

Daily Practice — Legal Reasoning · Analytical Reasoning · Quantitative Techniques

Darken one bubble per question. Negative marking applies. Answers and detailed explanations are provided in a separate companion sheet.
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SECTION A — LEGAL REASONING
Q1-12 · 12 Marks
PRINCIPLE A — BAILMENT UNDER THE INDIAN CONTRACT ACT, 1872 (SECTIONS 148-171) (Q1-6)

A bailment is the delivery of goods by one person, the bailor, to another, the bailee, for some purpose, upon a contract that the goods shall, when the purpose is accomplished, be returned or otherwise disposed of according to the directions of the bailor (Section 148). The defining feature of bailment is a transfer of possession, not of ownership; the bailor remains the owner throughout. Under Section 151, a bailee is bound to take as much care of the goods bailed to him as a person of ordinary prudence would, in similar circumstances, take of his own goods of the same bulk, quality and value. If the bailee makes any use of the goods that is not authorised by the bailment (Section 154), or mixes the bailor's goods with his own without consent so that they cannot be separated (Section 157), he becomes liable to compensate the bailor for any resulting loss, even one occurring without his negligence. A bailment may be gratuitous (without reward) or for reward. Where a bailee has, by his labour or skill, improved or done work upon the goods, Section 170 gives him a particular lien — a right to retain the goods until he is paid for that work. A finder of goods belonging to another is, in law, treated as a bailee of those goods (Section 71).

1. Rohan leaves his motorcycle with a mechanic, Sameer, for servicing for an agreed fee of ₹800. While the motorcycle is in his garage, Sameer lends it to a friend for a weekend trip without Rohan's permission, and it is damaged in an accident during that trip. Who must bear the loss?

- A. Sameer, because unauthorised use of bailed goods makes the bailee answerable for any loss that results.
- B. Rohan, because the risk in goods always stays with the owner irrespective of who holds possession, as a broad rule of thumb.
- C. Both equally, since each of the two parties derived some benefit from the underlying bailment.
- D. Neither, because an accident on a journey is an act of God that fully discharges the bailee.

2. Which of the following statements about the law of bailment is INCORRECT?

- A. The delivery of possession of the goods is essential to constitute a valid bailment in law.
- B. A bailment necessarily transfers ownership of the goods to the bailee for the term of the contract.
- C. A bailee must take the care that an ordinary prudent person takes of his own goods of like value, certainly over the longer run.
- D. A finder of goods belonging to another person is, in law, treated as a bailee of those goods.

3. Under Section 151 of the Indian Contract Act, the standard of care expected of a bailee is best described as that of:

- A. an ordinary prudent person caring for his own goods of the same bulk, quality and value.
- B. an insurer of the goods, answerable for every loss whatever its cause or circumstances.
- C. whatever degree of care the particular bailee happens to show his own things, however careless.
- D. no positive duty of care at all, unless the bailment in question is one made for a reward.

4. A goldsmith is given gold by a customer to fashion into a necklace for an agreed charge. The necklace is ready, but the customer refuses to pay. What right does the goldsmith have?

- A. A general lien entitling him to retain it against any unrelated debt that the customer may owe, as a broad rule of thumb.
- B. An absolute right to sell the necklace at once and to keep the whole of the sale proceeds.
- C. No right of retention at all, since title to the finished necklace has passed to the customer.
- D. A particular lien entitling him to retain the necklace until his lawful charges for the work are paid.

5. A friend borrows your projector free of charge for a presentation and, while using it exactly as agreed, it is destroyed by a sudden short-circuit despite his taking ordinary care. Is the borrower liable for the loss?

- A. No, a bailee who exercises the ordinary prudent care required by Section 151 is not liable for a loss occurring without his negligence.
- B. Yes, a gratuitous bailee is in law strictly liable for any loss or damage to the goods, however that loss happens to be caused, as a rule, in ordinary practice.
- C. Yes, borrowing goods free of charge makes the borrower an insurer of those goods against every conceivable risk.
- D. No, liability for any loss to bailed goods always rests solely upon their owner and never upon the bailee.

6. Without A's consent, the bailee B mixes A's wheat with B's own wheat of a different quality so that the two cannot be separated. What is the legal consequence?

- A. A and B simply become equal co-owners of the whole mixture, and no question of compensation arises.
- B. A loses all claim to the wheat, since goods that can no longer be identified are treated as abandoned.
- C. B must compensate A for the loss of his wheat, because the goods were mixed without consent and cannot be separated.
- D. B may keep the entire mixture, provided only that he gives A notice of the mixing within a reasonable time, in nearly every such instance.

PRINCIPLE B — CULPABLE HOMICIDE AND MURDER — SECTIONS 100-101, BHARATIYA NYAYA SANHITA, 2023 (Q7-12)

Under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, culpable homicide (Section 100) is committed where a person causes death by doing an act with the intention of causing death, or with the intention of causing such bodily injury as is likely to cause death, or with the knowledge that the act is likely to cause death. Murder (Section 101) is the aggravated form: culpable homicide is murder if the act is done with the intention of causing death; or with the intention of causing such bodily injury as the offender knows to be likely to cause the death of the person harmed; or with the intention of causing bodily injury sufficient in the ordinary course of nature to cause death; or with the knowledge that the act is so imminently dangerous that it must in all probability cause death. The cardinal proposition is that every murder is culpable homicide, but every culpable homicide is not murder; the difference lies in the degree of probability that death will result. Section 101 carries exceptions that bring an act down from murder to culpable homicide not amounting to murder — grave and sudden provocation, exceeding in good faith the right of private defence, the acts of a public servant exceeding lawful power in good faith, a sudden fight in the heat of passion without premeditation and without undue advantage or cruelty, and the consent of a person above eighteen years to the risk of death.

7. During a heated quarrel, B suddenly slaps A across the face; A, instantly enraged and given no time to cool down, snatches up a stick lying nearby and strikes B a single blow on the head, killing him. The most accurate classification of A's act is:

- A. murder, because A intentionally struck a blow to the head that he plainly knew was likely to cause death, as a rule, in ordinary practice.
- B. no offence at all, since provocation by the deceased operates in law as a complete justification.
- C. death by negligence, because A did not in fact intend the fatal consequence that ultimately followed.
- D. culpable homicide not amounting to murder, since the act falls within the exception of grave and sudden provocation.

8. Which statement correctly captures the relationship between culpable homicide and murder under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita?

- A. Every culpable homicide is murder, but every murder is not necessarily culpable homicide.
- B. Culpable homicide and murder are two wholly separate offences that can never overlap at all.
- C. Every murder is culpable homicide, but every culpable homicide is not necessarily murder.
- D. Murder is a form of homicide that need not involve any culpable or blameworthy mental state.

9. Without aiming at any particular person, X fires a loaded gun into a dense, crowded marketplace in celebration, and a bystander is struck and killed. X's act is most likely:

- A. culpable homicide not amounting to murder, since X had no intention to kill that particular bystander, in nearly every such instance.
- B. death by negligence only, as X was merely careless and never meant to put any human life in danger.
- C. murder, because firing into a crowd is so imminently dangerous that it must in all probability cause death.
- D. no culpable act, because the death of the bystander was a pure accident X could not have foreseen.

10. The 'sudden fight' exception reduces murder to culpable homicide not amounting to murder only where the fight is:

- A. planned and agreed in advance by both of the parties, who decide to settle their dispute by combat at a chosen time and place, certainly over the longer run.
- B. sudden, without premeditation, in the heat of passion upon a quarrel, the offender neither taking undue advantage nor acting cruelly.
- C. one in which the offender deliberately selects the time, the place and the weapon so as to ensure his rival's certain death.
- D. any quarrel whatever, however calculated or one-sided, provided only that the two parties happened to dislike one another.

11. A, intending only to cause B grievous hurt, stabs B in the thigh; the wound severs an artery and B bleeds to death. A had no intention to kill. The best classification of A's act is:

- A. murder, if the bodily injury that A intended was sufficient in the ordinary course of nature to cause death.
- B. culpable homicide not amounting to murder, because A specifically intended only to cause grievous hurt, in nearly every such instance.
- C. grievous hurt alone, since the death flowed from a medical complication that A could not foresee.
- D. no offence whatever, as A's intention was confined to an injury that is not in itself any crime.

12. A, lawfully defending himself against an unarmed attacker who is striking him with bare fists, deliberately draws a pistol and shoots the attacker dead, though no such degree of force was needed. A's act is:

- A. murder, because the right of private defence can in no circumstances extend to the taking of a life, as a general matter.
- B. culpable homicide not amounting to murder, as A in good faith exceeded the right of private defence.
- C. no offence whatever, since any act done in self-defence is wholly justified however excessive it is.
- D. death by negligence, because A merely misjudged the quantum of force the situation truly demanded.

SECTION B — ANALYTICAL REASONING

Q13–20 · 8 Marks

PUZZLE 1 — THREE-GENERATION FAMILY — RELATIONSHIP DEDUCTION (Q13–16)

Eight members of a single family — P, Q, R, S, T, U, V and W — belong to three generations. The following facts are known about them:

1. There are exactly three married couples in the family.
2. P and Q are a married couple; P is male and Q is female.
3. P is the father of both R and S, and R and S are the only children of P and Q.
4. R is married to T, and S is married to W.
5. T is female and is the daughter-in-law of Q; W is male and is the son-in-law of P.
6. U and V are the only children of R and T; U is female and V is male.
7. S and W have no children, and no member apart from those named belongs to the family.

13. How is T related to S?

- A. Daughter-in-law
- B. Sister-in-law
- C. Mother-in-law
- D. Cousin

14. How is V related to P?

- A. Son B. Nephew
 C. Grandson D. Son-in-law

15. How many female members are there in the family?

- A. Three
 B. Four
 C. Five
 D. Cannot be determined

16. Who among the family members is the brother-in-law of W?

- A. P B. V
 C. U D. R

PUZZLE 2 — ROUND-ROBIN TOURNAMENT — RECONSTRUCTING THE POINTS TABLE (Q17-20)

Four teams — Falcons, Gladiators, Hawks and Ibex — play a single round-robin in which every team plays each of the others exactly once, making six matches in all. A win earns the winning team 3 points, a draw earns each team 1 point, and a loss earns 0. No match was left undecided beyond a win or a draw. From the results the following is known:

1. Falcons topped the table with 7 points and did not lose a single match.
2. The only drawn match in the entire tournament was the one between Falcons and Gladiators.
3. Ibex finished second with 6 points, having lost only to Falcons.
4. Hawks lost every match they played.
5. Gladiators won exactly one of their three matches.

17. How many points did Gladiators finish with?

- A. 3 B. 5
 C. 4 D. 6

18. Which team finished at the bottom of the table?

- A. Gladiators B. Hawks
 C. Ibex D. Falcons

19. The match between Ibex and Gladiators was:

- A. won by Gladiators
 B. a draw
 C. impossible to determine
 D. won by Ibex

20. How many matches in the whole tournament ended in a draw?

- A. Two B. Three
 C. None D. One

SECTION C — QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

Q21-30 · 10 Marks

DATA SET 1 — MGNREGA PERSON-DAYS GENERATED ACROSS FIVE STATES, FY24 VS FY25 (Q21-25)

Under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, the central and state governments guarantee wage employment to rural households, and the volume of work is commonly measured in person-days of employment generated. The table below records the person-days generated, in lakhs, by five states in financial year 2023-24 (FY24) and financial year 2024-25 (FY25). Read the figures carefully: a single person-day represents one day of work provided to one worker, so the totals reflect both the number of households covered and the average days of work each received. Use only the data given in the table to answer the questions that follow, and round your computations to the nearest whole number where necessary.

State	FY24 (lakh person-days)	FY25 (lakh person-days)
Rajasthan	900	1080
Bihar	600	690
Odisha	400	500
Kerala	300	270
Assam	250	300

21. Which state recorded the highest percentage increase in person-days from FY24 to FY25?

- A. Rajasthan B. Assam
 C. Odisha D. Bihar

22. Which state was the only one of the five to record a decline in person-days?

- A. Kerala B. Assam
 C. Bihar D. None of them

23. By how many lakh person-days did Rajasthan's figure rise between FY24 and FY25?

- A. 180 B. 150
 C. 170 D. 200

24. In FY25, Bihar's person-days were approximately what percentage of Rajasthan's person-days?

- A. 58% B. 70%
 C. 75% D. 64%

25. Taking all five states together, the total person-days rose from FY24 to FY25 by approximately:

- A. 12% B. 20%
 C. 24% D. 16%

