

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 — STRICT AND ABSOLUTE LIABILITY (RYLANDS V FLETCHER AND THE M.C. MEHTA RULE) (Q1-6)

The rule in Rylands v Fletcher imposes strict liability: a person who, for his own purposes, brings onto his land and keeps there anything likely to do mischief if it escapes, must keep it in at his peril, and is liable for all the natural consequences of its escape, even without negligence. Three ingredients are essential: a non-natural use of land, an accumulation of a dangerous thing, and an escape from the defendant's premises to another's. The rule admits several defences, including the plaintiff's own default, an act of God, the act of a third party, statutory authority, and consent of the plaintiff. Indian law went further in M.C. Mehta v Union of India (the Oleum Gas Leak case), where the Supreme Court fashioned the rule of absolute liability for enterprises engaged in hazardous or inherently dangerous activities. Under absolute liability there is no escape requirement and none of the traditional exceptions apply; the enterprise is liable regardless of care taken, and damages may be exemplary, correlated to its capacity to pay, so as to deter.

1. A textile mill lawfully stores large tanks of industrial dye on its premises. During an unprecedented earthquake never before recorded in the region, a tank ruptures and the dye floods a neighbour's field. The neighbour sues under Rylands v Fletcher. What is the best analysis?

- ☐ A. The mill may escape liability, because an unforeseeable act of God is a recognised defence to strict liability.
- ☐ B. The mill is liable, because strict liability under Rylands v Fletcher admits no defences of any kind whatsoever.
- ☐ C. The mill is liable, because merely storing the dye on its land itself completes the tort at once.
- ☐ D. The mill escapes liability, because there was no accumulation of any dangerous thing on the premises.

2. A chemical enterprise carrying on the manufacture of hazardous gas suffers a leak that injures residents nearby, even though it had taken every reasonable precaution and the leak was triggered by a saboteur. Which statement is correct under Indian law?

- ☐ A. It is not liable, because it exercised all reasonable care and the injury flowed from a stranger's act, on the facts as presently stated.
- ☐ B. It is absolutely liable, since the hazardous-activity rule allows no exceptions such as third-party sabotage.
- ☐ C. It is liable only if the residents first prove the enterprise was negligent in maintaining the plant.
- ☐ D. It is not liable, because the gas leaked within the plant and never escaped to the residents' own land.

3. A homeowner installs ordinary domestic water pipes for household use. A pipe bursts because of a hidden manufacturing flaw, flooding the flat below. The neighbour invokes Rylands v Fletcher. Which conclusion is soundest?

- ☐ A. The rule applies automatically, because harm resulted to the neighbour's property below the flat.
- ☐ B. The rule clearly applies, because any water kept on premises is always a non-natural use of land.
- ☐ C. The rule applies, because a hidden manufacturing flaw is never a defence available to any defendant.
- ☐ D. The rule likely does not apply, because ordinary domestic water supply is a natural use of land.

4. Which statement about the distinction between strict liability and absolute liability is INCORRECT?

- ☐ A. Under absolute liability, damages may be exemplary and linked to the paying capacity of the enterprise.
- ☐ B. Strict liability under Rylands v Fletcher recognises defences such as act of God and act of a third party, on the facts as presently stated.
- ☐ C. Absolute liability applies to enterprises engaged in hazardous or inherently dangerous activities.
- ☐ D. Absolute liability, unlike strict liability, always requires the claimant to prove an escape from the defendant's land.

5. A municipal reservoir, built and operated under an express statutory duty to supply the town with water, overflows without any negligence and damages an adjoining workshop. The workshop owner sues under Rylands v Fletcher. What is the best view?

- ☐ A. The claim fails only if the workshop owner had personally consented to the reservoir being built nearby.
- ☐ B. The claim must succeed, because Rylands v Fletcher liability can never be displaced by statutory authority, on the facts as presently stated.
- ☐ C. Statutory authority may bar the claim, since acting under an express statutory duty is a recognised defence.
- ☐ D. The claim succeeds automatically, because a reservoir is always a non-natural and dangerous use of land.

6. A fireworks factory, an inherently dangerous operation, explodes and injures passers-by on the public road outside, though the blast never crossed onto any private neighbour's land. Under the Indian rule, which is the strongest conclusion?

- ☐ A. The factory is not liable, because the injured were on a public road rather than adjoining private property, on the facts as presently stated.
- ☐ B. The factory is absolutely liable, because the hazardous-activity rule needs no escape onto a neighbour's land.
- ☐ C. The factory is liable only if the victims establish a clear escape onto some identifiable private land.
- ☐ D. The factory avoids liability, because passers-by on a public road impliedly accept the risk of such blasts.

PRINCIPLE B — DOCTRINE OF FRUSTRATION OF CONTRACT (SECTION 56, INDIAN CONTRACT ACT, 1872) (Q7-12)



Section 56 of the Indian Contract Act embodies the doctrine of frustration. Its first paragraph declares that an agreement to do an act impossible in itself is void. The second paragraph provides that a contract to do an act which, after the contract is made, becomes impossible, or by reason of some event which the promisor could not prevent becomes unlawful, becomes void when the act becomes impossible or unlawful. Frustration discharges both parties from further performance without fault. It is attracted where the subject matter is destroyed, where a state of things forming the contract's foundation ceases to exist, where a supervening change of law renders performance illegal, or where the very object of the contract is defeated, as in the coronation cases. However, the doctrine does not apply merely because performance has become more onerous, costly, or commercially difficult; nor where the parties have expressly provided for the intervening event, nor where the frustration is self-induced by a party's own choice. In *Satyabrata Ghose v Mugneeram Bangur*, the Supreme Court held that impossibility in Section 56 means impracticability judged by the object the parties had in view, not literal physical impossibility alone.

7. A music hall is hired for a concert on a fixed date. Before the date, the hall is accidentally destroyed by fire without either party's fault. The hirer sues the owner for failing to provide the hall. What is the correct position?

- ☐ A. The contract is frustrated and void, since destruction of the subject matter makes performance impossible.
- ☐ B. The owner is liable in damages, because a promisor must always perform regardless of any supervening event.
- ☐ C. The contract stays fully binding, and the hirer may insist the owner rebuild the hall before the date.
- ☐ D. The contract is only voidable at the owner's option, so he alone may decide whether to perform.

8. A merchant contracts to supply goods, but after the contract a sudden rise in freight rates and raw-material prices makes the deal heavily loss-making, though delivery remains perfectly possible. He pleads frustration to escape performance. Is he right?

- ☐ A. No, but only if the merchant can additionally prove the buyer secretly caused the price rise himself.
- ☐ B. Yes, because any event making a contract unprofitable automatically discharges the promisor from performing.
- ☐ C. Yes, because a steep rise in prices is always treated by law as a supervening impossibility of performance.
- ☐ D. No, because mere commercial hardship or increased cost does not amount to frustration under Section 56.

9. Parties contract for work to be done, and their agreement contains an express clause allocating the risk of a specified strike, providing exactly what shall happen if that strike occurs. The very strike happens. Can the promisor invoke frustration?

- ☐ A. No, because where the parties have expressly provided for the intervening event, frustration is excluded.
- ☐ B. Yes, because a strike is always an event that automatically frustrates and discharges the entire contract.
- ☐ C. Yes, because Section 56 overrides any clause the parties may have written into their own agreement.
- ☐ D. No, unless the promisor first proves the strike was wholly beyond his own reasonable control.

10. A person contracts to sing at a series of concerts but deliberately chooses to accept a rival engagement elsewhere and refuses to appear. He then claims the original contract was frustrated. Which statement is correct?

- ☐ A. Frustration applies, because he is in fact unable to be present at two different venues at once.
- ☐ B. Frustration does not apply, because self-induced impossibility caused by his own choice cannot discharge the contract.
- ☐ C. Frustration applies, because any inability to perform, whatever its cause, always ends the contract, on the facts as presently stated.
- ☐ D. Frustration applies only if the rival engagement was more lucrative than the original concerts were.

11. After a contract for the performance of a lawful act is made, a new statute comes into force that makes performing that very act a criminal offence. Neither party could prevent the change. What is the effect on the contract?

- ☐ A. The contract becomes void, because supervening illegality renders further performance unlawful under Section 56.
- ☐ B. The contract remains enforceable, and the parties must perform despite the new prohibiting statute.
- ☐ C. The contract is merely suspended, reviving automatically if the prohibiting statute is later repealed, on the facts as presently stated.
- ☐ D. The contract binds only the promisor, who alone must bear the risk of the change in the law.

12. A room overlooking a route is hired at a high price for the specific purpose, known to both parties, of viewing a scheduled royal procession. The procession is cancelled owing to the monarch's illness, though the room remains fully usable. Which conclusion is soundest?

- ☐ A. The contract survives, because Section 56 applies only when the subject matter is physically destroyed.
- ☐ B. The hirer must pay in full, because the room itself was entirely available and physically usable throughout.
- ☐ C. The contract may be frustrated, because the cancellation defeats the common foundation and object of the hire.
- ☐ D. The contract is unaffected, because the purpose of a hire is legally irrelevant to whether it is enforceable, on the facts as presently stated.

SECTION B — ANALYTICAL REASONING

Q13-20 · 8 Marks

PUZZLE 1 — A FAMILY OF SEVEN ACROSS THREE GENERATIONS (Q13-16)

A family has exactly seven members spread over three generations, referred to by the letters P, Q, R, S, T, U and V. The following facts describe the family completely: (1) P and Q are a married couple and belong to the eldest generation; (2) R is the son of P; (3) T is the daughter of P; (4) S is married to R; (5) U is the son of R; (6) V is the daughter of S; and (7) the family contains exactly two married couples, namely P and Q and one other. Assume no member has married more than once and that nothing beyond the stated facts is to be inferred. Note that Q, S, T and V are female, while P, R and U are male. Using these facts, fix every member to one of the three generations and work out how each person is related to the others before answering the questions.

13. How is T related to R?

- ☐ A. Mother
- ☐ B. Wife
- ☐ C. Sister
- ☐ D. Daughter



14. How is V related to P?

- ☐ A. Daughter
☐ C. Niece

- ☐ B. Granddaughter
☐ D. Daughter-in-law

15. How is S related to T?

- ☐ A. Sister
☐ C. Mother

- ☐ B. Sister-in-law
☐ D. Daughter

16. How is U related to Q?

- ☐ A. Son
☐ C. Nephew

- ☐ B. Grandson
☐ D. Brother

PUZZLE 2 — SIX DELEGATES IN THREE CARS (Q17–20)

Six delegates — Farooq, Geeta, Harsh, Ipsita, Jatin and Kavya — must travel to a conference in exactly three cars named Car 1, Car 2 and Car 3. Each car carries exactly two delegates, and every delegate travels in exactly one car. The seating must satisfy all of the following conditions at the same time: (1) Farooq and Geeta refuse to travel in the same car; (2) Harsh must travel in Car 2; (3) Ipsita will travel only in Car 1; (4) Jatin and Kavya must travel together in the same car; (5) Farooq will not travel in Car 3; and (6) Geeta will not travel in Car 1. Because Jatin and Kavya form a fixed pair occupying two seats of one car, and Ipsita is locked to Car 1, work out the complete allocation of all six delegates to the three cars, then answer the questions that follow about who rides with whom and in which car.

17. Which two delegates travel together in Car 3?

- ☐ A. Farooq and Geeta
☐ C. Harsh and Geeta

- ☐ B. Jatin and Kavya
☐ D. Ipsita and Kavya

18. In which car does Farooq travel?

- ☐ A. Car 1
☐ B. Car 2
☐ C. Car 3
☐ D. He cannot be placed

19. Who is the travelling companion of Ipsita?

- ☐ A. Harsh
☐ C. Farooq

- ☐ B. Geeta
☐ D. Kavya

20. Which one of the following statements about the final arrangement is true?

- ☐ A. Farooq and Geeta travel together in the same car.
☐ B. Geeta and Harsh travel together in Car 2.
☐ C. Ipsita travels in Car 3 alongside Jatin.
☐ D. Kavya travels in Car 2 beside Harsh.

SECTION C — QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

Q21–30 · 10 Marks

DATA SET 1 — QUARTERLY SMARTPHONE SHIPMENTS ACROSS FIVE BRANDS (Q21–25)

A market-research firm tracks the number of smartphones shipped into the Indian market by five competing brands, comparing the first quarter (Q1) of the calendar year with the second quarter (Q2). All shipment figures are reported in lakh units, and the tracker also publishes the quarter-on-quarter percentage change for each brand so that analysts can gauge which brands gained momentum after the festive-season lull and a wave of new mid-range launches. The five brands under study are Aspen, Boreal, Cirrus, Delta and Everest. Retailers and investors read these numbers to plan inventory, negotiate channel margins and forecast the next quarter's demand. Study the table below, checking the growth column against the raw shipment counts, and answer the questions that follow.

Brand	Q1 (lakh)	Q2 (lakh)	QoQ Change (%)
Aspen	120	150	+25.0%
Boreal	80	72	-10.0%
Cirrus	60	75	+25.0%
Delta	100	128	+28.0%
Everest	40	45	+12.5%

21. What were the total smartphone shipments across all five brands in Q2 (in lakh units)?

- ☐ A. 470 lakh
☐ C. 475 lakh

- ☐ B. 460.0 lakh
☐ D. 465 lakh

22. What was the overall quarter-on-quarter growth in total shipments from Q1 to Q2?

- ☐ A. 16.7%
☐ C. 20.0%

- ☐ B. 15.000%
☐ D. 17.5%

23. Which brand recorded the highest shipments in Q2?

- ☐ A. Cirrus
☐ C. Aspen

- ☐ B. Delta
☐ D. Boreal

24. By how many lakh units did Delta's shipments increase from Q1 to Q2?

- ☐ A. 24 lakh
☐ C. 30 lakh

- ☐ B. 25.0 lakh
☐ D. 28 lakh

25. What share of the total Q2 shipments did Aspen account for?

- ☐ A. 31.25%
☐ C. 32.50%

- ☐ B. 30.0000%
☐ D. 31.91%

DATA SET 2 — REVENUE AND OUTLET COUNT OF FIVE COFFEE CHAINS (Q26–30)



A hospitality consultancy compiles the annual revenue earned by five branded coffee chains operating across Indian cities, alongside the number of outlets each chain runs. Revenue is reported in rupees crore and the outlet count is a simple headcount of operating stores at year end. The five chains studied are BrewBar, CafeNova, DailyGrind, Espresso Lane and Mocha House. Investors use these figures to compare not only the headline revenue of each brand but also how efficiently each converts its store network into sales, since a chain with fewer but busier outlets can outperform a larger but thinly spread rival. Study the table below and answer the questions that follow, computing per-outlet figures and shares where required.

Chain	Revenue (Rs Cr)	Outlets
BrewBar	480	240
CafeNova	360	150
DailyGrind	300	200
Espresso Lane	540	180
Mocha House	120	60

26. What was the total revenue earned by all five coffee chains together (in Rs Cr)?

- ☐ A. 1800 Cr
- ☐ B. 1750.0 Cr
- ☐ C. 1850 Cr
- ☐ D. 1780 Cr

27. Which chain earned the highest annual revenue?

- ☐ A. CafeNova
- ☐ B. BrewBar
- ☐ C. Espresso Lane
- ☐ D. DailyGrind

28. What share of the total revenue did BrewBar account for?

- ☐ A. 26.67%
- ☐ B. 25.0000%
- ☐ C. 27.50%
- ☐ D. 26.00%

29. What was the average revenue per outlet for Espresso Lane (in Rs Cr)?

- ☐ A. 2.500 Cr
- ☐ B. 3.0 Cr
- ☐ C. 3.5 Cr
- ☐ D. 2.8 Cr

30. What is the ratio of DailyGrind's revenue to Mocha House's revenue?

- ☐ A. 5:2
- ☐ B. 3.0:1
- ☐ C. 2:1
- ☐ D. 5:3

SECTION D — RAPID-FIRE MIXED REASONING & GK

Q31–40 · 10 Marks

Standalone questions covering blood relations, direction sense, syllogism, coding-decoding, simple arithmetic and basic GK. No passage required.

31. Pointing to a photograph, Reena said, 'He is the son of my grandfather's only son.' How is the boy in the photograph related to Reena?

- ☐ A. Uncle
- ☐ B. Cousin
- ☐ C. Brother
- ☐ D. Nephew

32. A man walks 4 km north, then turns right and walks 3 km, then turns right again and walks 4 km. How far is he now from his starting point?

- ☐ A. 4 km
- ☐ B. 5.0 km
- ☐ C. 7 km
- ☐ D. 3 km

33. In a certain code, CAT is written as DBU. Following the same rule, how is DOG written in that code?

- ☐ A. DPH
- ☐ B. EPG
- ☐ C. CPH
- ☐ D. EPH

34. Find the next term in the series: 3, 6, 11, 18, 27, ?

- ☐ A. 40
- ☐ B. 36.0
- ☐ C. 38
- ☐ D. 37

35. Statements: All pens are books. All books are red. Conclusion: All pens are red. Does the conclusion follow?

- ☐ A. It does not follow
- ☐ B. The conclusion follows
- ☐ C. Only partly follows
- ☐ D. Data are insufficient, on the facts as presently stated

36. Find the odd one out: 8, 27, 64, 100, 125

- ☐ A. 64
- ☐ B. 27
- ☐ C. 100
- ☐ D. 125

37. A shirt marked at ₹800 is sold after a discount of 15%. What is its selling price?

- ☐ A. ₹660
- ☐ B. ₹700
- ☐ C. ₹720
- ☐ D. ₹680

38. If A = 1, B = 2, C = 3, and so on, what is the sum of the numerical values of the letters in the word 'BAD'?

- ☐ A. 7
- ☐ B. 6
- ☐ C. 8
- ☐ D. 9

39. A is B's sister. C is B's mother. D is C's father. How is A related to D?

- ☐ A. Mother
- ☐ B. Grandmother
- ☐ C. Daughter
- ☐ D. Granddaughter

40. At sunrise, Ravi stands facing the rising sun. He then turns 90 degrees clockwise. Which direction is facing?

- ☐ A. East
- ☐ B. North
- ☐ C. South
- ☐ D. West

