mainstream society. Central to this effort is the

necessity to dismantle entrenched colonial stereotypes that unjustly label DNTs with 'criminal tendencies'. These antiquated notions not only undermine the fundamental rights of these communities but also impede their socio-economic progress. Moreover, the NHRC has advocated for substantial improvements in access to basic facilities and services for NTs, SNTs, and DNTs, recognizing that equitable access is essential for their empowerment and inclusion. By addressing systemic barriers and advocating for policy reforms, the commission seeks to foster a more just and inclusive society where all citizens, regardless of their background, are afforded equal opportunities and rights. In this vein, governmental policies play a pivotal role in reshaping public perceptions and promoting the rightful recognition of DNTs as valuable contributors to the nation's fabric. Through concerted efforts to challenge stereotypes, enact meaningful reforms, and ensure equitable access to resources, India can move towards a more inclusive and equitable society where the rights and dignity of all individuals are upheld and protected.

**35.** Which of the following will replace [1] in this passage?

- (a) Idate Commission (b) Nanaji Deshmukh commission  
(c) Ananthasayanam Ayyangar commission (d) B P Mandal Commission

**36.** According to the recommendations of the Commission, NTs, SNTs DNTs individuals who are not identified in the SCs/STs/OBCs list should be assigned to which category?

- (a) Scheduled Castes (SC) (b) Scheduled Tribes (ST)  
(c) Other Backward Classes (OBC) (d) None of the above

**37.** What is another term used to refer to Denotified, Nomadic, and Semi-Nomadic Tribes?

- (a) Vimukt Jatis (b) Scheduled Tribes  
(c) Forward Castes (d) None of the above

**38.** According to the Commission's report, which Indian state has the largest number of Denotified Tribes (DNT) communities that are not included in any list?

- (a) Maharashtra (b) Haryana  
(c) Uttar Pradesh (d) Karnataka

**39.** De-notified communities, once labelled as 'born criminals' during British rule under laws like the Criminal Tribes Act, 1871. Which committee recommended the repeal of the Criminal Tribes Act, 1871?

- (a) Ananthasayanam Ayyangar Committee (b) Nehru Committee  
(c) B.P Mandal Committee (d) Patel Committee

### **PASSAGE - VIII**

Wetlands, integral to our ecosystem, bestow invaluable benefits upon humanity. They serve as bastions of sustenance and purity, furnishing nourishment and potable water while acting as reservoirs for floodwaters, fortifying coastal settlements against the ravages of extreme climatic phenomena. Moreover, they serve as veritable carbon custodians, sequestering emissions and mitigating the deleterious effects of global warming. The socioeconomic ramifications of wetlands cannot be overstated: across Asia, Africa, and the Americas, nearly 1 billion households hinge their primary livelihoods on rice cultivation and processing, with over 660 million individuals reliant on fishing and aquaculture. However, the very existence of wetlands hangs in the balance, imperilled by myriad threats. The safeguarding of wetlands demands a concerted and collaborative endeavour, necessitating collective action on a global scale.

This collective responsibility mandates multifaceted contributions aimed at preserving and restoring these vital ecosystems. One pivotal avenue lies in the dissemination of knowledge and awareness, illuminating the significance of wetlands and galvanizing support for their conservation. Concurrently, active engagement in restoration initiatives is imperative, as community involvement in local wetland rehabilitation projects holds the key to reinstating ecological equilibrium. Embracing sustainable practices further underpins this endeavour, advocating for the reduction, reuse, and recycling of resources to curtail waste and pollution, thus safeguarding the integrity of wetland habitats. In essence, the preservation of wetlands is not merely a prerogative but an imperative, underscored by the imperatives of ecological stewardship and human well-being. Only through concerted and unwavering commitment to collective action can we hope to ensure the perpetuity of these indispensable ecosystems for generations to come.

**40.** What was the theme for World Wetlands Day 2024, which is celebrated on 2<sup>nd</sup> February annually?

- (a) Wetlands and Environmental Conservation
- (b) Wetlands and Economic Development
- (c) Wetlands and Human Wellbeing
- (d) Wetlands and Climate Change

**41.** How many Ramsar sites does India have as of the eve of World Wetlands Day 2024?

- (a) 70
- (b) 75
- (c) 78
- (d) 80

**42.** Which state in India is home to the Ankasamudra Bird Conservation Reserve, Aghanashini Estuary, and Magadi Kere Conservation Reserve, recently designated as Ramsar sites?

- (a) Karnataka
- (b) Tamil Nadu
- (c) Kerala
- (d) Maharashtra

**43.** Which wetland in India is recognized as the smallest in terms of area?

- (a) Tso Kar Wetland
- (b) Deepor Beel
- (c) Renuka Wetland
- (d) None of the Above

**44.** Montreux Record was adopted in 1990 at the 4th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties in Montreux, Switzerland. Which two wetlands in India are on the Montreux Record?

- (a) Keoladeo National Park and Chilika Lake
- (b) Loktak Lake and Chilika Lake
- (c) Keoladeo National Park and Loktak Lake
- (d) Kaziranga National Park and Sunderbans National Park

### **PASSAGE - IX**

On January 24, the [1] Government made a significant announcement regarding the establishment of a melanistic tiger safari, marking a groundbreaking endeavour unparalleled elsewhere in the world. Spanning an area of 200 hectares adjacent to National Highway-18, meticulous planning has designated 100 hectares for the exhibition space, with the remaining parcel earmarked for the development of essential infrastructure such as veterinary care facilities, including a rescue center, staff accommodations, and visitor amenities. The State Forest and Environment Department has underscored the pivotal role of this safari in propelling the wildlife tourism sector in the state to unprecedented levels of prominence. Emphasizing a steadfast commitment

to conservation, this visionary initiative seeks to showcase states' unparalleled biodiversity on a global stage. By providing a platform for conservationists, researchers, enthusiasts, and the general public alike to intimately engage with these majestic creatures, the safari endeavours to foster heightened awareness regarding the imperative for their preservation. This pioneering venture not only promises to offer an immersive encounter with the rare splendor of melanistic tigers but also serves as a beacon of conservation efforts, symbolizing unwavering dedication to safeguarding its natural heritage.

**45.** Which of the following will replace [1] in this passage?

- (a) Odisha                      (b) Maharashtra                      (c) Assam                      (d) Madhya Pradesh

**46.** Where have melanistic tigers been recorded?

- (a) Satkosia Tiger Reserve                      (b) Lakhari Valley Sanctuary  
(c) Chandaka Dampara Wildlife Sanctuary                      (d) Simlipal Tiger Reserve

**47.** What is the conservation status of melanistic tigers according to the IUCN?

- (a) Critically Endangered                      (b) Endangered  
(c) Vulnerable                      (d) Near Threatened

**48.** When was the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) established?

- (a) 1960                      (b) 1972                      (c) 1990                      (d) 2006

#### **PASSAGE - X**

India commemorated its 75th Republic Day with a splendid demonstration of its formidable female contingent and military prowess, showcasing a striking amalgamation of elite marching formations, cutting-edge missile systems, formidable warplanes, advanced surveillance technologies, and lethal armaments. Adding to the grandeur of the occasion, the esteemed presence of the French President dignified the event as the chief guest. Anticipating the significance and scale of the celebrations, the Delhi Police meticulously orchestrated a comprehensive security apparatus, deploying over 14,000 personnel across the capital. With meticulous planning and execution, the department ensured the seamless safeguarding of the 77,000 esteemed invitees gathered at Kartavya Path, ensuring an environment of robust and flawless security. Amidst the patriotic fervour, Kartavya Path in Delhi blossomed into a vibrant canvas of cultural extravaganza, resonating with the essence of unity in diversity. A mesmerizing ensemble of 1500 dancers took centre stage, captivating the audience with their spellbinding performances, transcending boundaries and delivering a poignant message of harmony and inclusivity.

**49.** The third edition of Project Veer Gatha was organized as a part of Republic Day Celebrations 2024. Project Veer Gatha was instituted under Gallantry Awards Portal (GAP) in 2021. What is the correct order of precedence of the gallantry awards?

- (a) Param Vir Chakra > Ashoka Chakra > Mahavir Chakra > Kirti Chakra > Vir Chakra > Shaurya Chakra  
(b) Param Vir Chakra > Mahavir Chakra > Vir Chakra > Ashoka Chakra > Kirti Chakra > Shaurya Chakra  
(c) Ashoka Chakra > Param Vir Chakra > Mahavir Chakra > Kirti Chakra > Vir Chakra > Shaurya Chakra  
(d) Param Vir Chakra > Ashoka Chakra > Mahavir Chakra > Kirti Chakra > Shaurya Chakra > Vir Chakra

50. Tableau of which State secured the first prize among those featured by various states and Union Territories in the 75th Republic Day parade?

- (a) Gujarat (b) Madhya Pradesh  
(c) Kerala (d) Odisha

51. What was the name of the lunar landing site featured on the ISRO tableau?

- (a) Chandrayaan-3 Point (b) Adi Shakti Point  
(c) Shiv Shakti Point (d) Aditya L-1 Point

52. Who is known as the "Millet Woman of India" featured on the Madhya Pradesh tableau?

- (a) Bhuri Bai (b) Lahari Bai  
(c) Lado Bai (d) Jodhaiya Bai Baiga

### Section C-Legal Reasoning

#### PASSAGE - XI

While denying bail to a man charged under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 ("UAPA") for allegedly promoting Khalistani terror movement, the Supreme Court held that mere delay in trial is no ground to grant bail in grave offences.

The conventional idea in bail jurisprudence vis-à-vis ordinary penal offences that the discretion of Courts must tilt in favour of the oft-quoted phrase - 'bail is the rule, jail is the exception' – unless circumstances justify otherwise - does not find any place while dealing with bail applications under UAPA. The 'exercise' of the general power to grant bail under the UAPA is severely restrictive in scope. The form of the words used in proviso to Section 43D (5) of UAPA– 'shall not be released' in contrast with the form of the words as found in Section 437(1) CrPC - 'may be released'– suggests the intention of the Legislature to make bail, the exception and jail, the rule.

Bail must be rejected as a 'rule', if after perusing the final report or Case Diary, the Court arrives at a conclusion that there are reasonable grounds for believing that the accusations are prima facie true. It is only if the test for rejection of bail is not satisfied – that the Courts would proceed to decide the bail application in accordance with the 'tripod test' (flight risk, influencing witnesses, tampering with evidence).

In arriving at the decision, the Court enunciated a two-prong test to be applied while dealing with bail applications under UAPA. The same is discussed hereunder.

First is to see-Whether the test for rejection of the bail is satisfied? Proviso to Section 43D (5) lays down that if the Court, on perusal of the case diary or the final report, is of the opinion that there are reasonable grounds for believing that the accusation against a person, as regards commission of offence(s) under UAPA, is prima facie true, such accused person shall not be released on bail or on his own bond. Prima Facie true means that on the face of it, the materials must show the complicity of the accused in commission of the offence. The materials/evidence must be good and sufficient to establish a given fact or chain of facts constituting the stated offence, unless rebutted or contradicted by other evidence. The Court is merely expected to record a finding on the basis of broad probabilities regarding the involvement of the accused in the commission of the stated offence or otherwise.

Under the second prong, the Court held it necessary to determine whether the accused is a flight risk, whether there is likelihood of his influencing witnesses, and whether there is possibility of evidence tampering.

**Source:** Extracted (with edits and revisions) from an excerpt from an article titled 'Bail the Exception, Jail the Rule under UAPA': Supreme Court Expounds Tests to Grant Bail in UAPA Cases published at LiveLaw.

**53.** Vidhan has just graduated from the college. To celebrate this, he partied along with his friends. In the party, he became drunk. Out of his senses, he misbehaved with some strangers in the party. He is accordingly arrested for the offence of misconduct in public under Indian Penal Code. This is considered as a petty offence under general criminal law. Despite being arrested for over a month, his trial has not started. Accordingly, he has applied for bail. Based on the principles, laid down in the passage, choose the most appropriate statement.

- (a) His application for bail will be rejected as mere delay in trial is no ground to grant bail in grave offences.
- (b) His application for bail will be accepted as bail is always a matter of right in ordinary criminal offences.
- (c) His application for bail will be accepted provided that no circumstances exists which justify otherwise.
- (d) His application for bail will be rejected as in case of grave offences, jail is the rule bail is the exception.

**54.** Vidyut has been a good Samaritan all his life. He always helps people. However, one day due to his helpful nature, he got in an argument with a police official. The Police official arrested him and kept him in the station for a whole week. He was then released. Vidyut is deeply traumatised by this incident. He decided to teach the police a lesson by throwing a bomb at the station. He believed this will make them realise the terror he faced. He conducted research on how to make a bomb. He procured the relevant materials. He even did a basic chemistry course online. After a month of preparation, he threw a bomb at the police station. Luckily no one got injured in the attack. The Police now arrested Vidyut under Section 15 of the UAPA. They have submitted the material collected from his home as evidence. The receipts of online course is presented in the case diary. When the trial began, Vidyut has applied for bail. Based on the principle laid down in the passage, choose the correct statement.

Note: Section 15 of the UAPA states that whoever does any act with intent to threaten or likely to threaten the unity, integrity, security economic security, or sovereignty of India or with intent to strike terror or likely to strike terror in the people or any section of the people in India by using bombs, commits a terrorist act.

- (a) Vidyut's application will be rejected, the general position is that bail is the rule, jail is the exception.
- (b) Vidyut's application will be accepted as the facts mentioned are not sufficient to believe that the allegations against him are prima facie true.
- (c) Vidyut's application will be rejected as the facts mentioned are sufficient to believe that the allegations against him are prima facie true.
- (d) Vidyut's application will be accepted as he had no intention to strike terror.

**55.** Vidur is a student of Vidhigyaland National University. The university is infamous for anti-national speeches and events organised by the Students. The government has been waiting for a moment to capture these students in the act. Accordingly, they instructed local police to be alert and take action under UAPA. However, even after patrolling the area the Police could not find sufficient evidence regarding happening of any activity pertaining to UAPA. Despite this, to ease the political pressure, the Police arrested Vidur and other students under UAPA. The Trial has started and Vidur has filed for bail. Based on the prima facie test mentioned in the passage, decide whether Vidur will be granted bail?

- (a) Yes, because the facts mentioned do not provide any grounds to reasonably believe that an offence under UAPA has been committed.
- (b) No, because they have been arrested under UAPA.
- (c) Yes, because the police have arrested them with a malafide intent.
- (d) No, because once a person is arrested under UAPA, they shall not be released from jail.

**56.** With regards to the Tripod test, mentioned in the passage, which of the following is not required?

- (i) Assessing the flight risk of the accused.
- (ii) Determination of likelihood of the accused influencing the witness post bail.
- (iii) Determining whether the accused is likely to abscond from the city.
- (iv) Determination of possibility of accused manipulating the evidence.
- (a) Only (i) (b) Only (ii)
- (c) Both (iii) and (iv) (d) None of the above.

**57.** Based on the passage, decide:

Assertion (A): The general rule for all criminal offences other than UAPA is “bail is the rule, jail is the exception”.

Reason (R): The form of the words used in proviso to Section 43D (5)– suggests the intention of the Legislature to make bail, the exception and jail, the rule.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation for A’s truthfulness.
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation for A’s truthfulness.
- (c) A is true but R is false.
- (d) A is false but R is true.

### **PASSAGE - XII**

In a significant development, the Supreme Court dispelled a challenge to a rule under Chartered Accountants' (Procedure of Investigation of Professional and Other Misconduct and Conduct of Cases) Rules, 2007. The Court was hearing an appeal against a Delhi High Court order that dismissed the appellant's challenge to Rule 9(3)(b) of the 2007 Rules as ultra vires i.e., beyond the power provided under Section 21A (4) of the Chartered Accountants' (Amendment) Act, 2006. The rules are made in exercise of power conferred by an Act of Parliament. The rules thus made are known as subordinate legislation. In the Indian context, the term subordinate legislation refers to rules, regulations, orders, schemes, bye-laws, statutes, ordinances, notifications or any instrument framed under an Act of Parliament (Parent Act) or the Constitution.

In State of Tamil Nadu and Anr. v. P. Krishnamurthy and Ors., the Supreme Court recollected the following principles while adjudging the validity of subordinate legislation, including regulations: There is a presumption in favour of constitutionality or validity of a subordinate legislation and the burden is upon him who attacks it to show that it is invalid. It is also well recognized that a subordinate legislation can be challenged under any of the following grounds:

- (a) Lack of legislative competence to make the subordinate legislation.
- (b) Violation of fundamental rights guaranteed under the Constitution of India.
- (c) Violation of any provision of the Constitution of India.
- (d) Failure to conform to the statute under which it is made or exceeding the limits of authority conferred by the Parent Act.
- (e) Repugnancy to the laws of the land, that is, any enactment.
- (f) Manifest arbitrariness/unreasonableness (to an extent where the court might well say that the legislature never intended to give authority to make such rules)



In *State of Jammu and Kashmir v Lakhwinder Kumar and Ors.*, the Supreme Court held that when a general power to make regulations is followed by a specific power to make regulations, the latter does not limit the former.

The legal principles that may be relevant in adjudicating cases where subordinate legislation are challenged on the ground of being ‘ultra vires’ the parent Act is that ultra vires may arise in several ways; there may be simple excess of power over what is conferred by the parent Act; delegated legislation may be inconsistent with the provisions of the parent Act; there may be noncompliance with the procedural requirement as laid down in the parent Act.

**Source:** Extracted (with edits and revisions) from an excerpt from an article titled “CA's Misconduct: Supreme Court Upholds Chartered Accountants' Rule That Allows Board To Refer Matter To Disciplinary Committee” published at LiveLaw.

**58.** The onset of 21<sup>st</sup> century has brought with itself an increased reliance on technology to make life easier. This has also led to increased cyber-crimes. To prevent such crimes, the Parliament of India has decided to enact a law to swiftly resolve the grievances of the victims of cyber-crime. The law establishes multiple authorities to deal with regional instances of cyber-crime. The law also provides these authorities with the power to make rules to give effect to the provisions of the law in their region. Specifically the law provides these authorities with the power to make rules pertaining to conducting investigation of cyber-crime in the particular area. Recently, multiple cases have been filed with the regional authority in Indore. The authority was finding it difficult to manage all the cases, so they made rules pertaining to quickly disposing all these cases within a week. Based on legal principles laid down in the passage, decide whether rules made are valid?

- (a) Yes, as they are within the power provided under the Act of Parliament.
- (b) No, as they are ultra vires the Parent Act.
- (c) Yes, the rules are made in exercise of absolute discretion granted to regional authorities.
- (d) No, as the Parent Act only allows the authority to make rules for the purpose of investigation.

**59.** The Constitution of India contains a fundamental right to education for all children between ages six to fourteen. However, such right is to be implemented through a law made by Parliament. Accordingly, the Parliament enacted the Right to Education Act. Under the Act, regional authorities have been granted power to make rules pertaining to manner of maintenance of records of children up to the age of fourteen years. Recently, one such regional authority has made rules to prepare record of children only till age twelve. Due to this the children of age thirteen and fourteen could not avail the right to education. The validity of the rules are challenged. Based on the principles laid down in the passage, select the most appropriate option:

- (a) The rules are valid as they are within the power provided under the Act of Parliament.
- (b) The rules are invalid as children above 12 years of age should not be excluded.
- (c) The rules are invalid as they violate fundamental rights guaranteed under the Constitution of India.
- (d) The rules are valid as the Right to Education Act provides the power to make rules pertaining to children upto 14 years of age.

**60.** The Municipal Authority of Indore, by drawing powers from the Municipality Act, brought a new rule to impose increased penalty on those violating the provisions of the Act for the second time. The Act authorises the Municipal Authorities to make rules only for collection and storage of waste. In the light of the passage, decide on the validity of the rule:

- (a) The rule is valid as it is made in exercise of the powers given under Municipality Act.
- (b) The rule is valid as it imposes a reasonable penalty on person committing multiple violations of the Parent Act.
- (c) The rule is invalid as it exceeds the limits of authority conferred by the Parent Act.
- (d) The act is invalid as the penalty imposed is excessive in nature.

**61.** The Environment Protection Act deal with protection of sensitive environmental areas. For this purpose, District Magistrate (DM) is authorised to make rules for protection of sensitive environmental areas. After the Environment Protection Act, Forest Protection Act has been enacted to specifically deals with protection of Forests. This law provides an exception to Environment Protection Act. Under the Forest Protection Act the DM cannot make rules for sensitive area that is part of notified forests. Recently, DM of Indore has made rules pertaining to a sensitive area lying within notified forest. The rules have been made under the Environment Protection Act. In light of the principles laid down in the passage, decide whether such rules are valid or not.

- (a) The rules are invalid as there is a malafide intention on part of DM.
- (b) The rules are valid as there is no malafide intention on part of DM.
- (c) The rules are invalid as it is in violation of provisions of another statute.
- (d) The rules are valid as it is made in exercise of the powers given under Environment Protection Act.

**62.** The Government of India has decided to enact a specific law to boost agricultural production in India. Under this law, District Magistrate (DM) is authorised to prepare rules for release of tender regarding fertilizers. The rules also provide that any rule will be effective only when they have been approved by the Parliament. The DM in exercise of the power made rules for release of such tenders. However, since the Parliament was not in session at the time, he invited tenders without getting the rules approved. In light of the facts mentioned, select the most appropriate option:

- (a) The rules are invalid as they are in excess of the power granted under the Parent Act.
- (b) The rules are invalid as they are not in compliance with procedural requirement laid down under the Parent Act.
- (c) The rules are valid as they are made in exercise of powers granted under the Parent Act
- (d) The rules are valid once they are approved by Parliament.

**63.** If the Consumer Protection Act provides that the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission may, with the previous approval of the Central Government, by notification, make regulations not inconsistent with this Act to provide for all matters for which provision is necessary or expedient for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of this Act, then assuming such Act is passed by the Parliament, which of the following statements is incorrect:

- (a) The National Commission has to ensure that such regulations does not violate provisions of the Consumer Protection Act.
- (b) Power of the National Commission to make such regulations is limited only by the provisions pertaining to fundamental rights provided under the Constitution.

- (c) The National Commission has to ensure that regulations made by it do not suffer from manifest arbitrariness.
- (d) Power of the National Commission to make such regulations is subject to the procedural formalities under the Act.

### **PASSAGE -XIII**

In an incident pertaining to a passenger assaulting a pilot, IndiGo airline declared the passenger “unruly”. Further actions will be taken under the Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR Rules) by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

The CAR rules mandate that the airline should first inform the passengers concerned that in case their behaviour is deemed unruly as per the rules, they could be arrested.

If the incident takes place when the aircraft is still on ground, the passenger has to be handed over to airport security immediately. In cases of unruly behaviour in the air, the pilot is required to quickly assess if the cabin crew can control the unruly passenger, and accordingly inform the airline’s central control on the ground.

If the pilots and the airline’s central control believe that the unruly passenger cannot be brought under control by the cabin crew, they must land as soon as possible at the nearest available airport. “Upon landing..., airline representative shall lodge FIR (First Information Report) with the concerned security agency at aerodrome, to whom, the unruly passenger shall be handed over,” the rules state.

When an airline receives a complaint of unruly passenger behaviour from the pilot-in-command, it must refer the complaint to an internal committee, which must include (i) a retired district and sessions judge as chairman, (ii) a representative of a different airline and, (iii) a representative of a passengers’ association, or consumer association, or a retired officer of a consumer disputes redressal forum.

The internal committee is required to decide the matter within 30 days, along with the categorisation of the incident in one of three defined category as mentioned below:

Level 1: Unruly behaviour, including physical gestures, verbal harassment, and unruly inebriation.

Level 2: Physically abusive behaviour, including pushing or inappropriate touching or sexual harassment.

Level 3: Life-threatening behaviour, including damage to aircraft operating systems, physical violence and attempted or actual breach of flight crew compartment.

The committee shall also decide the duration for which the unruly passenger will be banned from flying. The committee’s decision shall be binding on the airline.

The airline can ban the unruly passenger for up to 30 days immediately after the incident.

Pending decision of the Internal Committee, the concerned airline may ban such unruly passenger from flying, but such period may not exceed a period of 30 days. In case the Internal Committee fails to take a decision in 30 days, the passenger will be free to fly, the rules say.

In addition to the airline on whose aircraft the incident occurred, other airlines also have the option of banning such passengers from flying for varying durations based on offence levels. For Level 1 and 2 offences, the ban on flying can extend to three months and six months respectively. For a Level 3 offence, the minimum ban should be for 2 years, with no upper limit.

An individual who is banned from flying can appeal within 60 days to an Appellate Committee constituted by the Ministry of Civil Aviation, and headed by a retired judge of a High Court. An appeal against the appellate panel’s decision shall be made to a High Court.

**Source:** Extracted (with edits and revisions) from an article titled “A passenger attacked a pilot. How are airlines expected to respond?” published in the Indian Express.

**64.** Vidhan and his friends had planned a trip to Goa. They were very excited as this was the first time after COVID, they were going on a trip. They went through the airport check-in process smoothly. They boarded the plane. During the flight, the cabin crew asked for orders from the passengers. Vidhan and his friends ordered a drink. The crew complied. After a few drinks, they started making inappropriate comments and gestures against the cabin crew. The crew reminded them that if they continue with their behaviour, they will be arrested. Offended by the statement, Vidhan tried to attack the cabin crew. The crew tried to contain him, but they could not stop him. Based on the principles mentioned in the passage, which of the following is the most appropriate course of action for the pilot and the airline?

- (a) The Crew should immediately arrest Vidhan by exercising their power under the CAR rules issued by DGCA.
- (b) The Pilot should wait for the Vidhan to settle down and then report the incident to the airline’s central control.
- (c) The Pilot should make a quick assessment of the situation and based on his assessment inform the airline’s central control on the ground.
- (d) The Pilot should exercise his discretion to immediately land the plane and handover Vidhan to airline security agency.

**65.** Vidhi had to take an urgent emergency IndiGo flight to Bangalore. There was some hold-up during her luggage check-in process and this delayed her boarding. She was visibly frustrated. Eventually she boarded the flight. On the flight, she had an altercation with the cabin crew. During such altercation, she kept pushing the crew members. Eventually the crew brought her in control. Upon landing of the flight, she was handed over to the airline security agency and the pilot filed a complaint with the airline. The airline referred the complaint to an internal committee consisting of retired district and sessions judge, the IndiGO pilot as a representative of the airline and a representative from the consumer association. Within a week of receiving the complaint, the committee passed its decision. The committee categorised Vidhi’s act under Level 2 and banned her from flying on the airline for six months. Vidhi has challenged this by filing an appeal. She is claiming that the decision taken against her is not in compliance with the CAR rules. In light of the facts mentioned, decide whether her claim is valid?

- (a) Yes, as the constitution of the internal committee is not in consonance with the requirements provided under the CAR rules.
- (b) No, as the decision has been taken by the committee within 30 days.
- (c) Yes, as a retired official of the district consumer disputes redressal forum has not been selected to the committee.
- (d) No, as she pushed the cabin crew members and this correctly falls under Level 2.

**66.** Vidya was flying for the first time in her life. Due to this, she was a little anxious. As the plane started to take off, she panicked and accordingly the cabin crew had to restrain her to keep her in place but they failed as she was still panicking. Affected by such behaviour of the crew, Vidya started pushing and hitting members of the cabin crew. Things went out of control and the pilot has to conduct emergency landing. Upon landing Vidya was handed over to the airline security agency. A complaint is also filed with the internal committee. As the committee’s decision was pending, the airline banned Vidya for flying for six months. Within a week of receiving the complaint, the committee gave its decision and directed that Vidya’s act falls under Level 2 and

accordingly imposed a three month ban on her. Based on the principles mentioned in the passage, choose the correct option:

- (a) The decision by the committee is incorrect as the appropriate ban in case of Level 2 incident is for six months.
- (b) The decision by the committee is correct but the airline has the discretion to impose either a six month or a three month ban.
- (c) The decision by the committee is correct and the duration of ban as provided by the committee has to be followed by the airline.
- (d) The decision by the committee is incorrect as Vidya's act do not fall under the three categories due to lack of intention on her part.

**67.** Assume in the previous question, an additional fact is introduced. After the decision by the internal committee, other airlines also decided to ban Vidya from flying. The period of ban provided by these airlines is for a month. In light of the additional facts decide the validity of the decision taken by these airlines?

- (a) The decision taken by these airlines is invalid as they are bound by the decision taken by the internal committee.
- (b) The decision taken by these airlines is valid as they have the option of banning such passengers for a period extending upto 6 months.
- (c) The decision taken by these airlines is valid as in case of behaviours falling under Level 2, the airlines are not bound by any upper limit for ban duration.
- (d) The decision taken by these airlines is invalid as Vidya's act does not fall within the three levels as provided under the CAR rules.

**68.** With regards to the conditions provided under the CAR rules, which of the following statements is/are not correct?

- (i) An individual aggrieved by the decision of the internal committee can file an appeal before the Appellate Committee constituted by the Ministry of Civil Aviation.
  - (ii) The decision taken by the internal committee is binding on the airline. However, in case such decision is not taken in thirty days, the airline is free to decide the duration of the ban.
  - (iii) The duration of the ban imposed by airlines other than the airline involved in the incident is dependent on the discretion of these airlines as CAR Rules is silent in this regard.
  - (iv) The decision taken by the Appellate Committee is final.
- (a) Only (i) & (iv)
  - (b) Both (ii) & (iii)
  - (c) (ii), (iii) & (iv)
  - (d) All the statements are not correct.

#### **PASSAGE - XIV**

Recently, Supreme Court judge Justice BR Gavai has been nominated as the Chairman of the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee (SCLSC).

What is the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee?

The Supreme Court Legal Services Committee was constituted under Section 3A of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, to provide "free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of society", in cases falling under the top court's jurisdiction.

Section 3A of the Act states that the Central Authority (the National Legal Services Authority or NALSA) shall constitute the committee. It consists of a sitting SC judge, who is the chairman, along with other members possessing the experience and qualifications prescribed by the Central Government. Both the chairman and other members will be nominated by the Chief Justice of India (CJI). Further, the CJI can appoint the Secretary to the Committee.

What the Legal Services Authorities Act says?

In 1987, the Legal Services Authorities Act was enacted to give a statutory base to legal aid programmes. It aims to provide free and competent legal services to eligible groups through the Legal Services Authorities.

The eligible groups as provided under Section 12 are women and children; members of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe; industrial workmen; victims of mass disaster, violence, flood, drought, earthquake, industrial disaster; disabled persons; persons in custody; persons whose annual income does not exceed Rs. 1 lakh. Victims of Trafficking in Human beings.

Section 13 of the Act states that persons who satisfy all or any of the criteria specified in section 12 shall be entitled to receive legal services provided that the concerned Authority is satisfied that such person has a prima facie case to prosecute or to defend. The expression "prima facie" means at the first sight or on the first appearance or on the face of it, or so far as it can be judged from the first disclosure. Prima facie case means that evidence available would reasonably allow the conclusion that the person applying for legal aid seeks. An affidavit made by a person as to his income may be regarded as sufficient for making him eligible to the entitlement of legal services under this Act unless the concerned Authority has reason to disbelieve such affidavit.

The Free Legal Services include:-

- a. Payment of court fee, process fees and all other charges payable or incurred in connection with any legal proceedings;
- b. Providing service of lawyers in legal proceedings;
- c. Obtaining and supply of certified copies of orders and other documents in legal proceedings.
- d. Preparation of appeal, paper book including printing and translation of documents in legal proceedings.

**Source:** Extracted (with edits and revisions) from an article titled "Justice Gavai nominated as SC Legal Services Committee Chairman: What law says on free legal aid in India" published in the Indian Express.

**69.** To curb the rising incidents of domestic violence, the Parliament has made a law to deal with such incidents. As per the law, the aggrieved women are classified as weaker section. Also, exclusive jurisdiction is provided to High Court to resolve these matters quickly. Vidhi, a married women, wants to file a case under the new law. However, she lacks financial resource to initiate the cases. She has approached the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee to claim free legal aid. However, the Committee refused citing that Vidhi is not covered under the domain of the committee. Based on the principle laid down in the passage, choose the correct statement.

- (a) The refusal is wrong as Vidhi belongs to a weaker sections of society and thus the supreme courts' committee has to provide free and competent legal services to her.
- (b) The refusal is wrong as Vidhi is eligible for a free legal aid under Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.
- (c) The refusal is correct as Vidhi's case is not falling within the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.
- (d) The refusal is correct as the Supreme Court's committee is not responsible for legal aid under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

**70.** The Parliament has enacted a law to deal with cases involving murder of people from scheduled castes. Keeping in mind the gravity of the matter, the Supreme Court has been given the exclusive jurisdiction to deal with the cases. After the enactment of such a law, there were hate crimes against people from these castes. Vidhan, a person from such caste, has been murdered by the local goons. Vidhan's father wants to file an action under the new law. However, due to his poor financial status, he does not have the sufficient means to pay the necessary charges for stamp paper required to be filed in the legal proceedings. His annual income is even below Rs. One lakh. Vidur, a local advocate, advised the father to approach the Legal services authority. Based on the principles laid down in the passage, select the correct statement.

- (a) Vidhan's father is eligible to claim free legal aid only if he can provide an affidavit in support of the income proof.
- (b) Vidhan's father will not be allowed free legal aid as payment of stamp charges is not covered under the scope of free legal services.
- (c) Vidhan's father is eligible to claim free legal aid as he belongs to scheduled caste.
- (d) Vidhan's father is not eligible as he lacks an affidavit in support of income proof.

**71.** Assume in the previous question, the facts regarding the income is substituted. Vidhan's father annual income is actually Rs. 1,50,000. What effect would this substituted fact have on the father's eligibility to claim legal aid under the Legal Services Authority Act, 1987?

- (a) The substituted facts would weaken the father's eligibility to claim legal aid as now his income is not below Rs.1,00,000 annually.
- (b) The substituted facts would strengthen the father's eligibility to claim legal aid.
- (c) The substituted facts would weaken the father's eligibility to claim legal aid.
- (d) The substituted facts would have no effect on the father's eligibility to claim legal aid.

**72.** Vidya, a child of tender age, has been a victim of corporal punishment in her school. Corporal punishment is punishable as causing hurt under Section 323 of the Indian Penal Code. The incident is recorded in the School CCTV camera. The Camera shows the teacher hitting Vidya furiously. Since, Vidya is an orphan, she is not able to bear the cost for initiating legal proceedings against her teacher. The case is brought to the notice of the appropriate legal service authority. The authority reviewed the CCTV footage, and then decided to refuse free legal aid. The decision was based on two grounds, Vidya is not eligible for free legal aid and the authority is not satisfied that Vidya has prima facie case to prosecute her teacher. Based on the principles mentioned in the passage, decide the correct statement.

Note: Whoever does any act with the intention of thereby causing hurt to any person, or with the knowledge that he is likely thereby to cause hurt to any person, and does thereby cause hurt to any person, is said "voluntarily to cause hurt". This is punishable under Section 323 of the Indian Penal Code.

- (a) The decision by the authority is partially correct as Vidya, though eligible for free legal aid, does not have a prima facie case to prosecute her teacher.
- (b) The decision by the authority is correct as Vidya is not eligible for free legal aid and does not have a prima facie case to prosecute.
- (c) The decision by the authority is incorrect as Vidya is eligible under Section 12 and has a prima facie case to prosecute.
- (d) The decision by the authority is partially correct as Vidya has a prima facie case but she is not eligible for legal aid under Section 12.

**73.** If the Central government frames rules to prescribe conditions pertaining to experience and qualification for the chairman of the Supreme Court legal service committee, then:

- (a) Such rules are valid under Section 3A of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.
- (b) Such rules are invalid as the Central Government does not have the power to make such rules for the chairman.
- (c) Such rules are valid provided that the power to nominate such chairman is with the Chief Justice of India.
- (d) Such rules are invalid as it takes away the power of the Chief Justice of India to nominate the Chairman of the Supreme Court legal services committee.

#### **PASSAGE - XV**

The Supreme Court on Tuesday delivered a split verdict in former Andhra Pradesh (AP) Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's plea to quash an FIR in the alleged skill development scam case. Justices Aniruddha Bose and Bela M Trivedi disagreed on whether the AP CID was required to seek 'previous approval' from the state government before conducting an inquiry into the allegations against Naidu.

Justice Bose held that prior approval was necessary, which the CID did not have when it opened the inquiry. Justice Trivedi held it was necessary to seek approval only to investigate offences committed after 2018, the year this requirement was introduced.

Prior approval requirement: Section 17A of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (PCA) states that no police officer shall conduct any enquiry or inquiry or investigation into any offence alleged to have been committed by a public servant under this Act, without the previous approval: (a) in the case of a person who is or was employed, at the time when the offence was alleged to have been committed, in connection with the affairs of the Union, of that Government; (b) in the case of a person who is or was employed, at the time when the offence was alleged to have been committed, in connection with the affairs of a State, of that Government; (c) in the case of any other person, of the authority competent to remove him from his office, at the time when the offence was alleged to have been committed:

Provided that no such approval shall be necessary for cases involving arrest of a person on the spot on the charge of accepting or attempting to accept any undue advantage for himself or for any other person: Provided further that the concerned authority shall convey its decision under this section within a period of three months, which may, for reasons to be recorded in writing by such authority, be extended by a further period of one month.

Offences under PCA, 1988: Section 13 of the Act states that a public servant is said to commit the offence of criminal misconduct, if he intentionally enriches himself illicitly during the period of his office. A person shall be presumed to have intentionally enriched himself illicitly if he or any person on his behalf, is in possession of or has, at any time during the period of his office, been in possession of pecuniary resources or property disproportionate to his known sources of income which the public servant cannot satisfactorily account for. The expression "known sources of income" means income received from any lawful sources. Any public servant who commits criminal misconduct shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which shall be not less than four years but which may extend to ten years and shall also be liable to fine.

**Source:** Extracted (with edits and revisions) from an excerpts from an article titled "What is 'prior approval', and why is it needed before investigating public officials accused of corruption?" published in the Indian Express.



**74.** Vidur, a public servant, was appointed as an income tax commissioner in the year 2010. He was appointed with regards to the tax department under the State Government. After working with the State Government for more than a decade, he was given a promotion. He is now working with the tax department under the Union Government. Recently, in 2024, there are allegations against him that he has unjustly enriched himself. These allegations pertain to the income tax cases processed by him during his initial two years as a commissioner. Accordingly, the Police has applied for sanction from the Central Government for conducting investigation for the purposes of the Act. The Central Government has approved the sanction. Based on the principles mentioned in the passage, decide whether the sanction provided is in consonance with the Act?

- (a) Yes, as Vidur is currently working with the Central Government, therefore the Central Government is authorised to provide sanction for investigation.
- (b) No, as Vidur has not committed any offence under the Act.
- (c) Yes, as Section 17A of the Act authorises Central Government to provide sanction in case allegation is against a Central Government employee.
- (d) No, as the sanction from State Government is required in present case.

**75.** Vidhi, a public servant, is employed with the Central Ration department. The government is planning to launch a massive ration distribution scheme. For this purpose, tenders will be issued to private vendors and suppliers. This will be a huge earning potential for the private parties. Accordingly, they are willing to pay any cost for obtaining such tenders. The senior officials in the Central ration distribution department are aware of this and they have decided to take advantage of this by demanding bribes from these vendors. Taking such bribe amounts to an undue advantage under the Act of 1988. The senior officials have appointed Vidhi to collect such amounts on their behalf. The police has prior information of the intention of the private vendors. On the day the money was supposed to be exchanged, they tracked the vendors. On reaching the place they caught Vidhi red-handed and had to arrest her. Vidhi has challenged such arrest by claiming that no prior approval under Section 17A has been obtained. Decide whether her claim is valid?

- (a) Vidhi's claim is valid as Section 17A mandates that police officer shall not arrest a public servant without prior approval of the concerned government.
- (b) Vidhi's claim is invalid as Section 17A creates an exception in cases where person is arrested on the spot on charge of accepting any undue advantage.
- (c) Vidhi's claim is invalid as Section 17A only deals with enquiry or inquiry or investigation. It does not deal with arrest.
- (d) Vidhi's claim is valid as the exception under Section 17A is applicable only when a public servant takes undue advantage for himself.

**76.** Assume in the previous question, an additional fact is introduced. In addition to accepting undue advantage for her seniors, Vidhi was also accepting advantage for herself. What effect would this additional fact have on the challenge made by Vidhi?

- (a) The additional facts would weaken the challenge made by Vidhi.
- (b) The additional facts would weaken the challenge made by Vidhi as now she is also covered under the exception.
- (c) The additional facts would strengthen the challenge made by Vidhi.
- (d) The additional facts would have no effect on the challenge made by Vidhi.



What is the law on appointing candidates involved in criminal cases?

In *Avtar Singh vs. Union of India* (2016), the SC ruled that information given to the employer about a candidate's conviction, acquittal, arrest, or pendency of a criminal case, whether before or after entering into service, must be true and without suppression or false information. For conviction in cases that aren't trivial, the employer may cancel the employee's candidature or terminate his services.

However, if acquittal had already been recorded in a case involving moral turpitude or offence of heinous/serious nature, on technical ground and it is not a case of clean acquittal, or benefit of reasonable doubt has been given, the employer may consider all relevant facts available as to antecedents, and may take appropriate decision as to the continuance of the employee.

Answering a similar question in *Satish Chandra Yadav vs. Union of India* (2023), the SC said "acquittal in a criminal case would not automatically entitle a candidate for appointment to the post" and it would be still open to the employer to consider their antecedents and examine their suitability as a candidate.

**Source:** Extracted (with edits and revisions) from an article titled "HC asks Centre to reconsider ITBP cop's dismissal: Rules about govt. jobs to those acquitted in serious cases" published in the Indian Express.

**79.** Vidhan has applied for the post of police constable notified by the Government of India. As per the job notification, a candidate is required to attach documents pertaining to age, educational qualification, and criminal history, if any. Non-disclosure of any of these document/information will lead to rejection of the candidates' application. Vidhan has submitted the relevant documents. With regards to criminal history, he has disclosed that a criminal case was filed against him for a petty traffic violation. He also disclosed that he has been convicted for two weeks imprisonment. Based on the principles laid down in the passage, which of the following is the most appropriate option?

- (a) Vidhan's application will be rejected solely due to his conviction in a criminal case.
- (b) Vidhan's application will not be rejected solely due to his conviction.
- (c) Vidhan's application will not be rejected as he has voluntarily and truthfully disclosed the concluded criminal case. So he should not be indirectly punished.
- (d) Vidhan's application will be rejected as there is no fundamental right to appointment.

**80.** The Government of India has released a job notification pertaining to appointment of bank managers. As per the job notification, a candidate is required to attach documents pertaining to age, educational qualification, and criminal history if any. Vidhi is thinking of applying for the job. She has the relevant documents. With regards to criminal history, she has mentioned that a criminal case involving moral turpitude was filed against him. However, she has been acquitted by the Court. She has also attached the copy of the judgement. As per the final para of the judgement, she has been acquitted due to benefit of doubt. The Government has rejected her application. She has challenged such rejection before the Supreme Court. Based on the legal principles laid down in the passage, choose the most appropriate course of action for the Court:

- (a) The Court should confirm the rejection as by merely referring to the last para of the judgement, it is clear Vidhi has not been honourably acquitted.
- (b) The Court should reverse the decision of the Government and confirm the appointment as Vidhi has been acquitted.



**Section D-Logical Reasoning****PASSAGE - XVII**

If the conversation about nepotism in Bollywood continues to rage today, it's not just because critics and so-called trolls keep bringing it up in interviews or social media posts. The industry itself continues to draw attention to it. Witness the reactions following the release of *The Archies*, which has not one, not two, but three “star kids” in the lead roles. The film itself has received a mild, if mixed, response, with its real impact being that it has added fuel to the allegation that merit matters little in the industry. And so, a debate which began in 2017 following an episode of *Koffee with Karan*, in which actor Kangana Ranaut accused Karan Johar of being a “flagbearer of nepotism”, and snowballed following the death of Sushant Singh Rajput in 2020, remains alive at the end of 2023.

The responses of those accused of nepotism have ranged from the blase — it's hard to live up to the expectations that come with a famous last name — to the defensive — it's my money so I can cast who I want. The truth, though, is that the Hindi film industry, like those in the south and even Hollywood, was never one that was driven entirely by meritorious outsiders. The only thing that has changed is how those born with a foot in the door are talked about. Nostalgia-tinged fawning about family resemblances in film dynasties is muted today, compared to spirited questioning of star sons' privileges, including choreographed debuts with A-list directors.

Perhaps, it's because this is not the India of old — as aspirations have grown, it has become harder to accept that while the majority struggles, a few manage to coast by on their connections and instant-recall names. An industry that proudly bears the moniker “dream factory” would do well to keep up with the dreams of a changing India.

**85.** The passage implies that the film industry should align with the evolving dreams of a changing India. What potential flaw exists in this line of reasoning?

- (a) The assumption that the film industry has the capacity to adapt quickly to societal changes.
- (b) It overlooks the global influence of Bollywood beyond the borders of India.
- (c) The belief that changes in the film industry will directly lead to societal reforms.
- (d) Ignoring the historical significance and cultural heritage of the Indian film industry.

**86.** What can be inferred about the impact of the film 'The Archies' on the ongoing debate about nepotism in the Bollywood industry?

- (a) 'The Archies' mitigated the debate on nepotism by showcasing diverse talents from non-film backgrounds.
- (b) The film reignited the nepotism debate by casting children of established Bollywood stars.
- (c) 'The Archies' had little effect on the debate, as it focused on unrelated industry issues.
- (d) The mixed response to the movie overshadowed its role in the nepotism discussion.

**87.** What assumption underlies the argument that the Hindi film industry has never been driven entirely by meritorious outsiders?

- (a) Outsiders have historically faced more significant challenges in establishing themselves in Bollywood.
- (b) The industry values familial connections over talent in casting and production decisions.
- (c) Bollywood has often been welcoming and fair to both insiders and outsiders.
- (d) Nepotism is a recent phenomenon in Bollywood, not present in earlier eras.

**88.** Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument that nepotism in Bollywood is more scrutinized today than in the past?

- (a) Recent Bollywood films featuring newcomers have outperformed those with star kids in box office earnings.
- (b) Social media platforms have seen an increase in discussions criticizing nepotism in Bollywood.
- (c) Older Bollywood films often cast family members of established actors without public outcry.
- (d) The government has recently proposed regulations to address nepotism in the film industry.

**89.** Which of the following could most effectively weaken the argument that ‘having a famous last name presents more challenges than advantages in the film industry’?

- (a) Several actors with famous last names have admitted to facing high expectations and scrutiny.
- (b) Industry reports show a higher success rate for debut films of actors with famous family backgrounds.
- (c) Many famous actors’ children choose careers outside of the film industry, citing intense media pressure.
- (d) Audiences often show initial interest in films featuring the children of famous actors.

**90.** In evaluating the argument that the film industry’s nepotism reflects broader societal changes in India, which of the following would be most important to know?

- (a) The percentage of film industry professionals in India who come from a family with a film background.
- (b) Historical trends in public opinion about nepotism in various sectors, including the film industry.
- (c) The rate of economic growth and societal development in India over the past few decades.
- (d) Comparative analysis of nepotism in Bollywood and other global film industries.

### **PASSAGE - XVIII**

Not so long ago, the priorities for the boss of a publicly listed company seemed so much simpler: manage and expand the business effectively enough to earn a decent return for shareholders. This may be an overly rose-tinted view of the past. But such times are gone.

Consider the plates the modern chief executive must keep spinning. As well as dealing with geopolitical uncertainty, mounting government regulation, high inflation and interest rates, there is rising populism, cyber attacks and advances in artificial intelligence. Then there is managing reputation risk — including compliance with arduous governance codes — disclosure requirements and pledges on sustainability.

Hybrid working brings another set of pressures. And keeping staff motivated and loyal is a full-time job in itself — from rewarding and managing scarce talent to bridging the intergenerational divide and deciding when to engage publicly on contentious political and social issues. The pressure is constant to do and say the “right” thing.

CEOs need to handle all this while submitting to much greater scrutiny of their pay and conduct inside and outside the workplace, by employees, shareholders, the media and the public. Corporate leaders are expected to be “authentic” and vulnerable, but when mistakes are made the reckoning is swift. Bosses of businesses ranging from BP, the energy company, to NatWest bank have abruptly departed this year.

Boards of directors, meanwhile, are often ill-equipped to counsel on how to confront this plethora of challenges. Tensions between chairs and chief executives are rising; relationships between directors and executive teams are increasingly fraying. No surprise, perhaps, that rates of tenure among CEOs have declined sharply — from a median of six years among S&P 500 companies in 2013 to 4.8 years in 2022.

Who would want to be a chief executive today? There is, in fact, still a healthy supply of individuals striving to reach the top of publicly listed companies. Many may be strategic thinkers who are ambitious, visionary and natural leaders of thousands of people; being a raging narcissist helps in getting to the top. The escalating financial rewards are surely a draw, too. From 1978 to 2022, US CEO pay based on realised remuneration grew by 1,209 per cent, adjusting for inflation. This was well above the 932 per cent growth in the S&P 500 in the same period, and the 465 per cent rise in incomes in the top 0.1 per cent of earners. The median US worker's annual remuneration rose by a puny 15.3 per cent.

The cult of the CEO that prevailed in the 1990s persists. But in today's complex environment, boards would do better to create a more distributed structure at the top to spread risk and responsibilities. Companies should strive for a strong executive team with complementary skill sets. This can be particularly helpful if an unplanned succession has to take place. Staff may prefer it too.

In turn, boards need to be more effective advisers and overseers of a company's risk profile — from stress testing and scenario planning to understanding how risks intertwine. They should better inform themselves, not just about how black swan events might hit the business model and strategy but also on structural shifts, from the energy transition to changing social norms. Outside advice may be a solution; consultants are at the ready, often charging hefty fees. Business leaders must be careful, though, not to outsource their thinking.

All of this is necessary not only to assist chief executives facing increasingly impossible jobs, but to guard against the over-mighty boss who might have a misguided faith in their own infallibility. But for those aspiring to these top roles, the message must be this: take the job at your own peril.

**91.** Based on the passage, which of the following best describes the impact of geopolitical uncertainty and economic factors like inflation and interest rates on the role of a modern chief executive?

- (a) Amplifies strategic complexities, necessitating heightened focus on global market trends and economic shifts.
- (b) Reduces the emphasis on internal company affairs, shifting focus primarily to external geopolitical events.
- (c) Mandates a more hands-on approach in daily operations to mitigate the effects of inflation and interest rates.
- (d) Requires a balanced approach to both geopolitical and economic challenges, maintaining company stability.

**92.** The passage discusses the importance of managing reputation risk, including compliance with governance codes and sustainability pledges. What can be inferred about the relationship between a company's public image and its adherence to these factors?

- (a) Adherence to governance codes and sustainability pledges is crucial for maintaining a positive public image.
- (b) Public image is solely dependent on a company's financial performance, not on governance or sustainability.
- (c) Companies focusing on governance and sustainability often neglect their core business operations.
- (d) A strong public image can compensate for a company's lack of compliance with governance and sustainability.

**93.** Given the challenges of hybrid working, scarce talent management, and bridging the intergenerational divide, what is implied about the evolving responsibilities of a CEO in relation to workforce management?

- (a) CEOs must prioritize technological advancements over traditional management strategies in the modern workplace.
- (b) The role of the CEO has become less significant in workforce management due to these evolving challenges.
- (c) Workforce management now demands a more dynamic and adaptable leadership approach from CEOs.
- (d) CEOs should delegate all aspects of workforce management to specialized teams to focus on other areas.

**94.** Considering the increased scrutiny of CEO conduct both inside and outside the workplace, what does the passage suggest about the changing nature of accountability for corporate leaders?

- (a) CEOs are now primarily accountable to public opinion, more than to shareholders or boards.
- (b) The increased scrutiny has made CEOs less willing to take risks in decision-making processes.
- (c) Corporate leaders are now held accountable for a broader range of actions and behaviors.
- (d) This scrutiny has led CEOs to focus more on legal compliance than on ethical leadership.

**95.** The passage mentions tensions between boards of directors and chief executives, and a decline in CEO tenure. What can be deduced about the relationship between board dynamics and the stability of CEO positions?

- (a) Increasing board involvement in daily operations is the primary reason for declining CEO tenure.
- (b) Friction between boards and CEOs has a direct correlation with the shortening of CEO tenures.
- (c) Boards are increasingly focused on CEO performance metrics, leading to shorter tenures.
- (d) The decline in CEO tenure is largely unrelated to board dynamics but due to market volatility.



**96.** Reflecting on the substantial growth in CEO compensation relative to the average worker's remuneration, what might be inferred about societal and corporate expectations of CEOs since 1978?

- (a) Societal and corporate expectations have remained constant, with compensation reflecting traditional roles of CEOs.
- (b) There's an expectation that CEOs should focus more on shareholder value than employee welfare.
- (c) The significant rise in compensation implies higher expectations for CEOs' impact and performance.
- (d) Compensation increases are a result of market forces, independent of changing expectations of CEOs.

### **PASSAGE - XIX**

If warning were needed that progress towards equality between men and women is at best slow and uneven, and at worst sliding backwards, the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap report for 2023 provided it. But on the face of it, the art world would seem to be bucking the trend, with a cascade of challenges to the status quo. In London alone, these include a rehang at the National Portrait Gallery, bringing more women into focus, and the first solo takeover of the main galleries of the Royal Academy by a female artist.

Internationally, the year was topped off by Art Review handing the top slot in its Power 100 list of art's most influential people to the American photographer Nan Goldin. Her most conspicuous achievement has been her campaign against the billionaire Sackler dynasty, whose company, Purdue Pharma, fuelled the opioid epidemic in America. But her activism, which has resulted in a slew of institutions cutting ties with the family, and striking their name from buildings, is rooted in her work as a pioneering photographic observer. Her 50-year focus on the intimate lives of people pushed to the margins of society by sexuality, addiction, or a simple refusal to fit in, has documented alternative histories, and inspired younger generations of artists to do likewise.

The rich and various history of confrontational feminist art is currently on show in Tate Britain's *Women in Revolt!* – a show billed as the first to survey the activist art made by women between 1970 and 1990. It is fascinating to see footage of the bewilderment on shoppers' faces as second-wave feminism took to the streets; it is chastening to see the ferocity of the challenge that punk posed to gender expectations, and to wonder where all that snarling, devil-may-care energy went.

Art Review's Power 100 doesn't only include artists but gallerists and collectors. And rightly so. *Women In Revolt!* was curated by five women. But those who rebalance the picture are not necessarily either art-world insiders or women. The attention paid to the pop artist Pauline Boty, who is currently enjoying one of her periodic rediscoveries, has been attributed by the Scottish novelist Ali Smith to four people: alongside the two curators/art historians who tracked down and rescued her paintings were her dairy farming sister-in-law, who kept them in a barn for years after Boty's untimely death from cancer aged 28, and Ken Russell, who included her in his enduringly influential 1962 film *Pop Goes the Easel*.

To these can be added Smith herself, who made Boty one of the guiding spirits of her *Seasons* quartet of novels, thus bringing her to the notice of a readership beyond the art world. For Smith, in *Autumn*, she represents all those women who are "Ignored. Lost. Rediscovered years later. Then ignored. Lost. Rediscovered ad infinitum."

For centuries, the history of art has been haunted by its forgotten women. "Things seem to come in cycles and waves, and I wish they didn't," said Sonia Boyce, one of the artists

included in a section of Women in Revolt! devoted to the 1980s British black arts movement. Nearly four decades passed before Boyce and another of the featured artists, Lubaina Himid, became the first British women of colour to win, respectively, the Golden Lion at the Venice Biennale and the Turner prize. While these achievements are cause for celebration, the work of remembering them starts now.

**97.** Which hypothetical scenario, if true, would most weaken the argument that the art world is making substantial progress in addressing gender inequality?

- (a) Recent surveys showing a decline in the number of female artists in major exhibitions.
- (b) A significant gender pay gap persisting among artists despite increased visibility.
- (c) Women artists receiving less media coverage than their male counterparts.
- (d) A decrease in funding for art programs specifically supporting women artists.

**98.** What assumption underlies the statement about the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap report indicating slow and uneven progress towards gender equality?

- (a) The report accurately reflects global trends without significant geographical biases.
- (b) Gender equality is universally agreed upon as a desirable and achievable goal.
- (c) Other reports on gender equality show similar trends as the World Economic Forum's.
- (d) Slow progress in gender equality is primarily due to economic factors worldwide.

**99.** In the context of Nan Goldin's influence as noted in the Art Review's Power 100 list, which piece of evidence most strongly supports her impact on the art world and beyond?

- (a) Her 50-year focus on the lives of marginalized individuals in her photography.
- (b) Her top ranking in the Art Review's Power 100 list of influential art figures.
- (c) Her campaign against the Sackler dynasty and its impact on institutions.
- (d) The influence of her work on younger generations of artists.

**100.** Which additional information would most strengthen the argument that the Tate Britain's Women in Revolt! exhibition is a significant showcase of feminist activist art?

- (a) The exhibition includes diverse forms of media, like sculpture and digital art.
- (b) It is the first exhibition to comprehensively cover 20 years of feminist art.
- (c) Renowned art critics have given the exhibition highly positive reviews.
- (d) The exhibition has spurred increased academic research on feminist art.

**101.** Based on the passage, what can be inferred about the role of individuals outside the traditional art world in the rediscovery and appreciation of artists like Pauline Boty?

- (a) They have played a critical role in preserving and promoting her work.
- (b) Their interest in Boty's work is recent and primarily driven by market trends.
- (c) They have limited influence compared to established art world figures.
- (d) Their contributions are often unrecognized in the formal art historical narrative.

**102.** Which among the following is a potential logical flaw in the passage's discussion of the cyclical nature of recognition for women artists, as mentioned in relation to Sonia Boyce and Lubaina Himid's achievements?

- (a) Assuming that recognition cycles are unique to women artists and not male artists.
- (b) Implying that recognition cycles are solely determined by societal interest in art.
- (c) Suggesting that the cyclical nature is a natural phenomenon in the art world.
- (d) Inferring that recent recognition is solely due to their gender and ethnicity.

**PASSAGE - XX**

In one of his most recent works, the renowned Italian anthropologist Vito Teti argues that the social value of nostalgia has been underrated and misunderstood. “It’s not about imagining a return to the past,” he writes at the beginning of *Nostalgia: Anthropology of a Feeling in the Present*. “We can never turn around and go back. It’s about regarding the past with pietas [dutiful respect] for that which was and wasn’t, and also with consideration, perhaps via possible utopias, for the unrealised potential of men and women who once existed.”

Prof Teti has explored such ideas in relation to his home region of Calabria, where a long history of migration has created towns which could be thought of as prototype “left-behind” communities. His insights have now been deployed in research by a group of University College London academics, focused on the north-east of England. In *Social Infrastructure and Left Behind Places*, which will be published next month, a persuasive case is made for “productive nostalgia” in places that have not been treated kindly by the 21st century.

Undertaking a “deep place” study of Sacriston – a former mining village that is still attempting to recover from de-industrialisation – the authors provide a stirring account of placemaking against the odds. Their conclusions are both uplifting and challenging. The study features a remarkable Edwardian map, illustrating the plethora of communal institutions that once stitched together the village’s social life. Churches, chapels and the union lodge were eventually supplemented by a library and reading room, cinemas and the pivotal Co-op store. Funding for these institutions was principally raised by the miners themselves, and they were a deep source of pride and self-affirmation. But by the early 2000s they had mostly disappeared and the splendidly appointed Co-op building was derelict.

A familiar story and a sad one. But in Sacriston, collective memory is helping to reinvent the ethos of mutual assistance that defined the 20th-century Durham coalfield. A successor building to the old literary institute has opened to host new cultural activity, its forecourt featuring an old colliery pit-wheel. The Co-op building has been successfully taken over by a community interest company. Social enterprises working within it now provide services such as a boxing gym, out-of-school activities and a woodworking training course.

Admirable as they are, the economics of sustaining these initiatives is precarious in the extreme. The study recommends a new focus on ongoing revenue support for such social enterprises, but perhaps the most important takeaway is the importance of local “placemakers” who know the contours of their community, are passionately committed to its long-term future, and have chosen to stay when it might have been easier to leave. Devolving centralised power and influence downwards to them is the first prerequisite of meaningful regeneration.

In another of his books, *Stones into Bread*, Prof Teti suggests that the act of “staying behind” can be as adventurous and brave as travelling and starting afresh somewhere else. That is also a neglected truth. In communities showing resilience in the face of harsh circumstances, those who stay or return home deserve to be better supported. Following the depressingly hollow outcomes of Tory levelling up, the experience of Sacriston points to a better way.

**103.** What assumption underlies Vito Teti's argument about the social value of nostalgia as presented in the beginning of "Nostalgia: Anthropology of a Feeling in the Present"?

- (a) Nostalgia is primarily a longing for returning to a past way of life.
- (b) The past holds unrealized potential that can inform future utopias.
- (c) People have a natural tendency to idealize and romanticize the past.
- (d) Nostalgia is more about regret for the unfulfilled aspects of the past.

**104.** Based on the discussion of Sacriston and the research of University College London academics, what inference can be made about the relationship between historical community structures and contemporary social enterprises?

- (a) Social enterprises are direct modern replacements for historical community structures.
- (b) Historical community structures were more effective than modern social enterprises.
- (c) Contemporary social enterprises draw inspiration from historical community models.
- (d) There is little to no connection between historical and modern community structures.

**105.** How does the example of Sacriston's transition from a former mining village to a community with new cultural activities and social enterprises support Prof Teti's concept of "productive nostalgia"?

- (a) It demonstrates how nostalgia can lead to a desire to preserve the past without change.
- (b) It shows that nostalgia can fuel economic growth and industrial development.
- (c) Sacriston exemplifies using memories to inspire community rebuilding and cultural revival.
- (d) It highlights the ineffectiveness of nostalgia in addressing contemporary challenges.

**106.** What conclusion can be drawn about the role of local "placemakers" in community regeneration, as suggested in the study "Social Infrastructure and Left Behind Places"?

- (a) Local placemakers' main role is to preserve traditional values without modern influences.
- (b) They are essential in driving the regeneration process through their unique community knowledge.
- (c) Placemakers primarily focus on economic redevelopment rather than cultural revival.
- (d) Their involvement is marginal compared to the influence of external developers.

**107.** If one were to critique the argument for devolving power to local community leaders for effective regeneration, as mentioned in the passage, on what grounds could this argument be challenged?

- (a) Local leaders may lack the broader perspective necessary for effective modern development.
- (b) Devolving power could lead to a lack of consistency in regeneration efforts across regions.
- (c) Community leaders often prioritize cultural preservation over economic development.
- (d) Local leaders might not have sufficient technical expertise in urban planning and regeneration.

**108.** Given Prof Teti's view on the act of “staying behind” as adventurous and brave, how might this perspective apply to the development of policies aimed at supporting communities facing harsh circumstances?

- (a) Policies should primarily focus on financial incentives to encourage people to stay.  
 (b) Emphasize the development of cultural and historical preservation programs in these areas.  
 (c) Create policies that acknowledge and harness the adventurous spirit of staying behind.  
 (d) Policies should be aimed at promoting large-scale industrial and economic development.

### Section E-Quantitative Techniques

#### PASSAGE - XXI

**Directions (109 - 112):** Study the following information and answer the questions below.

In a city, there is a hospital named Vidhigya Multispecialty Hospital. The hospital has three different departments, A, B, and C. The total number of doctors and nurses working in all three departments is 5000. Department C has number of nurses equal to 20% of the total number of doctors and nurses working in all three departments. The sum of the number of doctors in department B and the number of nurses in department C is 1800. The number of doctors in department A and department B is in the ratio of 9:8 respectively. 40% of the total number of nurses employed in the hospital, work in department C. Also, the number of nurses in department B is 40% of the total number of nurses across all three departments.

**109.** Find the total number of doctors and nurses in departments A and B together?

- (a) 3600                      (b) 3200                      (c) 3400                      (d) 3800

**110.** The number of doctors in department C is how much % more or less than number of nurses in department A?

- (a) 25%                      (b) 50%                      (c) 75 %                      (d) 60%

**111.** Find the respective ratio between the numbers of doctors in department B to number of nurses in department A?

- (a) 6 : 12                      (b) 7:9                      (c) 8:5                      (d) 5 : 15

**112.** Find the average number of doctors and nurses in departments A and C?

- (a) 1600                      (b) 1440                      (c) 1380                      (d) 1200

#### PASSAGE - XXII

**Directions (113 - 116):** Study the following information and answer the questions below.

Vidhan is a shopkeeper who sells two different articles, article A and article B in his shop. Here are some information about their price (cost/selling/marked) and profit earned on selling it. Vidhan marked article A at 60% above its cost price and sold it after two successive discounts of 10% and 25% respectively. However, if he had sold article A at new Selling price after giving a single discount of 25%, he would have earned Rs. 480 more on it. Similarly, he marked article B at 50% above the cost price and sold it at a single discount of 20%. If he had bought article B at new cost price Rs. 300 less than earlier and sold at new selling price of Rs. 190 less than earlier, he would have made a profit of 30% on it.

**113.** The new selling price of article A is how much percent more or less than the actual selling price of article A?

- (a) 11.11%                      (b) 33.33%                      (c) 28.57%                      (d) 16.66%

**114.** Find the actual cost price of article B?

- (a) Rs.1300                      (b) Rs.1500                      (c) Rs.2000                      (d) Rs.1800

**115.** What is the respective ratio between marked price of article A and original marked price of article B?

- (a) 35:17                      (b) 17:35                      (c) 15:32                      (d) 32:15

**116.** What is the difference between the new selling price of article A and original marked price of article B?

- (a) Rs.1800                      (b) Rs.1500                      (c) Rs.1300                      (d) Rs.1000

### PASSAGE - XXIII

**Directions (117 -120):** Study the following information and answer the questions below.

There are 3 boxes - V1, V2 and V3. Each box contains 2 envelopes. Each envelope contains cash - two of them contain Rs. 5000 each, two of them contain Rs. 3000 each and remaining two contain Rs. 2000 each.

There is a statement written on the cover of following two boxes.

\* V1 Box: One envelope in V1 box and one envelope V3 box contain Rs. 2000 each.

\* V3 Box: One envelope in V3 box and One envelope in V2 box contain Rs. 3000 each.

Only one of the above 2 statements is true and the corresponding box contains the maximum amount.

**117.** Which box contains the maximum amount?

- (a) V1                      (b) V2                      (c) V3                      (d) can't be determined

**118.** The total amount in box V2 is how much percent more or less than the total amount in box V3?

- (a) 37.5%                      (b) 20%                      (c) 25%                      (d) can't be determined

**119.** What is the respective ratio between the amount in 1<sup>st</sup> envelope of box V1 and the amount in 2<sup>nd</sup> envelope of box V2?

- (a) 2:3                      (b) 3:2                      (c) 2:5                      (d) can't be determined

**120.** Find the approximate average amount in each box?

- (a) Rs.6660                      (b) Rs.6666                      (c) Rs.6606                      (d) can't be determined

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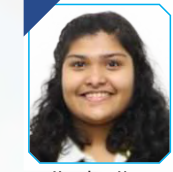
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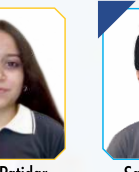
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