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CLAT 2026

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SAMPLE PAPER: ENGLISH LANGUAGE

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PASSAGE 1

In recent years, the integration of Artificial Intelligence (Hereafter "**AI**") into legal systems has shifted from speculative possibility to institutional experimentation. While AI-assisted judicial tools in countries like Estonia and the United States promise efficiency—particularly in routine matters such as small-claims adjudication—critics argue that such tools risk ossifying biases embedded in historical datasets. The core legal tension lies in the elusive notion of "accountability": if an AI tool recommends bail denial based on risk-assessment algorithms, who bears responsibility for an erroneous outcome—the developer, the judge, or the state? The problem becomes more complex as governments begin to outsource not only data analysis but also preliminary decision-making to private AI vendors whose proprietary algorithms remain shielded from public scrutiny.

Supporters of AI integration maintain that algorithmic systems, unlike human decision-makers, do not suffer from fatigue, emotional volatility, or implicit prejudice. Yet this claim overlooks the fact that AI systems learn through statistical correlations rather than moral reasoning. Judges are expected to justify their decisions through articulated legal principles, while AI systems produce predictions devoid of normative explanation. This raises a constitutional dilemma: Can a defendant's right to a reasoned judgment be satisfied by referencing an algorithm whose internal logic cannot be fully disclosed?

Although some jurisdictions have proposed frameworks for "algorithmic transparency," the term often reduces to limited disclosure of input variables rather than meaningful explanation of how

these variables interact. As democracies grapple with the accelerating use of AI in state functions, the question is not merely whether AI can improve legal efficiency, but whether it should be permitted to influence decisions that implicate fundamental rights. The debate suggests that the challenge is not technological capacity but the legitimacy of delegating state authority to systems incapable of moral accountability.

Q1. Which of the following can be inferred about the author's view of AI's role in the justice system?

A. AI will inevitably replace human judges in most jurisdictions.

B. AI should be banned entirely due to its inherent biases.

C. AI can be helpful, but only if used in decisions that do not affect fundamental rights.

D. AI should be fully integrated because it improves consistency.

Q2. The author's argument assumes that:

A. Developers intentionally hide biases in their algorithms.

B. Access to a fully transparent explanation is central to procedural fairness.

C. Judicial decisions must always be made without any technological assistance.

D. AI systems are incapable of being improved through regulation.

Q3. According to the passage, what makes accountability problematic in AI-assisted legal decisions?

A. Developers have no legal obligation to create accurate algorithms.

B. It is unclear who is responsible when an AI-recommended decision goes wrong.

C. Courts rarely review decisions made by human judges.

D. AI companies refuse to participate in legal proceedings.

Q4. If an additional paragraph were to follow the passage, which would be the most logically consistent continuation?

A. A description of the economic benefits of AI start-ups in the global market.

B. A historical overview of technological innovations unrelated to law.

C. Examples of jurisdictions experimenting with safeguards to balance efficiency with rights protection.

D. A detailed explanation of how neural networks function at a mathematical level.

Q5. The tone of the passage is best described as:

A. Humorously skeptical

B. Uncritically optimistic

C. Indifferent and detached

D. Cautiously analytical

PASSAGE 2

When human beings confront the friction between appetite and morality, the resulting tension exposes a deeper question about the architecture of human choice itself. As Immanuel Kant observed, "inclination is blind and yet must be mastered by reason," suggesting that ethical judgment ought to prevail over desire. Yet David Hume contended that moral life is ultimately governed by sentiment, not abstract principles – at some level implying that one's culinary choices may be shaped more by inherited taste, pleasure, and cultural habituation than by ethical reflection. Nobel Laureate Albert Schweitzer said, "To the man who is truly ethical, all life is scared… whether it is useful to him or not"

Therefore, the issue of conflicting ethics becomes most visible in societies where the consumption of certain animals is both an everyday practice and a subject of ethical criticism. While individuals often claim moral autonomy, their choices frequently reveal a hierarchy of values in which gustatory preference silently outweighs (Something here which does not assume that non veg is an ethical violation) ethical restraint. Philosophers describe this as *moral compartmentalization*: the selective suspension of empathy to preserve familiar habits.

However, the law—unlike philosophy—cannot indulge in ambiguity. When adjudicating disputes involving animal slaughter, dietary bans, or cultural rituals, courts convert competing moral intuitions into enforceable boundaries. Judicial reasoning, especially in constitutional democracies, tends to follow what Ronald Dworkin called a "principle-sensitive approach": respecting autonomy and culture, but refusing to legitimize avoidable cruelty. Thus, while humans may privately prioritize food over ethics, the legal system reorders this hierarchy by

imposing standards that individuals may not voluntarily choose. In this sense, law acts not as a moral philosopher but as a reluctant arbiter—ensuring that appetite does not eclipse responsibility.

Q6. Moral compartmentalization primarily allows individuals to:

A. Ignore the law entirely
B. Fully adhere to ethical codes
C. Suspend ethical concern in selective contexts
D. Enhance reasoning over desire

Q7. The word "adjudicating" most nearly means:

A. Debating
B. Ignoring
C. Judging
D. Arguing

Q8. The passage suggests law differs from philosophy because:

A. Law relies on sentiment rather than reason
B. Law ignores cultural and ethical concerns
C. Law allows for individual moral autonomy
D. Law enforces clear boundaries even when morality is ambiguous

Q9. Which philosopher argued that ethical judgment should prevail over desire?

A. Ronald Dworkin
B. David Hume
C. Immanuel Kant
D. Albert Schweitzer

Q10. All of the following are true, except?

A. Legal systems impose standards individuals may not voluntarily choose.

B. Appetite can sometimes outweigh ethical reflection in private choices.
C. Judges always defer to personal moral intuition in legal cases.
D. Moral compartmentalization allows selective suspension of empathy.

PASSAGE 3

The ability to create an imagined reality out of words enabled large numbers of strangers to cooperate effectively. But it also did something more. Since large-scale human cooperation is based on myths, the way people cooperate can be altered by changing the myths – by telling different stories. Under the right circumstances myths can change rapidly. In 1789 the French population switched almost overnight from believing in the myth of the divine right of kings to believing in the myth of the sovereignty of the people. Consequently, ever since the Cognitive Revolution Homo sapiens has been able to revise its behavior rapidly in accordance with changing needs. This opened a fast lane of cultural evolution, bypassing the traffic jams of genetic evolution. Speeding down this fast lane, Homo sapiens soon far outstripped all other human and animal species in its ability to cooperate.

The behavior of other social animals is determined to a large extent by their genes. DNA is not an autocrat. Animal behavior is also influenced by environmental factors and individual quirks. Nevertheless, in a given environment, animals of the same species will tend to behave in a similar way. Significant changes in social behavior cannot occur, in general, without genetic mutations. For example, common chimpanzees have a genetic tendency to live in hierarchical groups headed by an alpha male. Members of a closely related chimpanzee species, bonobos, usually live in more egalitarian groups dominated by female alliances. Female common chimpanzees cannot take lessons from their bonobo relatives and stage a feminist revolution. Male chimps cannot gather in a constitutional assembly to abolish the office of alpha male and declare that from here on out all chimps are to be treated as equals. Such dramatic changes in behavior would occur only if something changed in the chimpanzees' DNA.

For similar reasons, archaic humans did not initiate any revolutions. As far as we can tell, changes in social patterns, the invention of new technologies and the settlement of alien habitats resulted from genetic mutations and environmental pressures more than from cultural initiatives. This is why it took humans hundreds of thousands of years to make these steps. Two million years ago, genetic mutations resulted in the appearance of a new human species called Homo

erectus. Its emergence was accompanied by the development of a new stone tool technology, now recognized as a defining feature of this species. As long as Homo erectus did not undergo further genetic alterations, its stone tools remained roughly the same – for close to 2 million years!

[*Extracted from "Sapiens: A brief history of humankind" by Yuval Noha Harari*]

Q11. What enabled Homo sapiens to cooperate in large numbers?

A. Creation of imagined realities through shared myths
B. Hierarchical social structures
C. Environmental pressures
D. Genetic mutations

Q12. The word "egalitarian" most nearly means:

A. Hierarchical
B. Dominated by one individual
C. Focused on equality
D. Influenced by genetics

Q13. Dramatic behavioral changes in other social animals are limited because:

A. DNA imposes constraints on species-wide behavior
B. Cultural myths are absent
C. They lack environmental stimuli
D. They cannot learn from human innovations

Q14. Homo erectus' stone tools remained unchanged because:

A. No significant genetic mutations occurred
B. Environmental pressures were minimal
C. Humans lacked cultural imagination
D. Social cooperation was not necessary

Q15. All of the following are true, except?

A. Cognitive evolution allows rapid behavioral change in humans.
B. Chimpanzees cannot initiate social revolutions like humans.
C. Bonobos live in hierarchical groups led by an alpha male.
D. Human cooperation is partly based on shared myths.

PASSAGE 4

This is an occasion to take stock of our achievements and challenges even while sharing our aspirations and goals. And indeed, in regard to both, there is much that India has to share.

Mr. President, the world is witnessing an exceptional period of turmoil. As it is, structural inequities and uneven development have imposed burdens on the Global South. But stresses have been aggravated by the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and the repercussions of ongoing conflicts, tensions and disputes. As a result, socio-economic gains of recent years have been rolled back.

Resources for sustainable development are severely challenged. And many countries really struggle to make ends meet. Navigating the future appears even more daunting today.

At this juncture, it was with a sense of exceptional responsibility that India took up the Presidency of the G20. Our vision of 'One Earth, One Family, One Future' sought to focus on the key concerns of the many, not just the narrow interests of a few.

In the words of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, it was to bridge divides, dismantle barriers and sow seeds of collaboration that nourish a world, where unity prevails over discord and where shared destiny eclipses isolation. The New Delhi G-20 Leaders' Declaration articulates our collective ability to do so.

Excellencies, Friends, at a time when East-West polarization is so sharp and North-South divide so deep, the New Delhi Summit also affirms that diplomacy and dialogue are the only effective solutions. The international order is diverse and we must cater for divergences, if not differences. The days when a few nations set the agenda and expected others to fall in line are over.

As the United Nations itself symbolizes, finding common ground is an imperative. To listen to others and to respect their viewpoints, this is not weakness; it is the basics of cooperation. Only then can collective efforts on global issues be successful.

Recognizing that growth and development must focus on the most vulnerable, we began the G20 Presidency by convening the 'Voice of the Global South' Summit. This enabled us to hear directly from 125 nations and place their concerns on the G20 agenda.

As a consequence, the issues which deserve global attention got a fair hearing. More than that, the deliberations produced outcomes that have great significance for the international community.

Mr. President, it was also noteworthy that at India's initiative, the African Union was admitted as a permanent member of the G20. By doing so, we gave voice to an entire continent which has long been its due. This significant step in reform should inspire the United Nations, a much older organization, to also make the Security Council contemporary. Broad representation is, after all, a pre-requisite for both effectiveness and credibility.

The outcomes of the New Delhi G20 Summit will surely resonate for years ahead. Among them is the Action Plan for Sustainable Development Goals, a crucial need of the day. Equally important are the High Principles of LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) and the Green Development Pact, as they shape our approach to our planet's future.

[*Extracted from External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar's speech at the UNGA, 2023*]

Q16. One of India's objectives during its G20 Presidency was to:

A. Reduce United Nations influence
B. Promote East-West polarization
C. Focus on military alliances
D. Give voice to the Global South

Q17. "Exceptional responsibility" most closely means:

A. Temporary obligation
B. Special duty
C. Personal ambition
D. Ordinary accountability

Q18. India's approach at the summit emphasizes:

A. Listening to diverse perspectives and bridging divides

B. Imposing the will of powerful nations

C. Ignoring environmental concerns

D. Limiting participation of smaller countries

Q19. Admission of the African Union to the G20 demonstrates:

A. Efforts to modernize international representation

B. Reduction of G20's global influence

C. Preference for Africa over Asia

D. Shift in UN Security Council powers

Q20. Which of the following cannot be reasonably inferred?

A. Dialogue and diplomacy were emphasized over unilateral action.

B. India introduced LiFE and the Green Development Pact.

C. The summit ignored concerns of the Global South.

D. Sustainable development was a focus area.

PASSAGE 5

War, in one form or another, appeared with the first man. At the dawn of history, its morality was not questioned; it was simply a fact, like drought or disease -- the manner in which tribes and then civilizations sought power and settled their differences.

And over time, as codes of law sought to control violence within groups, so did philosophers and clerics and statesmen seek to regulate the destructive power of war. The concept of a "just war" emerged, suggesting that war is justified only when certain conditions were met: if it is waged as a last resort or in self-defense; if the force used is proportional; and if, whenever possible, civilians are spared from violence.

Of course, we know that for most of history, this concept of "just war" was rarely observed. The capacity of human beings to think up new ways to kill one another proved inexhaustible, as did our capacity to exempt from mercy those who look different or pray to a different God. Wars between armies gave way to wars between nations -- total wars in which the distinction between combatant and civilian became blurred. In the span of 30 years, such carnage would twice engulf this continent. And while it's hard to conceive of a cause more just than the defeat of the Third

Reich and the Axis powers, World War II was a conflict in which the total number of civilians who died exceeded the number of soldiers who perished.

In the wake of such destruction, and with the advent of the nuclear age, it became clear to victor and vanquished alike that the world needed institutions to prevent another world war. And so a quarter century after the United States Senate rejected the League of Nations -- an idea for which Woodrow Wilson received this prize -- America led the world in constructing an architecture to keep the peace: a Marshall Plan, and a United Nations; mechanisms to govern the waging of war, treaties to protect human rights, prevent genocide, restrict the most dangerous weapons.

In many ways, these efforts succeeded. Yes, terrible wars have been fought, and atrocities committed. But there has been no Third World War. The Cold War ended with jubilant crowds dismantling a wall. Commerce has stitched much of the world together. Billions have been lifted from poverty. The ideals of liberty and self-determination, equality, and the rule of law have haltingly advanced. We are the heirs of the fortitude and foresight of generations past, and it is a legacy for which my own country is rightfully proud.

[*Extracted from the Nobel Prize for Peace Acceptance Speech by Barack H. Obama, 2009*]

Q21. The concept of a "just war" includes all, except:

A. Self-defense
B. Proportional use of force
C. War as a last resort
D. Targeting civilians whenever possible

Q22. "Perish" most nearly means:

A. Die
B. Survive
C. Suffer
D. Rebel

Q23. Prevention of another world war required:

A. Abandonment of human rights principles
B. Encouraging total war

C. Reliance solely on the League of Nations

D. A combination of international institutions and treaties

Q24. The passage implies that human destructive capacity:

A. Has led to innovations in peacekeeping and governance

B. B. Has remained constant

C. Only emerged after WWII

D. Is limited by moral codes

Q25. All of the following are true, except?

A. Commerce has reduced global conflicts.

B. B. The concept of "just war" has always been strictly followed.

C. Wars have blurred civilian–combatant distinctions.

D. The Cold War ended without a third world war.

SAMPLE PAPER: LEGAL REASONING

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PASSAGE – 1

The Indian government has significantly overhauled its colonial-era criminal laws, introducing three new statutes designed to modernize justice delivery. According to a recent report, the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam "have already started reshaping how justice is delivered in the country." A major thrust is on training: "Over 8.61 lakh police and judicial officials have been trained under the new laws," the report states, underscoring the scale of administrative engagement with the reform. Central to the government's narrative is the architecture of a "citizen-centric, tech-enabled judicial system," which, in their view, marks a departure from archaic structures. Union Home Minister Amit Shah described the reforms as a "landmark shift" and expressed confidence that "justice will be delivered within three years," even in remote parts of the country. The report further claims that these reforms have not remained on paper: it cites that since July 2024, "35.18 lakh FIRs have been filed under the new criminal code" and that India's police infrastructure is becoming more digital — "the CCTNS network now covers over 14,000 police stations … and 22,000 courts are online." The government also points to a massive digital prosecutorial database: "the iProsecution portal holds data from 1.93 crore prosecutions across 36 States and Union Territories." Beyond digital infrastructure, procedural reforms are being backed by forensic changes. The new legal regime mandates "forensic evidence in crimes punishable with more than seven years imprisonment," while "video evidence, postmortems, and digital records are becoming standard practice." In addition, the government claims that citizen participation has been made more seamless: citizens can now file Zero FIRs and E-FIRs from anywhere. AI is being harnessed to

improve policing outcomes, with tools used to flag repeat offenders, analyze case data, and improve conviction rates. Finally, institutional accountability is being stressed: over 160 review meetings have reportedly been held just within the Home Ministry in the past year to track how the reforms are being implemented.

[*Extracted with edits from "A Year Later, New Criminal Laws Fast-Track Justice, Reshape Digital Policing" by Aishvarya Jain, July 1, 2025, NDTV*]

Q.(1) Assume a statutory amendment requires that all criminal investigations involving offences punishable with more than seven years must include mandatory forensic examination. Based on the passage, which of the following is the most accurate implication of such a rule?

(A) It would formalize a practice that is already being implemented under the new legal regime.

(B) It would contradict the present criminal law reforms.

(C) It would reduce reliance on digital evidence entirely.

(D) It would have no effect on investigative procedures.

Q.(2) A petition is filed claiming that the digitization of police records (through CCTNS and iProsecution) violates the right to privacy. Which reasoning, based solely on the passage, BEST supports the government's defence?

(A) Digitization has been introduced primarily to reduce case backlog.

(B) The passage suggests digitization is linked to transparency and modernized justice delivery.

(C) Privacy rights cannot be invoked against statutory reforms.

(D) Courts are already online, so privacy cannot be affected.

Q.(3) Suppose a legal challenge argues that introducing AI-based tools into policing creates arbitrary and unequal treatment under Article 14. Which of the following passage-based arguments most strongly weakens this claim?

(A) AI tools are used only to replace human judgment.

(B) AI tools are part of the government's attempt to create a citizen-centric system.

(C) AI tools are used to flag repeat offenders and analyze case data, indicating structured and objective application.

(D) AI is a global trend and therefore constitutionally valid.

Q.(4) Assume a new legal rule allows citizens to file E-FIRs only within their home district. Based on the passage, which constitutional challenge is MOST likely to succeed?

(A) The rule violates freedom of speech.

(B) The rule contradicts the goal of seamless citizen participation highlighted in the current reform.

(C) The rule infringes on the right to property.

(D) The rule reduces the power of the police.

Q.(5) During a PIL hearing, the petitioner argues that digitization alone cannot improve justice delivery without structural accountability. Which statement from the passage MOST directly counters this argument?

(A) The new laws mandate forensic evidence.

(B) AI tools help improve conviction rates.

(C) Over 160 review meetings have been held to track implementation, showing institutional accountability accompanies digitization.

(D) 22,000 courts are online.

PASSAGE – 2

It was argued by the petitioner that the Governor in exercise of his powers under Article 200 is required to act promptly and the absence of any prescribed time period should not be construed as allowing the Governor the liberty to act on his own free will and volition. It was also submitted that the expression "as soon as possible" appearing in the first proviso places an obligation on the Governor to act promptly and with expedience. What can be postulated from this discussion of the relevant Constituent Assembly debates is that although our constitutional makers expressed their concerns for the possibility of an undue delay in the legislative process on account of the human nature to procrastinate, yet they nevertheless proceeded to adopt the phrase "as soon as possible" in the original Article 91. This adoption and amendment of draft Article 91 reflects a sense of inherent trust reposed by the Constituent Assembly that the President would execute his functions as enshrined under Article 111 of the Constitution in a timely and efficient manner.

The expression also came to be adopted mutatis mutandis in Article 200. The experience of the working of the Constitution, more particularly, Article 200, has shown that the apprehensions expressed by some of the members of the Constituent Assembly have unfortunately proven to be prophecy. As we have discussed in the preceding paragraphs, one of the prominent grievances of the State governments as recorded by the Sarkaria Commission and Punchhi Commission reports was that the exercise of the power under Article 200 by the Governor, not being a time-bound process, leads to significant legislative delay and that certain bills are withheld in the Governor's secretariat for years.

Not taking any action on the bills for an unreasonable and prolonged period of time virtually vests the Governor with the power of pocket veto and the same cannot be held to be permissible within our constitutional scheme.

[*Extracted in parts from "State of Tamil Nadu v. The Governor of Tamil Nadu & Anr.", Supreme Court, 2025*]

Q.(6) A State introduces a Bill on agricultural reform. The Governor neither assents to it, nor withholds assent, nor returns it for reconsideration, and takes no action for four years. Based on the reasoning in the passage, which is the most appropriate conclusion?

(A) The Governor has acted within his discretionary power.

(B) Such inaction violates the constitutional spirit and amounts to an impermissible veto.

(C) The Governor is constitutionally required to reject the Bill after a reasonable period.

(D) The Bill automatically becomes law after the passage of time.

Q.(7) According to the passage, which of the following was a major concern raised by the Sarkaria and Punchhi Commission reports?

(A) Governors' unrestricted timeline under Article 200 caused legislative delays.

(B) Governors lacked the power to return Bills for reconsideration.

(C) Governors were approving Bills too hastily.

(D) State Legislatures were not passing Bills in a timely manner.

Q.(8) **Assertion (A):** Prolonged inaction by the Governor effectively amounts to a pocket veto. **Reason (R):** Because the Constitution explicitly grants the Governor the power to reject a Bill silently.

(A) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.

(B) Both A and R are true, but R is NOT the correct explanation of A.

(C) A is true but R is false.

(D) A is false but R is true.

Q.(9) Principle: Constitutional offices must exercise their powers in a manner that furthers democratic governance and does not defeat the will of the elected legislature, except where the Constitution expressly authorizes such an outcome.

Assertion (A): When a Governor withholds any action on a Bill for an unreasonably long period, this conduct is incompatible with the constitutional scheme governing assent.

Reason (R): Because the phrase "as soon as possible" in Articles 111 and 200 was adopted by the Constituent Assembly on the assumption that constitutional authorities would act responsibly, and not in a manner that stalls the legislative process.

Which of the following is correct?

(A) Both A and R are true, and R correctly explains A because the framers' intent shows that delayed action contradicts the principle of democratic functioning.

(B) Both A and R are true, but R does not correctly explain A, because the framers' trust is irrelevant to determining constitutional compliance.

(C) A is true but R is false, as the Constituent Assembly never expressed concerns about delay in executive assent.

(D) A is false but R is true, because although the framers trusted authorities, the Governor retains absolute discretion over timelines.

Q.(10) The State of Dakshin Pradesh enacts the *Tribal Forest Rights Restoration Bill, 2025*. The Bill is sent to the Governor under Article 200. The Governor neither assents to it nor reserves it for the President, nor returns it to the Legislature. Instead, the Governor records an internal note that the Bill may "require deeper reflection" and keeps it pending indefinitely.

Civil society groups file a writ petition alleging: The Governor's prolonged silence defeats the legislative mandate of the elected representatives. The framers of the Constitution, though aware of potential delays, trusted that constitutional authorities would act in good faith and did not intend to create a mechanism for stalling legislation. Allowing indefinite silence would convert Article 200 into a tool of executive obstruction, contrary to democratic norms.

The Governor argues that no judicial review is possible because the Constitution contains no express timeline for his action. Based on the principles outlined in the passage, which option represents the most appropriate constitutional analysis?

(A) Judicial review is barred because discretionary constitutional powers cannot be questioned when the Constitution is silent on timelines.

(B) Courts may intervene to prevent constitutional authorities from defeating democratic processes, since indefinite inaction contradicts the framers' trust and effectively creates an unconstitutional pocket veto.

(C) The Governor's inaction is justified because the Constituent Assembly intentionally gave Governors unlimited time to act on Bills.

(D) The absence of an express time limit automatically means that the Governor can indefinitely withhold action without violating the Constitution.

PASSAGE – 3

In the present petition, the Supreme Court pointed out that aggravated environmental pollution resulting in serious health hazards is pitted against the right to life and the right to carry on a profession; as available to the persons engaged in the firecrackers industry and their workmen. "Bursting firecrackers is an expression of the festive spirit and it enhances the mood in religious and other auspicious ceremonies, embedded in the cultural milieu of India. However, that cannot lead to a situation of causing long term or even short-term damage to health by an uncontrolled use, based only on traditions and cultural or religious norms". The Court pointed out that ban of firecrackers in the National Capital Territory of Delhi (NCTD) imposed to ensure better air quality in the NCTD, further compounded by the stubble burning in the National Capital Region (NCR) which is comprised of entire Delhi and districts in the neighboring States i.e. Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. Eventually, this firecracker ban was extended to the NCR as well. The Court noted that the manufacturers, traders and the workmen claim relaxation, especially in the context

of the advent of 'green crackers', the emission from which is far less damaging, resulting in minimal pollution and lesser gravity and intensity. It was further noted that the Government of NCTD and the Central Government are also agreeable to the relaxation but with strict compliance of the norms laid down by the Court.

The Court, however, also took note of the apprehension of situation getting out of control as expressed by the amicus curiae, Ms. Uttara Babar. The Court further took note of directions issued in Arjun Gopal v. Union of India, (2019) 13 SCC 523 and extension of firecracker ban to NCR in M.C. Mehta v. Union of India, 2024 SCC OnLine SC 4112. The Court further took note of formulation of Green Crackers by NEERI and Suggestions on permitting of firecrackers in NCR as submitted by Central Government and Government of NCTD. The Court observed that a balanced approach must be taken to by taking into account the conflicting interests and permit in moderation, while not compromising the environmental concerns arising. Therefore, following the Court's approach in Arjun Gopal (*supra*) the Court issued the afore-stated directives as a temporary and test case measure.

[*Extracted from "Supreme Court temporarily relaxes complete ban on firecrackers in NCR; Permits sale of Green Crackers from 18-10-2025 till 20-10-2025", SCC Times*]

Q.(11) The Court acknowledged that bursting firecrackers is culturally embedded and enhances the festive atmosphere, but also emphasized that traditions cannot justify actions that cause health damage. Based on this reasoning, which inference is most consistent with the Court's approach?

(A) Cultural practices may be regulated when they create a demonstrable risk to public health, even if they are longstanding and socially significant.

(B) Cultural practices must always prevail over environmental concerns because they form part of India's heritage.

(C) Only religious authorities, not courts, can restrict culturally rooted practices.

(D) Firecracker use is inherently unconstitutional regardless of its cultural context.

Q.(12) Assertion (A): The Supreme Court considered the extension of the firecracker ban to NCR to be justified.

Reason (R): The Court found that the combined effect of stubble burning and unrestricted firecracker use posed a serious threat to air quality and public health.

Choose the correct option:

(A) Both A and R are true, and R correctly explains A.

(B) Both A and R are true, but R does not correctly explain A.

(C) A is true but R is false.

(D) A is false but R is true.

Q.(13) The Court partially relied on the development of NEERI-formulated green crackers to justify limited relaxation. Which fact, if true, would most significantly undermine the basis for such relaxation?

(A) Green crackers reduce noise pollution more effectively than air pollution.

(B) Independent testing reveals that the emissions from green crackers are only marginally lower than conventional firecrackers and still exceed safe limits by a wide margin.

(C) Only a small segment of the market currently sells certified green crackers.

(D) Green crackers require more complex licensing procedures for sale.

Q.(14) A district administration in NCR decides to permit unrestricted sale and bursting of firecrackers during a major festival, relying on the argument that public sentiment and religious freedom outweigh environmental concerns. Based on the Court's reasoning in the passage, which outcome is most appropriate?

(A) The district's decision aligns with cultural freedom and must be upheld.

(B) Environmental concerns are relevant only during non-festive periods.

(C) Local authorities may override Supreme Court directions during festivals.

(D) The district's order contradicts the Court's emphasis on moderation, environmental safeguards, and adherence to prior directions such as *Arjun Gopal* and *M.C. Mehta*, and is therefore inconsistent with constitutional principles.

Q.(15) Which of the following most accurately captures the factors that led the Court to adopt a temporary, balanced, and "test-case" approach in regulating firecrackers?

(A) Sharp disagreement between the Central Government and NCTD regarding any relaxation of the ban.

(B) The existence of prior judicial directions, the development of green crackers by NEERI, the willingness of governments to follow strict norms, and the amicus curiae's concerns about potential misuse or loss of control.

(C) The firecracker industry's insistence that all forms of regulation be removed.

(D) A clear scientific consensus that green crackers pose no risk to air quality.

PASSAGE – 4

India's Supreme Court recently told authorities that children need sex education well before Class 9. A bench of Justices Sanjay Kumar and Alok Aradhe noted that adolescents should learn about puberty changes and "the care and cautions to be taken in relation thereto" at a younger age. The court made this remark in a case involving a 15-year-old accused of rape and sexual assault, granting him bail but stressing that early sex education could help prevent such offences. n the present case, vide its order dated 12-8-2025, the Court reiterated its direction to the State of Uttar Pradesh, to file an additional affidavit informing the Court as to how sex education was provided as a part of the curriculum in higher secondary schools within the State of Uttar Pradesh, so that young adolescents were made aware of the hormonal changes that come with puberty and the consequences that may flow therefrom.

Ultimately, pursuant to the said direction, an additional affidavit was filed by the Circle Officer, Sambhal, detailing the curriculum provided by the Secondary Education Department, Uttar Pradesh, for classes IX to XII, keeping with the directives of the National Council of Educational Research and Training. However, the Court opined that sex education should be provided to the children from a younger age and not from class IX onwards. The authorities concerned should apply their mind and take corrective measures, so that children are informed of the changes that happen after puberty and the care and cautions to be taken in relation thereto.

One big reason the Court is pushing for early lessons is the worrying rise in child sex crimes. Across India, teenagers are increasingly involved – not just as victims but also as perpetrators – in sexual violence. In a country that reports nearly 30,000 rapes a year (roughly one every 18 minutes)

and has the world's largest number of child brides (about 23% of young women were married before 18), the need for solid sex education is clear. To aggravate matters, a recent Kerala study found that only 3.6% of surveyed teachers could name the male or female sex organs, and over half didn't know basic things like the legal age of consent. After a teacher training initiative there, officials found many educators had never heard of the POCSO child protection law.

[*Extracted with edits from "Sex education for children must be in school curriculum from younger age; not from class IX onwards: Supreme Court.", SCC Times and "Supreme Court wants sex education early in school. But is India even ready?" by Roshni Chakraborty, India Today*]

Q.(16) The Supreme Court noted that sex education must begin earlier than Class IX. Which inference is most consistent with the Court's reasoning?

(A) Delayed sex education may leave adolescents uninformed about bodily and behavioral changes, increasing the risk of harmful or unlawful conduct.

(B) Sex education has no impact on adolescent behavior because such conduct is entirely instinctive.

(C) Sex education is unnecessary if schools already follow NCERT guidelines for Classes IX–XII.

(D) The purpose of sex education is to discourage all interaction between boys and girls.

Q.(17) Principle: State policy must protect the bodily integrity, mental health, and informed autonomy of children by ensuring they receive age-appropriate knowledge about puberty, sexuality, and personal safety at the correct developmental stage.

Facts: The State provides sex education only from Class IX onwards, even though many children experience puberty between ages 10–12. The Court observes rising sexual offences involving adolescents and poor teacher awareness about basic sexual health and child protection laws.

Which conclusion most appropriately applies the above principle?

(A) The State should revise the curriculum to introduce age-appropriate sex education before Class IX.

(B) The State's existing system is adequate because NCERT guidelines begin at Class IX.

(C) The State should discontinue sex education entirely, leaving such matters to parents.

(D) Sex education should be restricted only to teachers who have medical training.

Q.(18) Assertion (A): The Court asked the State of Uttar Pradesh to file an additional affidavit regarding sex education in schools.

Reason (R): The Court believed that existing sex education in Uttar Pradesh's curriculum sufficiently covered all necessary topics for young adolescents.

Choose the correct option:

(A) Both A and R are true, and R correctly explains A.

(B) Both A and R are true, but R does not correctly explain A.

(C) A is true but R is false.

(D) A is false but R is true.

Q.(19) Suppose a State argues that introducing sex education before Class IX will "corrupt children" and that the topic should be postponed until late adolescence. Based on the Court's reasoning in the passage, which outcome is most consistent?

(A) The State's view must prevail, since education policy is solely a State matter.

(B) The argument contradicts the Court's emphasis on early education, scientific awareness, and crime prevention, and is inconsistent with constitutional duties to protect children.

(C) The State may ignore Supreme Court directions if parents object strongly.

(D) Sex education should be removed entirely to avoid social controversy.

Q.(20) Which combination of factors best explains why the Court insists on sex education at an earlier age?

(A) Child sex crimes are declining, and teachers are well-trained in sexual health topics, so early education is optional.

(B) Rising adolescent involvement in sexual violence, extremely poor teacher knowledge, lack of awareness of laws like POCSO, and the mismatch between puberty age and the current curriculum.

(C) The Central Government has mandated a uniform national sex education syllabus starting from Class I.

(D) India's primary schools already have comprehensive biological science courses that cover sexual health.

PASSAGE – 5

Let us look at the issues which pertain to the question as to whether the requirement of minimum 3 years' practice for appearing in the examination for the post of Civil Judge (Junior Division) which was done away by this Court in Third AIJA Case requires to be restored or not. The ancillary question that is framed by us is as to how many years of experience should be prescribed for practicing before appearing in the examination of Civil Judge (Junior Division). The Law Commission of India in its 117th Report, dated 28th November 1986 titled - "Training of Judicial Officers", though recommended the fresh law graduates to enter into the judicial service, it emphasized the need for intensive training for such fresh law graduates entering into the judicial service.

The said recommendations were considered by this Court in the present proceedings in its judgment dated 24th August 1993 (hereinafter referred to as "Second AIJA Case"). This Court noted that in some of the States, the requirement of practice was altogether dispensed with, and judicial officers were recruited with only a degree in law to their credit. This Court observed that the recruitment of "raw graduates" as Judicial Officers without any training or background of lawyering has not proved to be a successful experiment. This Court further noted that from the first day of his/her assuming office, a Judge has to decide, among others, questions of life, liberty, property and reputation of the litigants. This Court further noted that to induct graduates fresh from the Universities to occupy seats of such vital powers was neither prudent nor desirable.

This Court further found that neither knowledge derived from books nor pre-service training could be an adequate substitute for the first-hand experience of the working of the court-system and the administration of justice begotten through legal practice. This Court found that the experience as a lawyer was therefore essential to enable the Judge to discharge his/her duties and functions efficiently and with confidence and circumspection. This Court, therefore, directed all the States to prescribe a minimum of three years' practice as a lawyer as an essential qualification for appointment as a Judicial Officer at the lowest rung.

[*Extracted with edits from "All India Judges Association & Ors v. Union of India & Ors.", Supreme Court, 2025*]

Q.(21) The State of X abolishes the requirement of any prior legal practice for candidates appearing in the Civil Judge (Junior Division) examination. A group of aspirants challenges this, arguing that the Constitution guarantees equal opportunity and that practice requirements discriminate against fresh graduates. Based on the Court's reasoning in the passage, which of the following is the most defensible justification the State must address to sustain its decision?

(A) A. That removing the practice requirement may lead to an influx of candidates, increasing administrative burdens.

(B) That the judiciary must reflect youth participation, and therefore fresh graduates should be encouraged.

(C) That first-hand experience with court processes is essential to judicial competence and cannot be meaningfully replaced by academic learning or training alone.

(D) That the Constitution does not permit States to prescribe qualifications in addition to a law degree.

Q.(22) Consider a scenario where a Judicial Academy proposes to introduce a two-year compulsory pre-service training programme for law graduates, arguing that this will eliminate the need for any prior bar practice. A policy committee cites the passage in support of retaining the three-year practice rule. Which of the following arguments BEST aligns with the Court's reasoning?

(A) Judicial training programmes can never replicate classroom learning.

(B) Pre-service training, however intensive, lacks the diversity and unpredictability of real litigation experience, which the Court considers necessary for sound judicial decision-making.

(C) A two-year training programme is too expensive for most States to implement.

(D) Judicial academies are meant only for in-service training, not pre-service modules.

Q.(23) Principle: Judicial officers must possess adequate experiential knowledge to ensure competent, fair, and confident decision-making in matters relating to life, liberty, and property.

Facts: Several States recruit fresh law graduates as judicial officers without requiring any prior courtroom practice. The Court observed that such recruitment has produced unsatisfactory results and lacks the necessary experiential grounding.

Applying the principle, which conclusion is most appropriate?

(A) States must require minimum legal practice before permitting candidates to appear for judicial service exams.

(B) The recruitment of fresh graduates is acceptable if they perform well in written examinations.

(C) Experiential knowledge can be fully replaced by classroom study and pre-service training.

(D) No experience is required because judicial officers learn entirely on the job.

Q.(24) Suppose a State argues that since judicial training academies now provide intensive post-selection training, no prior practice should be required. Based on the Court's reasoning, which outcome is most likely?

(A) The Court would accept the State's argument because training academies are adequate substitutes for practice.

(B) The Court would reject the argument because it considers practical exposure to real litigation indispensable and not replaceable by classroom training.

(C) The State's decision cannot be questioned by the Court as recruitment is purely an executive function.

(D) The Court would allow fresh graduates but mandate longer pre-service training.

Q.(25) Which of the following best captures the rationale behind the Court's insistence on requiring legal practice before judicial service?

(A) Judges must be older and more mature before entering service.

(B) Judicial officers must have firsthand knowledge of courtroom functioning, as written knowledge and pre-service training alone cannot prepare them to handle cases affecting life, liberty, and property.

(C) Legal education in India is outdated and requires candidates to obtain additional qualifications.

(D) The Court seeks to reduce the number of candidates appearing for judicial service exams.

PASSAGE – 6

The offence under Section 196 is attracted when the words, either spoken or written, or by signs or visible representations, promote enmity between different groups, on the grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence, language, caste or, community or any other ground. The offence will be attracted when the words either spoken or written, or signs or visible representation, promote or attempt to promote disharmony or feelings of enmity, hatred or ill-will between different religious, racial, language or regional groups or castes or communities. On a plain reading of the poem, we find that the same has nothing to do with any religion, caste, community or any particular group. The poem's words do not bring about or promote disharmony or feelings of hatred or ill-will. It only seeks to challenge the injustice made by the ruler. It is impossible to say that the words used by the appellant disturb or are likely to disturb public tranquility. Therefore, neither clause (a) nor clause (b) of Section 196 (1) are attracted. There is no allegation against the appellant of organizing any exercise, movement, drill or similar activity. There is no allegation against the appellant that he uttered the words in any place of worship or in any assembly engaged in the performance of religious worship or religious ceremonies. Hence, clause (c) will have no application. The appellant has put a video of a mass marriage function, and in the background, the words are uttered. Therefore, Section 196 can have no application.

To say the least, it is ridiculous to say that the act of the appellant is intended to outrage the religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs. The poem only tells the rulers what the reaction will be if the fight for rights is met with injustice. Literature including poetry, dramas, films, stage shows, satire and art, make the life of human beings more meaningful. The Courts are duty-bound to uphold and enforce fundamental rights guaranteed under the Constitution of India. Sometimes, we, the Judges, may not like spoken or written words. But, still, it is our duty to uphold the fundamental right under Article 19 (1)(a). We Judges are also under an obligation to uphold the Constitution and respect its ideals. If the police or executive fail to honour and protect the fundamental rights guaranteed under Article 19 (1)(a) of the Constitution, it is the duty of the Courts to step in and protect the fundamental rights. There is no other institution which can uphold the fundamental rights of the citizens. Courts, particularly the constitutional Courts, must be at the forefront to zealously protect the fundamental rights of the citizens.

[*Extracted with edits from "Imran Pratapgarhi v. State of Gujarat & Another, Supreme Court 2025*]

Q.(26) From the Court's interpretation of the poem, which of the following inferences is most consistent with the judicial reasoning?

(A) A. Criticism of governmental injustice cannot, by itself, constitute an offence under Section 196 unless it targets a protected group.

(B) Any poem that challenges the State must be presumed to disturb public tranquility.

(C) Artistic expression is exempt from all criminal liability, irrespective of its content.

(D) Courts must defer to police assessments regarding potential disturbance of public order.

Q.(27) Principle: An offence under Section 196 is attracted only when the impugned words promote enmity, hatred, or ill-will between identifiable groups based on religion, race, caste, community, language, region, etc.

Facts: In a country, the entire government is controlled by a religion X. A poet in that country releases a song criticizing rising unemployment and governmental corruption, without reference to any community.

Which of the following is correct?

(A) The poet is criminally liable because political criticism undermines national stability.

(B) Section 196 applies because the song could anger supporters of the ruling party.

(C) Section 196 does not apply because the criticism does not target a protected group or promote inter-group hatred.

(D) Liability depends only on whether the poem is widely shared online.

Q.(28) Assertion (A): Courts must intervene when the executive fails to protect Article 19(1)(a) rights.

Reason (R): The Constitution places the ultimate responsibility of protecting fundamental rights on constitutional courts, not on the executive.

Choose the correct option:

(A) A and R are both true, and R correctly explains A.

(B) A and R are both true, but R does not explain A.

(C) A is true but R is false.

(D) A is false but R is true.

Q.(29) Suppose a similar poem is recited at a political rally where a speaker also announces that members of a particular caste are "enemies of justice" and must be resisted. How would the Court's reasoning in the passage apply?

(A) The entire event, including the poem, would attract Section 196 because the poem contains political criticism.

(B) Both would be criminally liable because political rallies are inherently provocative.

(C) Both the poem and the caste remarks are protected because rallies are forums for free expression under Article 19(1)(a).

(D) The poem alone remains protected, but the caste-targeting remarks may attract Section 196 since they promote hatred between groups.

Q.(30) Which principle of constitutional law is most clearly reaffirmed in the Court's observations regarding Article 19(1)(a)?

(A) Freedom of speech may be restricted whenever the State disagrees with the content.

(B) Fundamental rights must yield to administrative convenience.

(C) Police authorities have primary responsibility for interpreting constitutional limits on speech.

(D) Courts serve as the ultimate guardians of fundamental rights and must intervene to protect free expression even if the speech is unpopular.

SAMPLE PAPER: LOGICAL REASONING

Note: This sample question paper has been prepared *for practice and illustrative purposes only* and is not an official examination paper issued by the Consortium of National Law Universities. The format, structure, difficulty level, distribution of questions, and subject-matter content in this sample paper are merely indicative and are not intended to predict, replicate, or guarantee the pattern of the actual CLAT examination. Use of this sample paper is strictly voluntary and for academic practice only.

PASSAGE – 1

Across major Indian cities, the "night-time economy" has emerged as a potential engine of urban growth. Proponents argue that extending operational hours for restaurants, pharmacies, entertainment hubs, and essential services could generate employment, diversify economic activity, and reduce congestion during daytime peaks. They point to global examples—such as London's Night Czar or Amsterdam's regulated late-night zones—to claim that structured after-hours business stimulates tourism and improves public convenience.

Yet the Indian context presents a different set of challenges. Urban governance in India already struggles with understaffed police forces, unpredictable traffic flows, and limited last-mile connectivity. Critics warn that expanding night-time operations without first strengthening civic infrastructure will exacerbate vulnerabilities—particularly for women's safety and labor exploitation. The issue is further complicated by the informal nature of a large portion of India's service sector, where compliance with labor laws remains inconsistent at best.

Cities also face a societal dilemma: extending operational hours might conflict with residential expectations of quiet neighborhoods. Many Indian urban zones lack clear separation between commercial and residential spaces, leading to concerns over noise pollution and public disorder. While some state governments have piloted limited 24×7 operation permissions, these attempts have produced mixed outcomes, with businesses thriving in certain districts but failing in others due to weak transportation links or low consumer footfall at night.

Thus, the debate reflects a deeper tension between economic aspiration and governance capacity. Advocates view the night-time economy as a symbol of modern urban lifestyles, while sceptics

caution that premature expansion could widen existing inequalities in safety, access, and public services. The question for policymakers is not simply whether cities should stay awake longer, but whether they are prepared to manage what comes alive after dark.

Q.(1) Which of the following, if true, would MOST strengthen the argument against expanding the night-time economy?

(A) A study finds that cities with 24×7 operations generate higher tourism revenue.

(B) Surveys indicate that public transport usage drops drastically after 10 PM.

(C) Major cities report improved policing efficiency during late hours.

(D) Businesses show strong willingness to adopt flexible labor policies.

Q.(2) Which of the following can be logically inferred?

(A) Indian cities have already established clear zoning between residential and commercial areas.

(B) Expansion of night-time operations is universally successful when tried.

(C) Weak civic infrastructure may limit the effectiveness of night-time economic policies.

(D) All Indian states support 24×7 business operations.

Q.(3) For advocates promoting a night-time economy, which assumption is implicit?

(A) Citizens prefer to stay indoors after sunset.

(B) Infrastructure challenges can be resolved or managed effectively.

(C) All businesses benefit equally from extended operating hours.

(D) Policing is unnecessary during night-time hours.

Q.(4) The passage lists which of the following as a potential economic benefit of extending operational hours in cities?

(A) Lower municipal taxes.

(B) Generating employment.

(C) Eliminating informal labor.

(D) Reducing the need for public transport

Q.(5) Which governance challenge in India is mentioned in the passage as complicating a night-time economy?

(A) Overstaffed police forces.

(B) Predictable traffic flows.

(C) Understaffed police forces.

(D) High last-mile connectivity

Q.(6) According to the passage, pilot permissions for 24×7 operations failed in some districts mainly because of:

(A) Weak transportation links.

(B) Excess consumer footfall at night.

(C) Over-compliance with labor laws.

(D) Clear separation between commercial and residential zones

PASSAGE – 2

In recent years, Indian educational boards and private institutions have debated whether mythological narratives should be integrated more formally into values-based learning. Proponents argue that epics such as the Mahabharata and the Ramayana offer rich ethical dilemmas – loyalty versus duty, personal vows versus social justice, or divine will versus human agency – that remain relevant today. They contend that mythology provides a cultural anchor, enabling students to contextualize moral questions within familiar stories rather than abstract philosophical frameworks.

However, critics caution against uncritical use of mythological material. They argue that these texts, composed across centuries, contain contestable interpretations and hierarchical social norms that could inadvertently reinforce biases. The multiplicity of regional versions—each differing in portrayal of characters, motives, and outcomes—further complicates attempts to teach a single moral message. Moreover, the risk of political appropriation looms large: selective retellings might privilege certain identities while marginalizing others.

Another concern lies in pedagogy. Young learners might absorb mythological events as historical fact rather than symbolic narrative unless teachers emphasize interpretive reading. This could blur the line between cultural literacy and doctrinal belief. Critics stress the need for comparative

perspectives, where mythology is taught alongside modern ethical case studies, constitutional values, and global literature.

Consequently, the debate is not about mythology's relevance but about the frameworks through which it is taught. Should mythology be treated as an ethical laboratory or as a cultural artifact? Should schools promote a unified moral lens or foreground interpretive diversity? Until educators reconcile these questions, the integration of mythology into moral curriculum will remain intellectually promising but operationally contentious.

Q.(7) According to the passage, what do supporters of integrating mythology into values-based learning believe it helps students achieve?

(A) Memorize chronological historical events.

(B) Avoid dealing with ethical dilemmas.

(C) Replace philosophical reasoning entirely.

(D) Understand moral questions through familiar stories.

Q.(8) Which of the following is cited as a concern regarding different versions of mythological texts?

(A) They lack any ethical dilemmas.

(B) They make it easier to teach a unified moral message.

(C) They differ in characters, motives, and outcomes.

(D) They have only one accepted interpretation

Q.(9) What risk does the passage mention regarding how young learners might interpret mythology?

(A) They might reject the stories entirely.

(B) They might avoid engaging with cultural narratives.

(C) They may compare mythology only with global literature.

(D) They may view mythological events as literal history.

Q.(10) Which of the following is a flaw in the reasoning of proponents?

(A) They assume all students interpret mythological stories uniformly.
(B) They acknowledge that mythology has multiple versions.
(C) They accept that myths contain symbolic elements.
(D) They require mythology to be compared with global texts.

Q.(11) Which statement would most weaken the argument for integrating mythology?
(A) Studies show students often treat mythological narratives as literal truth.
(B) Teachers regularly conduct discussions on ethics.
(C) Students already learn history and literature.
(D) Epics are popular reading material among teenagers.

Q.(12) Which finding presents a paradox in the context of the passage?
(A) Students find ancient stories irrelevant.
(B) Teachers prefer digital content over printed books.
(C) Schools lack time to add new subjects.
(D) Students report liking mythological stories but oppose including them in exams.

PASSAGE – 3

Modern warfare is undergoing a radical transformation as artificial intelligence (AI) and autonomous drones increasingly determine the speed, precision, and scale of armed conflict. Unlike traditional weapon systems, autonomous drones can identify, track, and strike targets with minimal human intervention, allowing militaries to respond in seconds rather than minutes. This acceleration, while tactically advantageous, introduces the risk of unintended escalation—machines may misinterpret data, triggering retaliatory actions before human diplomats can intervene. Several global military analysts warn that conflicts involving AI-powered systems could spiral faster than any in human history.

The integration of AI has also blurred the line between combatant and non-combatant. Swarm drones, capable of coordinating without central control, can overwhelm traditional defenses, making it difficult to distinguish military targets from civilian infrastructure when the two are spatially interlinked. Critics argue that delegating life-and-death decisions to algorithms

undermines the ethical architecture built into international humanitarian law, which was designed around human judgement, intent, and accountability.

Despite these concerns, nations continue to invest heavily in AI-driven warfare technologies. The rationale is twofold: first, to avoid strategic vulnerability in a world where adversaries are rapidly advancing their own AI capabilities; and second, to minimize human casualties among their own troops. Yet this creates a security paradox. The more states adopt autonomous systems for protection, the more they may inadvertently reduce incentives for negotiation, believing technological superiority offers safety. Ironically, such confidence can embolden pre-emptive strikes and lower the threshold for conflict initiation.

Moreover, the global regulatory vacuum intensifies instability. Attempts by international bodies to develop norms for autonomous weapons have stalled due to disagreements over definitions, verification mechanisms, and national security concerns. Until consensus emerges, nations will continue moving toward increasingly automated warfare, even though the long-term consequences remain uncertain. In essence, AI has not only changed how wars are fought, but also why and when they begin, shifting the calculus of conflict in unpredictable ways.

Q.(13) Which cause – effect relationship is highlighted?

(A) AI reduces casualties, so countries stop developing it.

(B) Fear of adversarial AI advancements accelerates domestic AI weapons development.

(C) Slower drones allow more diplomatic negotiation.

(D) AI systems are flawless, so militaries rely entirely on them.

Q.(14) Which can be logically inferred?

(A) Future wars will definitely exclude humans.

(B) International law has already adapted to regulate AI weapons.

(C) Lack of global consensus increases the risk of conflict escalation.

(D) Autonomous drones always improve ethical decisions.

Q.(15) Assertion (A): AI-driven warfare may lower the threshold for initiating conflict.

Reason (R): Nations may feel emboldened by technological superiority and believe pre-emptive strikes are safer.

(A) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.

(B) Both A and R are true, but R is NOT the correct explanation of A.

(C) A is true, but R is false.

(D) A is false, but R is true.

Instructions: Q.16 – Q.18: please read the respective paragraph and answer the questions.

Q.(16) A policy think-tank recently released a report arguing that India should rapidly expand its high-speed rail network, claiming that such expansion will necessarily lead to *long-term economic productivity*, primarily because "countries with robust high-speed rail systems tend to have higher regional connectivity and therefore greater economic output." The report cites examples from Japan, France, and China, but does not address whether similar socioeconomic, demographic, or governance conditions exist in India. Critics argue that the report commits a form of correlation fallacy by assuming that the presence of high-speed rail is the primary driver of prosperity rather than a consequence of pre-existing economic strength.

Which of the following would be MOST useful to evaluate the credibility of the report's conclusion?

(A) Data showing whether high-speed rail in other countries became profitable within the first decade of operation.

(B) Evidence indicating whether regions in India lacking strong economic bases would actually benefit from high-speed rail connectivity or whether such projects would remain underutilized.

(C) Public surveys showing whether citizens prefer high-speed trains over conventional trains.

(D) The cost comparison between building highways and high-speed rail lines.

Q.(17) A national education commission has stated that the school curriculum must reduce academic pressure on students, claiming that excessive workload is harming mental health. Yet, in the same policy draft, the commission simultaneously advocates introducing *mandatory nationwide monthly competitive assessments* to "foster disciplined academic ambition" and "ensure uniform benchmarking of student performance across states." The draft further suggests that the assessments should carry "significant weightage" in internal grading to create incentives for continuous study.

Which of the following best exposes the logical inconsistency in the commission's recommendations?

(A) Competitive assessments require substantial administrative funds.

(B) The commission cannot simultaneously seek to reduce pressure while mandating high-stakes monthly exams that inherently increase academic stress.

(C) Some schools lack the infrastructure to conduct monthly assessments.

(D) Students often dislike frequent examinations.

Q.(18) A government audit reveals that a drought-prone region has been experiencing severe groundwater depletion due to a combination of unregulated borewells, water-intensive crop patterns, and inefficient irrigation practices. The report warns that without immediate structural reforms, the region may face irreversible aquifer collapse within a decade. Local communities argue that banning borewells would harm farmers' livelihoods, while environmental experts insist that failure to intervene now will lead to catastrophic long-term consequences. Policymakers must act quickly but also consider social acceptability.

Which of the following is the MOST appropriate course of action?

(A) Immediately shut down all borewells without consultation to enforce strict conservation.

(B) Introduce a regulated permit-based borewell system combined with incentives for drip irrigation and mandatory shifts toward less water-intensive crops.

(C) Allow unrestricted borewell drilling until alternative water sources are discovered.

(D) Delay reforms and appoint another committee to study the issue for the next two years.

PASSAGE – 5

Eight friends — P, Q, R, S, T, U, V and W — are seated around a circular table facing the center. Carefully read the statements below; they describe their relative positions. Use only the information given to answer the seven questions that follow.

Rules / Clues

- Q sits immediately to the left of P.
- R sits between Q and S. (i.e., R is adjacent to both Q and S)
- T sits opposite P.
- U sits third to the left of R.

- V sits immediate right of W.

(Left and right are determined from each person's point of view while facing the center.)

Q.(19) Who sits exactly opposite R?

(A) Q

(B) V

(C) P

(D) U

Q.(20) Which of the following is TRUE?

(A) P and S are adjacent.

(B) There is exactly one person between Q and T when counted clockwise.

(C) V sits immediately to the left of W.

(D) T sits second to the left of R.

Q.(21) Who sits immediately to the right of P?

(A) Q

(B) W

(C) R

(D) V

Q.(22) How many people sit between S and T when counted clockwise from S?

(A) One

(B) Two

(C) Three

(D) Zero

Q.(23) Which pair sits as immediate neighbors of R?

(A) Q and P

(B) Q and S

(C) S and T

(D) T and U

Q.(24) If we list the people in clockwise order starting from P, which of the following sequences is correct?

(A) P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W

(B) P, W, V, U, T, S, R, Q

(C) P, Q, W, V, U, T, S, R

(D) P, R, Q, S, T, U, V, W

Q.(25) Which of the following is not a direct consequence of the clues?

(A) T is opposite P.

(B) V is immediately to the right of W.

(C) S is adjacent to P.

(D) Exactly two people sit between V and Q when counted clockwise.

English Language | MCQs | Answer Key

Q. No.	Answer	Explanation
(1)	C	The author repeatedly indicates that AI may be useful in routine, low-stakes matters but should not influence decisions affecting fundamental rights. This directly supports the idea that AI can assist only in non-rights-implicating decisions, making option C correct. Option A is rejected because the author does not predict inevitable replacement of judges. Option B is eliminated because the passage never advocates banning AI. Option D is incorrect because the author never endorses full integration.
(2)	B	The author argues that defendants have a constitutional right to a reasoned judgment and questions whether this can be met without transparent explanations from AI systems. Thus, the argument assumes that transparency is central to procedural fairness, matching option B. Option A is wrong because the passage never accuses developers of intentional concealment. Option C is incorrect because the author acknowledges AI's usefulness in limited domains. Option D is eliminated because the passage does not claim that AI cannot be improved.
(3)	B	The passage explicitly states that when an AI tool recommends a legal decision, it becomes unclear whether responsibility lies with the developer, judge, or state, showing accountability confusion—making B correct. Option A is not mentioned, option C is irrelevant because it concerns human judges, and option D is never claimed.
(4)	C	The passage ends by framing a debate about balancing efficiency with rights. The most logical continuation would be real examples of jurisdictions creating safeguards, which is option C. Options A and B are unrelated to the theme of legal legitimacy. Option D is too technical and breaks the argumentative flow.
(5)	D	The author weighs benefits and dangers of AI, demonstrating a cautious and analytical tone—option D. Option A is wrong because the tone is serious, not humorous. Option B is rejected because the author is not optimistic. Option C is incorrect because the tone is not detached.
(6)	C	Moral compartmentalization allows people to suspend ethical concern in selective situations to preserve familiar habits, fitting option C. Option A is incorrect because it does not allow ignoring the law. Option B is rejected because it does not promote full ethical adherence. Option D is wrong because it does not enhance reasoning over desire.

Q. No.	Answer	Explanation
(7)	C	"Adjudicating" refers to judging or making a legal decision, so option C is correct. Option A (debating), option B (ignoring), and option D (arguing) do not capture the legal decision-making meaning.
(8)	D	The passage states that law converts moral intuitions into enforceable boundaries, even when morality is ambiguous—this matches option D. Option A is incorrect because law is based on principles, not sentiment. Option B is wrong because law does consider ethics and culture. Option C is eliminated because law does not always allow full autonomy.
(9)	C	Kant argued that ethical judgment must master desire, making option C correct. Hume (option B) emphasized sentiment, not reason over desire. Dworkin (option A) focused on legal principles, and Schweitzer (option D) emphasized reverence for life, not desire vs reason.
(10)	C	The false statement is option C because judges do not always rely on personal intuition; they follow legal principles. Options A, B, and D are supported by the passage.
(11)	A	The passage states that imagined realities and shared myths allowed large numbers of strangers to cooperate, making option A correct. Option B is rejected because hierarchy is not presented as the enabler. Options C and D are mentioned but not described as enabling large-scale cooperation.
(12)	C	"Egalitarian" means equality-based, matching option C. Option A and B imply hierarchy, while option D concerns genetics, which is irrelevant.
(13)	A	The passage explains that dramatic behavioral change in animals requires genetic mutation, making option A correct. Option B is wrong because myths are not the issue. Option C is incorrect because animals do respond to environmental stimuli. Option D is irrelevant.
(14)	A	Homo erectus' tools remained unchanged because no new genetic mutations occurred, which is option A. Options B and D are not linked to tool stasis, and option C is wrong since imagination is not cited as the reason.
(15)	C	The incorrect statement is option C, which falsely claims bonobos live in hierarchical alpha-male groups; the passage states the opposite. Options A, B, and D are true.

Q. No.	Answer	Explanation
(16)	D	India aimed to give voice to the Global South, which aligns with option D. Options A, B, and C contradict the passage.
(17)	B	"Exceptional responsibility" refers to a special duty taken up by India, making option B correct. Option A and D are too weak, and C is irrelevant.
(18)	A	India's approach emphasized listening, dialogue, and bridging divides—option A. Option B contradicts the passage. Option C is incorrect, and option D is the opposite of what is stated.
(19)	A	Admitting the African Union reflects efforts to modernize representation, making option A correct. The other options are contradicted or irrelevant.
(20)	C	The only statement that cannot be inferred is option C, because the passage shows the summit actively addressed Global South concerns. Options A, B, and D can be inferred.
(21)	D	Targeting civilians violates just-war principles, making option D the exception. Options A, B, and C are explicitly listed as legitimate conditions.
(22)	A	"Perish" means to die, which matches option A. The other options do not fit the context.
(23)	D	Preventing another world war required new institutions and treaties, matching option D. Options A, B, and C contradict or miss the passage's reasoning.
(24)	A	The passage states that human destructive capacity led societies to create institutions for peace, matching option A. The other options contradict the text.
(25)	B	The false statement is option B, because the passage explicitly says that "just war" principles were rarely observed. Options A, C, and D are true according to the passage.

Legal Reasoning | MCQs | Answer Key

Q. No.	Answer	Explanation
(1)	A	The passage clearly states that the "new legal regime mandates forensic evidence in crimes punishable with more than seven years' imprisonment." Therefore, if a statutory amendment were introduced to require mandatory forensic examination for such offences, it would simply formalize what is already part of current practice. The measure is not new, not contradictory, and not irrelevant – It aligns perfectly with the reforms already implemented, making option A the most accurate inference.
(2)	B	The passage emphasizes that digitization—through CCTNS, online courts, and the iProsecution portal—is part of a vision for a "citizen-centric, tech-enabled judicial system." This suggests that the purpose of digitization is enhancing transparency, accessibility, and efficiency. These goals generally support, rather than undermine, constitutional legitimacy. Therefore, the government could rely on the argument that digitization promotes transparency and modernizes justice delivery. Options A and D are not linked to privacy concerns, and C is legally inaccurate because privacy rights can indeed be invoked. Thus, B is the best defensive reasoning.
(3)	C	The petitioner claims that AI-based policing results in arbitrary or unequal treatment. The passage counters this by describing AI tools as being used to "flag repeat offenders, analyse case data, and improve conviction rates." These functions imply structured, pattern-based, data-driven use rather than arbitrary discretion. The fact that AI analyses repeat-offender patterns and case-level data suggests a more objective and uniform approach compared to inconsistent human decision-making. Option B merely states a general policy vision, while A is incorrect because the passage does not claim AI replaces human judgment. Therefore, **C** most effectively weakens the Article 14 challenge.
(4)	B	The passage explicitly notes that reforms have made citizen participation "more seamless" and highlights that citizens may now file Zero FIRs and E-FIRs "from anywhere." A rule restricting filing of E-FIRs only to one's home district directly contradicts this policy objective and weakens access to justice. While this is not a fundamental right by itself, it could be challenged as arbitrary or regressive relative to the reform's intended purpose of broader accessibility. Options A and C are unrelated to the facts, and D mischaracterizes the legal issue. Therefore, **B** is the strongest constitutional challenge based on the passage.

Q. No.	Answer	Explanation
(5)	C	The petitioner claims digitization alone cannot reform justice delivery without accountability mechanisms. The passage shows that digitization is not occurring in isolation: "over 160 review meetings have been held within the Home Ministry… to track how the reforms are being implemented." This demonstrates active institutional monitoring and oversight, directly addressing concerns about accountability. This makes option **C** the most appropriate counterargument. Options A, B, and D relate to enhancements in evidence and infrastructure but do not speak to accountability, which is the core issue raised in the PIL.
(6)	B	In the scenario, the Governor keeps a Bill pending for four years without exercising any of the constitutionally recognised courses of action. The passage emphasises that the framers trusted constitutional authorities to act "as soon as possible," and commissions like Sarkaria and Punchhi criticised Governors who withheld Bills for "years," resulting in significant legislative delay. This mirrors the hypothetical case almost exactly. The passage further clarifies that such unreasonable and prolonged inaction effectively results in a *pocket veto*, a power not contemplated in the constitutional scheme. Therefore, the Governor's inaction is incompatible with the constitutional expectation of timely decision-making and violates democratic functioning. Therefore, B is the best answer.
(7)	A	The passage explicitly notes that both the Sarkaria Commission and the Punchhi Commission identified a persistent grievance of State governments—namely that the absence of time limits under Article 200 had allowed Governors to indefinitely withhold Bills, causing "significant legislative delay," with some Bills "withheld in the Governor's secretariat for years." This is precisely what option A describes. None of the other options are supported by the text: there is no suggestion of hasty approvals, lack of returning powers, or delays by the Legislatures themselves. Option A therefore correctly aligns with the factual content of the passage.
(8)	C	The passage clearly states that prolonged inaction by the Governor "virtually vests the Governor with the power of a pocket veto," which means the *Assertion* is correct: extended silence effectively negates the legislative will. However, the *Reason* is demonstrably false because the Constitution never "explicitly grants the Governor the power to reject a Bill silently." The text of Article 200 contains no equivalent to an American-style pocket veto. Instead, the power is limited to assent, withholding assent, or returning the Bill. Thus, while the phenomenon of inaction may *amount* to a pocket veto in practice, such a power is not constitutionally conferred. Therefore, A is correct, R is false, making option C the correct response.

Q. No.	Answer	Explanation
(9)	A	The *Principle* states that constitutional authorities must exercise power in a manner that furthers democratic governance. The *Assertion* claims that long periods of gubernatorial silence are incompatible with the constitutional scheme. This proposition finds direct support in the passage's observation that such silence effectively allows the Governor to exercise a pocket veto—an action the Constitution does not authorize. The *Reason* grounds this conclusion in constitutional history: the Constituent Assembly adopted the phrase "as soon as possible" because it trusted that constitutional authorities would act responsibly and not frustrate legislative processes. These debates underscore the framers' intention that assent should be marked by *promptitude,* not delay. Thus, the Reason not only is true but also supplies the correct constitutional context that explains why indefinite inaction violates the constitutional scheme. Both A and R align with the passage, and R explains A, making option A the correct answer.
(10)	B	In the case, the Governor does not act on a Bill at all, keeping it pending without assent, return, or reservation. The passage emphasizes that although the framers were aware of the possibility of procrastination, they nevertheless chose to rely upon constitutional authorities to act expeditiously under the phrase "as soon as possible." The subsequent experience recorded by constitutional commissions demonstrates that prolonged inaction has, in practice, turned into a tool for stalling legislation—effectively a pocket veto, which the Constitution nowhere contemplates. The Governor's argument that silence is justified because the Constitution provides no timelines is inconsistent with the core constitutional expectation of responsible and timely discharge of duties. The absence of an express time limit cannot be interpreted as a license to defeat democratically enacted legislation. In such circumstances, courts may exercise judicial review to prevent constitutional authorities from actions—or inactions—that undermine democratic governance.
(11)	A	The Court expressly recognized that firecrackers form part of India's cultural traditions but held that tradition cannot justify health-damaging practices. This supports the inference that cultural activities may be regulated when they pose demonstrable risks to public health. Options B and C contradict the Court's reasoning, and D is incorrect because the Court did *not* declare all firecracker use unconstitutional—only *uncontrolled* use was considered harmful.

Q. No.	Answer	Explanation
(12)	A	The Court upheld the extension of the ban to NCR because of seriously aggravated pollution conditions, especially during winter months when stubble burning combines with firecracker emissions, producing a hazardous air-quality scenario. The Reason therefore directly explains *why* the Court found the ban justified, making option A correct.
(13)	B	If independent testing shows that green crackers reduce emissions only marginally and still exceed safe limits, then the Court's reliance on them as a basis for partial relaxation becomes severely undermined. This fact would directly challenge the assumption that green crackers provide a safer alternative. Options A, C, and D do not negate the core justification for limited relaxation.
(14)	D	The Court's reasoning stresses moderation, strict norms, and consistent compliance with earlier decisions such as *Arjun Gopal* and *M.C. Mehta*. Allowing unrestricted firecracker use contradicts these principles and violates binding Supreme Court directions. Options A and C are legally untenable, and B ignores the Court's repeated emphasis on health hazards precisely during festive periods.
(15)	B	The Court adopted a temporary and test-case approach because: • earlier judgments (Arjun Gopal; M.C. Mehta) had already framed regulatory principles, • NEERI had developed green crackers, • both the Central and NCTD governments were willing to comply with strict norms, and • the amicus warned of potential loss of control if relaxation was too wide. These combined factors led the Court to exercise calibrated restraint. Options A, C, and D misrepresent the circumstances or oversimplify the scientific context.
(16)	A	The Court explicitly noted that waiting until Class IX is too late because adolescents experience puberty earlier, and lack of information may contribute to harmful or unlawful behavior. Option A flows directly from this reasoning. Options B, C, and D contradict the Court's view that sex education is necessary, preventive, and aimed at promoting informed awareness, not restriction or moral policing.

Q. No.	Answer	Explanation
(17)	A	The principle requires the State to give children age-appropriate knowledge at the correct developmental stage to protect their bodily integrity and safety. Since puberty often begins before Class IX and sexual offences involving adolescents are rising, the logical application of the principle is revising the curriculum to start earlier. Options B and C contradict the principle, while D is too narrow and unsupported by the facts.
(18)	C	The Court *did* ask Uttar Pradesh to file an affidavit about how sex education is taught (Assertion is true). However, the Court *did not* believe the existing curriculum was adequate. In fact, it held the opposite – that starting at Class IX is insufficient and requires corrective measures (Reason is false). Thus, C is correct.
(19)	B	The Court stresses: • children experience puberty earlier than Class IX, • misinformation leads to harm, • rising adolescent sexual violence is a major concern, • constitutional duties require protecting children through education. Therefore, a State argument that early sex education "corrupts children" contradicts the Court's reasoning and constitutional obligations. Options A and C are legally incorrect, and D contradicts the Court's approach entirely.
(20)	B	The Court's insistence on early sex education is based on: • rising adolescent involvement in sexual offences, • dangerously poor teacher knowledge, • ignorance of basic anatomy and the POCSO Act, • the gap between puberty age and the curriculum starting at Class IX. Option B captures all these factors accurately. Options A, C, and D contradict the passage or include invented facts.
(21)	C	The passage repeatedly stresses that real courtroom experience is indispensable. The Court held that neither book knowledge nor pre-service training can substitute for the "first-hand experience of the working of the court-system". Therefore, if a State removes the practice requirement, the central issue it must address is the Court's concern that such experience is essential for judicial competence. Options A and B are policy-oriented but not derived from the Court's reasoning. Option D is incorrect because the Court clearly permits States to prescribe additional qualifications like practice requirements.

Q. No.	Answer	Explanation
(22)	B	The Court explicitly held that experience gained as a lawyer provides exposure that cannot be replaced by pre-service training. The passage states that no training or book learning is an adequate substitute for practical experience. Thus, the argument that a training programme still fails to simulate the unpredictability and complexity of real litigation aligns best with the Court's view. Option A is irrelevant. Option C is not mentioned in the passage. Option D is factually incorrect – the Court does not limit academies' functions.
(23)	A	The Court said that recruiting "raw graduates" without experience had not been a successful experiment. They lacked exposure to real practice and were unprepared to handle serious matters. Therefore, the problem was their inadequate practical grounding, not age, academic quality, or training capacity.
(24)	B	The Court insisted that book knowledge and pre-service training are not adequate substitutes for real legal practice. Practical court experience, according to the Court, equips judges with confidence, circumspection, and understanding of judicial functioning. Thus, experience is required because it provides what theoretical study cannot.
(25)	B	The Court's rationale is that theoretical knowledge and pre-service training are insufficient for a new judge to competently handle matters that immediately involve life, liberty, and property. The passage repeatedly stresses that firsthand experience of courtroom practice is essential, and that appointing "raw graduates" without such exposure has not worked in the past. Therefore, the requirement of legal practice exists to ensure judicial officers understand real courtroom functioning before assuming judicial authority, which best matches Option B.
(26)	A	The Court emphasized that Section 196 is attracted only when the impugned expression promotes enmity or hatred between identifiable groups. Since the poem merely criticized injustice by rulers and did not target any religion, caste, or community, the Court held that political or social criticism alone cannot amount to an offence. Therefore, the correct inference is that criticism of government action does not trigger Section 196 unless it promotes inter-group hostility, making A the most consistent option.
(27)	C	The principle limits Section 196 to speech that promotes enmity between protected groups. The fact scenario clearly involves criticism of governance

Q. No.	Answer	Explanation
		issues without any reference to such groups. Therefore, such speech does not fall within the statutory mischief of Section 196. Options suggesting liability merely because the speech is political or widely shared misunderstand the statute's scope. Hence, C correctly applies the principle.
(28)	A	The passage states that when the executive or police fail to uphold the fundamental right to free expression under Article 19(1)(a), the Courts—particularly constitutional courts—are duty-bound to intervene. This reflects the constitutional position that courts are the ultimate protectors of fundamental rights. Thus, both the assertion and reason are true, and the reason directly explains why courts must step in. Therefore, A is correct.
(29)	D	The Court's reasoning protects the poem because it does not target any group. However, in the hypothetical scenario, the caste-based remarks explicitly brand a community as "enemies," which directly triggers Section 196 as they promote hatred between groups. The poem remains protected; the inflammatory caste remark does not. Therefore, D applies the Court's reasoning accurately.
(30)	D	The passage strongly reaffirms that courts are the ultimate guardians of free speech and must protect Article 19(1)(a) even when speech is uncomfortable, unpopular, or disliked by judges themselves. It rejects the idea that executive convenience or police sensitivity can override free expression. This directly corresponds with D, which best captures the constitutional principle reaffirmed by the Court.

Logical Reasoning | MCQs | Answer Key

Q. No.	Answer	Explanation
(1)	B	The critics' argument is that Indian cities lack the necessary infrastructure – particularly transport, policing capacity, safety systems, and predictable mobility – to support a night-time economy. Option B, which states that *public transport usage drops drastically after 10 PM*, directly strengthens this concern because it shows that citizens cannot reliably move around at night, worsening safety and access problems.
(2)	C	The passage repeatedly highlights infrastructure gaps—weak policing, poor connectivity, informal labour, noise concerns—indicating that weak civic infrastructure could limit night-time economy effectiveness. That is exactly what C states.
(3)	B	Advocates assume that extending hours will work, which is only possible if infrastructure challenges can be resolved – that is the assumption in B. A contradicts advocates; they assume people will go out and benefit. C is false; the passage itself says outcomes vary; advocates never assume equal benefit. D is absurd: policing is obviously needed at night; advocates don't assume otherwise.
(4)	B	The passage explicitly says extending hours "could generate employment, diversify economic activity, and reduce congestion…".
(5)	C	The passage notes "urban governance in India already struggles with understaffed police forces… and limited last-mile connectivity."
(6)	A	The passage states pilots produced "mixed outcomes… failing in others due to weak transportation links or low consumer footfall at night." (A is directly mentioned as a cause.)
(7)	D	The passage states that mythology enables students to "contextualize moral questions within familiar stories rather than abstract philosophical frameworks."
(8)	C	The passage emphasizes "the multiplicity of regional versions – each differing in portrayal of characters, motives, and outcomes."
(9)	D	The passage notes that learners might "absorb mythological events as historical fact rather than symbolic narrative."

Q. No.	Answer	Explanation
(10)	A	Proponents argue mythology can effectively teach values, but they overlook that students do not interpret these stories uniformly – a major flaw because multiple versions and interpretations exist. Thus A identifies the flaw.
(11)	A	If *students treat myths as literal truth*, that undermines value-based learning and strengthens critics' concerns about misunderstanding symbolic narratives. Other options do not significantly weaken the argument for integration.
(12)	D	A paradox is a surprising contradiction. If students like mythology but don't want it in exams, it is unexpected: enjoyment of content typically aligns with willingness to study/assess it academically. Options A, B, and C are ordinary, not paradoxical.
(13)	B	The passage states nations accelerate AI weapons development because they fear adversaries' advancements: A cause – effect relationship. A, C, and D contradict the passage entirely.
(14)	C	Lack of consensus → instability is clearly stated. Other choices are false or exaggerated.
(15)	A	The assertion says AI warfare may lower conflict thresholds. The reason explains why: nations feel *emboldened*, making pre-emptive strikes seem safer. This is exactly the mechanism described. Both A and R are true and R directly explains A.
(16)	B	To evaluate whether India should expand high-speed rail, we must know whether Indian regions lacking economic strength would actually benefit or remain underutilized. This directly addresses the correlation-vs-causation flaw. A is irrelevant—profitability elsewhere doesn't answer the India-specific concern. C concerns preferences, not economic viability. D is cost comparison without addressing the argument's main flaw.
(17)	B	The commission claims it wants to *reduce pressure*, yet mandates high-stakes monthly exams, which *increase* pressure. This is a direct contradiction. A, C, D describe problems but not a logical inconsistency.

Q. No.	Answer	Explanation
(18)	B	A balanced policy must conserve water *and* protect livelihoods. A permit-based regulation + incentives + crop shifts addresses both ecological urgency and social concerns. A is too extreme and harmful. C worsens depletion. D delays action despite warnings of irreversible collapse.
(19)	B	Final Seating: P → Q → R → S → T → U → V → W → (back to P). Explanation: In the arrangement above R is at the third position; the person opposite R is V.
(20)	D	This is in accordance to the arrangement derived above.
(21)	B	Immediate right (from one's point of view facing the center) is anticlockwise around the table.
(22)	D	In accordance to the arrangement derived above, T is adjacent to S in the clockwise direction, therefore, there are no people between T and S.
(23)	B	Clue 2 directly states R sits between Q and S.
(24)	A	This sequence matches the seating we derive from the clues when listing clockwise starting from P.
(25)	C	Option C is not a consequence of the clues (it contradicts them). The other options are direct restatements of clues.