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National Law School Admissions Test (NLSAT-LLB) Sample Question Set - 2

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Part A

Instructions:

1. Part A of the NLSAT-LLB paper will consist of 75 Multiple-Choice Questions, and shall be for a maximum of 75 marks. Each question will be of one mark. 0.25 marks shall be deducted for each wrong answer, and for each unanswered question.
2. Part A of the NLSAT-LLB paper consists of multiple passages. These will consist of questions relating to (a) Comprehension; (b) Current Affairs; and (c) Critical Reasoning.
3. This sample paper contains sample passages for practice from Part A of NLSAT-LLB 2024 and Part A of NLSAT-LLB International 2024. Questions related to current affairs may be outdated.
4. Each passage is accompanied by Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs). Answer each question relying on what is stated or implied in the corresponding passage. Some questions may require knowledge of information that is not supplied in the passage.
5. If more than one option provides a partial answer to the question, choose the option that most accurately and comprehensively answers the question.
6. The answer key is provided at the end of this sample paper. The online webinar accessible to registered candidates will offer more guidance on solving the paper.

Sample Passage 1

‘If I’ve understood you correctly, comrade, you said you intentionally refused to distribute our material because you didn’t approve of the content. Nor did we approve of the content of your leaflets. Of course you realise, comrade, that there must be certain consequences,’ said Rubashov.

Richard turned to him. ‘You know yourself it contained pure nonsense.’

‘I don’t know anything about that,’ said Rubashov dryly.

‘You wrote as though nothing had happened,’ said the boy, ‘they smashed the party to a pulp and all we got were empty phrases about the unbroken will for victory, nothing but a heap of lies, just like in the world war. Whoever we showed it to just spat. But you know all that yourself.’

Rubashov answered matter-of-factly: ‘That’s the second time you’re ascribing to me an opinion I don’t share. I have to ask you to desist.’

Richard slowly turned, his bloodshot eyes gaping at Rubashov in disbelief.

Rubashov continued: ‘Our party is undergoing a difficult trial. Other revolutionary parties have been through more. The will of the party must remain unbroken. Whoever now turns soft and sentimental does not belong in our ranks. Anyone who contributes to a state of panic is playing into the hands of the enemy, no matter what he believes. His actions make him harmful to the movement and therefore he must be treated correspondingly.’

‘So I’m harmful to the movement,’ Richard said. ‘I’m playing into the hands of the enemy.’

‘Your leaflets,’ Rubashov said, ‘which you admit to authoring, are full of sentences such as “We have suffered a defeat”, “We have been hit by a catastrophe”. This is defeatism. It’s demoralising and cripples the fighting strength of the movement.’

‘I only know,’ said Richard, ‘that you have to tell people the truth, because they know it anyway. Trying to feed them a lie is absurd.’

‘The party leadership,’ Rubashov went on, ‘has declared that the party has not suffered a defeat but has made a strategic temporary retreat, and that there is no reason to depart from its previous political course.’

‘The party leadership is mistaken,’ said Richard, ‘You speak of a “strategic retreat” when more than half of our people have been killed and the ones left are happy to be alive and running to the others in droves... No one here understands all the hair-splitting that you people are coming up with over there, on the outside...’

‘The party cannot be wrong,’ said Rubashov. ‘You and I can make mistakes – but not the party. The party, comrade, is more than you and me and a thousand others like us. The party is the embodiment of the revolutionary idea in history. History knows no vacillating

and no consideration for feelings. It flows, powerfully and unerringly, towards its goal. On every bend it deposits debris and sludge and the bodies of the drowned. But – it knows its course. History doesn't make mistakes. Anyone who doesn't have this unconditional faith in the party doesn't belong in its ranks.'

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from *Darkness at Noon*, by Arthur Koestler]

1. Which party formed the first democratically elected communist government in the world, and where?
 - (A) The Communist Party of India (Maoist), in Andhra Pradesh.
 - (B) The Communist Party of India (Marxist–Leninist) Liberation, in Bihar.
 - (C) The Communist Party of India (Marxist), in West Bengal.
 - (D) The Communist Party of India, in Kerala.
2. Which of the following explains why Richard thinks that Rubashov is accusing him of 'playing into the hands of the enemy'?
 - (A) Because Rubashov said that Richard's leaflets were poorly written.
 - (B) Because Rubashov had caught him leaking secrets to the enemy.
 - (C) Because Rubashov said that Richard's leaflets contributed to a state of panic.
 - (D) Because Rubashov thought that Richard's leaflets were not telling people the truth.
3. India was ranked highest in the world for which of the following risks in the World Economic Forum's 2024 Global Risk Report?
 - (A) Infectious diseases
 - (B) Inequality
 - (C) Disinformation and misinformation
 - (D) Illicit economic activity
4. Which, according to Rubashov, was the first time that Richard ascribed an opinion to him that he didn't share?
 - (A) When Richard said that he did not receive their materials.

- (B) When Richard said that they must now acknowledge the truth.
 - (C) When Richard said that Rubashov knew the party leadership was mistaken.
 - (D) When Richard said that Rubashov knew their materials were rubbish.
5. Why does Rubashov say that there must be certain consequences for Richard?
- (A) Because Richard intentionally refused to distribute their material.
 - (B) Because Richard distributed the material they provided him.
 - (C) Because Richard refused to take a contradictory stance to the party.
 - (D) Because Richard ascribed opinions to Rubashov that he didn't share.
6. Which of the following most accurately describes the main difference between Rubashov's and Richard's arguments?
- (A) Rubashov's arguments are based on his analysis of the situation, whereas Richard's are based on the belief that the party cannot be mistaken.
 - (B) Rubashov supports the party leadership completely, whereas Richard disagrees with them and wants to take over the leadership of the party himself.
 - (C) Rubashov believes that the party's materials should have been circulated as-is, whereas Richard wanted to make slight modifications to them.
 - (D) Richard's arguments are based on his analysis of the situation, whereas Rubashov's are based on the belief that the party cannot be mistaken.
7. Who among the following is the Chairperson of the News Broadcasting and Digital Standards Authority?
- (A) Justice A.K. Sikri
 - (B) Justice A.M. Khanwilkar
 - (C) Justice Madan B. Lokur
 - (D) Justice Indira Banerjee
8. Why does Rubashov say that Richard doesn't belong in the party?
- (A) Because Richard thinks the party cannot make mistakes.

- (B) Because Richard thinks the party made mistakes.
 - (C) Because Richard did not support the movement anymore.
 - (D) Because Richard had mistakenly circulated his own leaflets.
9. Which of the following changes to the party's materials would most weaken Richard's opposition to circulating them?
- (A) Making them shorter and easier to understand.
 - (B) Making them describe the situation accurately and truthfully.
 - (C) Strengthening their message that the party had made a strategic temporary retreat.
 - (D) Strengthening their message that there was no reason to depart from the party's previous political course.
10. Which of the following is Rubashov most likely to disagree with?
- (A) That history knows its course and flows unerringly towards its goal.
 - (B) That the party is the embodiment of the revolutionary idea in history.
 - (C) That history does not have a pre-determined, goal-driven course.
 - (D) That the party was mistaken in recruiting Richard in the first place.

Sample Passage 2

South Africa's case charging Israel with genocide, in which provisional measures were announced on January 26, is a marker in the Middle East conflict raging currently, and posits a moral prism to view the competing narratives. Raphael Lemkin, a legal scholar and a World War II refugee from Western Ukraine who lost considerable family in the Shoah, is widely considered the architect of the Genocide Convention, which was a direct reaction to the Holocaust. Legal defences aside, that the State of Israel, a state sanctioned largely by the world's shame over allowing the Nazi Holocaust to occur, today faces a credible charge of genocide is a tragic irony of history.

It is not the seemingly indiscriminate killings of civilians in Gaza by Israeli bombardment, which may be a war crime in itself, but the motive behind it which is called into question in South Africa's case. Lemkin in his writing explained that genocide refers to a plan

“aimed at destruction of the essential foundations of the life of national groups so that these groups wither and die like plants that have suffered a blight”.

The question sought to be answered in the International Court of Justice (“ICJ”) case is whether the nature of the Israeli military campaign itself, and/or the public declarations of collective punishment, and/or the cutting off of water, food and fuel supplies, were sufficient for the court to prescribe emergency interim measures that Israel must follow.

In a preliminary ruling, the ICJ found South Africa’s case to be “plausible”, or sufficient for it to direct provisional measures. Israel is *prima facie* indicated to be in violation of the Genocide Convention. The ICJ took note of the conduct of Israeli forces, statements of UN officials and Israeli officials, and the situation in Gaza in itself.

It’s a make-or-break moment in international law. Although no state has formally joined the case with South Africa, the divide in those indicating support and those against runs through a global north-south divide. The global north has come out against the case itself, and as traditional exponents of what they call the international ‘rules-based order’, countries such as Germany, which has referred to the historical necessity to support Israel, are faced with difficult choices.

South Africa’s right to bring a case is based on a particularly Lemkinesque insertion into the Genocide Convention, which made the crime of genocide a crime against all humanity – thereby making it the duty of every country to prevent such actions.

Israel has been ordered to not carry out genocide, to allow humanitarian aid, and to report to the court with a copy to South Africa within 30 days. The court has no sheriff it can send to coerce compliance, but its ruling is a moral expression of international law; Israel and its supporters will find their arguments harder to make now that the ICJ has said there is a *prima facie* case of genocide they are answerable for.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from “For the ICJ to Say It Is ‘Plausible’ That Israel Is Carrying Out Genocide Is a Defining Moment”, by Avi Singh, The Wire]

11. The General Assembly of the United Nations adopted the Genocide Convention:
 - (A) By a simple majority.
 - (B) By a three-fourth majority.
 - (C) By unanimous vote.
 - (D) By a minority vote.

12. Which of the following is the author most likely to agree with?

- (A) If Israel's actions in Gaza were conducted at some other time, South Africa might not have filed the case.
- (B) If Israel's actions in Gaza were conducted in partnership with other nations, South Africa might not have filed the case.
- (C) If Israel's actions in Gaza were motivated by genocidal intent, South Africa might not have filed the case.
- (D) If Israel's actions in Gaza were motivated by other reasons, South Africa might not have filed the case.
13. When was the first time that the ICJ investigated genocide claims itself without relying on the findings of other tribunals like the International Criminal Tribunal?
- (A) In The Gambia's action against Myanmar in 2019.
- (B) In Ukraine's action against the Russian Federation in 2012.
- (C) In Somalia's action against Kenya in 2014.
- (D) In Costa Rica's action against Nicaragua in 2014.
14. Which of the following most accurately explains the meaning of the author's statement that the fact that the State of Israel 'today faces a credible charge of genocide is a tragic irony of history'?
- (A) It was inevitable that a country created partly out of guilt over the Holocaust would face plausible charges of committing similar actions.
- (B) It is sad that a country created partly out of guilt over the Holocaust is facing plausible charges of committing similar actions.
- (C) It is unlikely that a country created partly out of guilt over the Holocaust would commit similar actions.
- (D) It is impossible that a country created partly out of guilt over the Holocaust would commit similar actions.
15. Based on the information in the passage, which of the following most accurately explains why South Africa had a right to bring the case against Israel?
- (A) Since genocide only violates a particular group's rights, only that group, and no other country, has a right to prevent such actions by bringing such a case.

- (B) Since genocide violates everyone's rights, only the United Nations, and no particular country, has a right to prevent such actions by bringing such a case.
- (C) Since it is particularly affected by Israel's actions, South Africa has a right to bring such a case to prevent such actions.
- (D) Since genocide violates everyone's rights, every country has a duty to prevent such actions by bringing such a case.
16. Which of the following most accurately explains why the author says that the ruling in the case is 'a make-or-break moment in international law'?
- (A) International law will be undermined if other countries do not accept the ruling.
- (B) International law will be strengthened if other countries do not accept the ruling.
- (C) International law will be unaffected if other countries do not accept the ruling.
- (D) International law will ensure that other countries accept and enforce the ruling.
17. Who among the following is presently a judge of the ICJ?
- (A) Judge Raghunandan Swarup Pathak
- (B) Judge Dalveer Bhandari
- (C) Judge Navanethem Pillay
- (D) Judge Nagendra Singh
18. Who is the current Chief of Hamas's Political Bureau?
- (A) Ahmed Yassin
- (B) Khaled Meshaal
- (C) Mohammed Deif
- (D) Ismail Haniyeh

19. Based on the information in the passage, which of the following would be most likely if the Holocaust had not occurred?
- (A) The Genocide Convention would have been adopted sooner.
 - (B) The Genocide Convention would not have been adopted.
 - (C) The Genocide Convention would have had more signatories.
 - (D) The Genocide Convention would have had fewer signatories.
20. Which of the following is the author most likely to disagree with?
- (A) The ICJ does not have the means to ensure that Israel obeys its directions.
 - (B) The ICJ's ruling imposes a binding legal obligation which Israel will obey.
 - (C) The ICJ's ruling weakens any arguments made in support of Israel's actions.
 - (D) The ICJ's ruling exerts moral force on Israel to stop its action in Gaza.

Sample Passage 3

Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council is planning to impose the highest taxation slab, also known as “sin tax”, upon the digital gaming sector. A “sin tax” is a GST specifically levied on certain goods deemed harmful to society, for example, gambling, or horse racing. The Council's proposal suggests that the official view is leaning on equating (and taxing similarly) gambling with online gaming, and radically reforming the mode and tax rate of online gaming. Under the current regime, an 18% GST is imposed on the commission earned by a digital gaming platform. Under the proposed regime, a 28% GST is proposed to be applied on the Gross Gaming Value (GGV), i.e., the total Contest Pool.

Taxing gaming companies on the GGV is like charging banks with GST on the Gross Transaction Value. Or like charging a taxi driver based on the wealth of their passenger. Or a landlord based on the value of business conducted from their tenanted premises. Policymakers must appreciate that the GGV is, by no means, the income earned by a game organizer. The GGV is just the sum of contest entry buy-ins, held by online gaming companies in a fiduciary capacity, to generate a “pool” of winnings, which is disbursed back to the contest winner/winners, after deduction of the platform commission.

The “sin tax” is problematic for yet more reasons. Consumers of goods and services which are similarly subject to “sin tax” are mainly the elite of our society. In contrast, digital gaming platforms are used by 507 million Indians mainly comprising mid to lower income strata majorly from tier II and tier IV cities where consumers are extremely price sensitive.

So, digital skill-gaming represents (financially and digitally) the most accessible form of entertainment, cognitive skill development, and stress-releasing activity, for these classes.

The “sin tax” will also hamper innovation in digital gaming. Its impact will extend to other industries too. A game not only includes software but is intertwined with featuring realistic or interactive graphics, characters, music, and other ancillary content embedded into such games, which leads to creation and development of Intellectual Property and new technology.

The “sin tax” will stunt the massive employment potential shown by India’s digital gaming industry. Currently, the gaming industry consists of a workforce of about a lakh employees, of whom at least 15 percent of the workforce is comprised of programmers and developers, who are at the forefront of developing new technology and fostering innovation in India.

Most of all, though, the proposed “sin tax” deserves a serious re-look because it may have a counter-intuitive and counter-product impact on the overall income of the digital gaming sector, and result in reduced tax collections. India’s history is replete with examples where regressive tax measures have irreversibly threatened and hurt industries’ competitiveness, and resulted in reduced tax collections.

[Extracted from: ‘GST on the entire prize pool in online gaming a step too far’ by Abhishek Malhotra, Times of India, January 31, 2023].

21. Who is the vice chairperson of the GST Council?
- (A) Finance Secretary of India
 - (B) Union Minister of State in charge of Revenue or Finance
 - (C) Any member of the GST Council chosen for the position from among the Ministers nominated by each state government
 - (D) None of the above
22. Which of the following companies was selected to provide technology support to GST Network?
- (A) Wipro
 - (B) Infosys
 - (C) MindTree
 - (D) Cognizant

23. According to the Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi, the GST Council is a reflection of which of the following?
- (A) Asymmetric federalism
 - (B) Complementary federalism
 - (C) Cooperative federalism
 - (D) Conciliatory federalism
24. Which of the following statements (in relation to a sin tax) cannot be implied from the author's arguments?
- (A) A sin tax must be regressive in nature
 - (B) A sin tax typically targets consumption of extravagant goods
 - (C) A sin tax must deter behaviour that has deleterious effects in the society
 - (D) None of the above
25. Which of the following is not one of the arguments made by the author?
- (A) Tax on online gaming will have spill over adverse effects on innovation
 - (B) Tax on online gaming could reduce the fiscal deficit of the government
 - (C) Tax on online gaming will cause companies to reduce workforce
 - (D) None of the above
26. Which of the following facets of taxing online gaming does the author not find objectionable?
- (A) Taxing gaming platforms at the highest tax rate
 - (B) Taxing gaming platforms for buy-in amounts received from customers
 - (C) Taxing gaming platforms as though online gaming is the same as gambling
 - (D) Taxing gaming platforms on their income earned
27. Which of the following statements is not evident from the above excerpt?

- (A) Online gaming is not exorbitantly priced
 - (B) Online gaming is already subject to taxation
 - (C) Online gaming is very popular with young adults
 - (D) The customers pay a commission to use the online gaming platform
28. Which of the following statements would be in line with the author's argument?
- (A) Online gaming is not speculative
 - (B) Online gaming industry employs some highly skilled persons
 - (C) Online gaming taxation will not change consumption patterns
 - (D) (a) and (b), but not (c)
29. What does the above passage tell us about taxation?
- (A) Taxes are collected to invest in public infrastructure
 - (B) Taxes are imposed for regulating undesirable behaviour
 - (C) Taxes are levied to redistribute income
 - (D) All of the above
30. Which of the following is a significant gap in the arguments presented by the author?
- (A) The author does not disprove that online gaming can have harmful effects
 - (B) The author does not explain why the gross gaming value is inappropriate
 - (C) The author does not critique the so-called current model of taxing online gaming
 - (D) None of the above

Sample Passage 4

Consider a child born in India.

This child is, firstly, far less likely to be born in south India than in north India, given the former's low rates of population growth. But let's assume the child is born in the south. She is far less likely to die in the first year of her life given the lower infant mortality rates in south India compared to the rest of India. She will go to school and stay in school longer; she will more likely go to college than her contemporaries elsewhere in India.

She'll have greater political representation and more impact on elections as a voter than those peers too. In short, the median child born in south India will live a healthier, wealthier, more secure and more socially impactful life than a child born in north India.

India's regional imbalance wasn't always skewed in favour of the south and it was never as substantial as it now is. At the time of independence, the southern states were indistinguishable from the rest of India in terms of their development metrics. Today, the difference in development between some of the northern states and southern states is as stark as that between sub-Saharan Africa and the OECD countries.

Why is the south doing so much better than the north? Surely, it's not historical providence or ethnic essentialism, given their similar starting points. It's obviously not due to some policy implementation of the Government of India. That leaves policy decisions at the state level, the implementation capacity of their bureaucracies and dumb luck as other possible reasons. The capabilities of state bureaucracies are often realisations of policy decisions themselves. And luck, over a long enough period of time, is otherwise called policy vision and implementation.

So, why are states in southern India able to design better policy and implement it too? The literature credits subnationalism as one reason for the relatively better development of states in southern India. In India, instances of subnationalism are often based on linguistic identity, given that they go back millennia. That sense of belonging in a localised geography is the glue which creates the knock-on effects that accelerate growth in various spheres, simply because we as a social species achieve great things when we have a common purpose.

Compared to, say Kerala, the trajectory of decay in public services in Uttar Pradesh, and its consequent status as a laggard state, runs in the opposite direction. The United Provinces under British rule was a relatively well-administered province while the princely state of Travancore, which is now part of Kerala, was a troubled place.

The economic trajectory of India's states follows the simple maxim of the modern era: the most important economic resource a country has is its people. A healthy and well-educated population with a reasonably well-run government is likely to have better economic prospects. The income levels and job prospects in south India, unsurprisingly, are significantly better than in the north.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from South vs North: India's Great Divide, by Nilakantan RS]

31. Which of the following, if true, would most accurately explain why the author says that a child born in south India will have 'greater political representation and more impact on elections as a voter' than a child born in north India?
- (A) There are fewer constituencies in south India than in north India.
 - (B) There are more voters per constituency in south India than in north India.
 - (C) There are more constituencies in north India than in south India.
 - (D) There are fewer voters per constituency in south India than in north India.
32. Which of the following can validly be inferred from the passage?
- (A) College enrolment rates in north India are lower than in south India.
 - (B) College enrolment rates in north India are higher than in south India.
 - (C) College enrolment rates in south India are lower than in north India.
 - (D) College enrolment rates in south India are the same as in north India.
33. Which Indian state has the lowest literacy rate?
- (A) Tamil Nadu
 - (B) Bihar
 - (C) Madhya Pradesh
 - (D) Rajasthan
34. According to the passage, which of the following is true about policy vision and implementation?
- (A) It has effects over the long term that might seem to be the result of bad fortune.
 - (B) It has effects in the short term that might seem to be the result of good fortune.
 - (C) It has effects over the long term that might seem to be the result of good fortune.

- (D) It has effects in the short term that might seem to be the result of bad fortune.
35. If the author's argument that the south doing better than the north is 'obviously not due to some policy implementation of the Government of India' is true, which of the following is also true in this case?
- (A) Federal government policies have had a uniform impact on states.
 - (B) Federal government policies have had varied impact on states.
 - (C) State government policies have had knock-on impacts on other states.
 - (D) State government policies have had no impact on the ground.
36. Which of the following is mandated with overseeing the adoption and monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals in India?
- (A) National Academy of Sciences
 - (B) Council of Industrial and Scientific Research
 - (C) Niti Aayog
 - (D) Planning Commission
37. Which Schedule to the Constitution of India lists the twenty-two official languages?
- (A) First Schedule
 - (B) Eighth Schedule
 - (C) Third Schedule
 - (D) Ninth Schedule
38. Which of the following is the author most likely to agree with about subnationalism?
- (A) It is stronger in Uttar Pradesh than in Kerala.
 - (B) It is stronger in Kerala than in Uttar Pradesh.
 - (C) It cannot explain the better development of some states than others.
 - (D) It is wrongly credited as the reason for the better development of some states.

39. If the information in the passage is true, which of the following parts of India is most likely to have a better rate of development?
- (A) A place where everyone speaks different languages.
 - (B) A place where everyone speaks the same language as in other parts of India.
 - (C) A place where everyone speaks at least three different languages.
 - (D) A place where everyone speaks the same local language.
40. Which of the following most strongly supports the author's arguments?
- (A) Richer countries do not invest in public health and education.
 - (B) Richer countries have better public health and education.
 - (C) Poorer countries have healthier and better-educated populations.
 - (D) Poorer countries invest more in public health and education.

Sample Passage 5

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) on Friday issued a series of provisional measures that require Israel to comply with the 1948 Genocide Convention, allow more humanitarian aid into Gaza and act against those who issue genocidal statements.

The World Court's interim ruling, in a case brought by South Africa accusing Israel of committing genocide in Gaza, stopped short of ordering Israel to pause or stop its devastating war on Gaza, which has killed more than 26,000 Palestinians in the enclave since October 7.

But it rejected Israel's contention that the court did not have the jurisdiction to direct provisional measures and iterated that its findings were binding.

The Palestinian Authority welcomed the ruling. "The ICJ ruling is an important reminder that no state is above the law or beyond the reach of justice," Palestinian Foreign Minister Riyadh Maliki said in a statement...

While the court itself does not have the power to enforce the interim ruling, or indeed the final verdict it delivers in the case, its directives on Friday could influence the war in Gaza, said analysts. Pressure has been mounting on Israel and its American backers in recent weeks, as global calls for a ceasefire continue to pick up steam.

Friday's ruling does not determine whether Israel is committing genocide, as South Africa has alleged. But Judge Joan Donahue, the current president of the ICJ, said while

announcing the provisional measures that the court had concluded that the “catastrophic situation” in Gaza could get much worse by the time it delivers its final verdict, necessitating provisional measures.

“The ruling sends a strong message to Israel that the court views the situation as very serious and that Israel should do what it can to perform restraint in carrying out its military campaign,” said Michael Becker, an assistant professor of international human rights law at Trinity College in Dublin who also served as an associate legal officer at the International Court of Justice in The Hague from 2010 to 2014.

The ICJ in its provisional measures did not order Israel to stop its military campaign in Gaza. South Africa had requested such a cease-and-desist directive in its request for provisional measures, citing the prospect of genocide in Gaza.

The court had ordered Russia to halt its war in Ukraine in March 2022, a month after it had launched an invasion of Ukraine, though Moscow has ignored that ruling.

So, Israel would not be in violation of the ICJ’s Friday directives in continuing with a war that it insists it will pursue until it has decimated Hamas, the Palestinian armed group that attacked southern Israel on October 7, killing nearly 1,200 people and abducting 240 others.

Yet, the government of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will likely be under greater scrutiny than ever over the actions of its soldiers in Gaza and the statements of its leaders and generals.

[Extracted from Justin Salhani, “What the ICJ’s interim ruling means for Israel’s War on Gaza”, Al Jazeera, 26 January 2024]

41. The workers of which of the following organizations were killed in a strike in the Gaza Strip by Israeli Defence Forces on April 1?

- (A) Doctors Without Borders
- (B) UNRWA
- (C) CARE
- (D) World Central Kitchen

42. According to the above extract, what are the contents of the ICJ ruling?

- (A) Israel has committed grave human rights violations in Gaza during its campaign against Hamas.
- (B) Israel must immediately cease its military campaign in Gaza.

- (C) Israel must immediately allow humanitarian aid into Gaza.
- (D) All of the above.
43. What does the ICJ ruling not determine?
- (A) Whether the ICJ had jurisdiction to direct provisional measures in the instant case.
- (B) Whether Israel has committed genocide in Gaza within the meaning of the Genocide Convention 1948.
- (C) Whether the provisional measures issued by ICJ are binding on Israel.
- (D) All of the above.
44. Who is the President of Ukraine?
- (A) Petro Poroshenko
- (B) Volodymyr Zelenskyy
- (C) Volodymyr Groysman
- (D) Dmytro Kuleba
45. What actions must Israel take according to the information in the passage, in order to comply with the ICJ's directive to take action against those who issue genocidal statements?
- (A) Initiate criminal action against wrongdoers.
- (B) Remove wrongdoers from public office.
- (C) Use the law to censor genocidal statements.
- (D) None of the above.
46. In the above extract, what is the relevance of the author's citation of the ICJ's ruling in the matter of Russia's war on Ukraine?
- (A) Just like ICJ had the jurisdiction to issue directives against Russia in its war on Ukraine, so it has jurisdiction to issue directives against Israel as well.
- (B) The ICJ issued a clear ruling against Russia that it was committing genocide

in Ukraine, but did not do so in case of Israel.

(C) The ICJ issued a clear ruling against Russia directing it to cease its military operations in Ukraine, but did not do so in case of Israel.

(D) Just as Russia ignored the ICJ's ruling in its war on Ukraine, so has Israel.

47. According to the passage, what explains South Africa's status in bringing the claim against Israel in its war on Gaza?

(A) South Africa is a former-apartheid state, and thus bears close affinity to the conditions of Palestinians in Gaza.

(B) South Africa is a member of the international community keen on upholding international law.

(C) South Africa was acting at the behest of the Palestinian Authority.

(D) None of the above.

48. Which of the following countries instituted proceedings against Ecuador in the International Court of Justice in April 2024?

(A) Argentina

(B) South Africa

(C) Israel

(D) Mexico

49. How would the statement of the Palestinian Foreign Minister quoted in the passage, apply in the context of the ICJ's ruling in Russia's war on Ukraine?

(A) Russia should have abided by the ICJ directives to cease its military operations in Ukraine.

(B) Russia is not subject to the powers of the ICJ.

(C) Russia was within its powers to disregard the ICJ ruling as a sovereign state.

(D) Russia was within its powers to disregard the ICJ ruling as it is not a signatory to the Genocide Convention.

50. Which of the following statements best describe the meaning of the word ‘ceasefire’?
- (A) To put an end to war by discontinuing the military campaign.
 - (B) To temporarily halt military operations.
 - (C) To negotiate a political settlement with the opposing side.
 - (D) To permit victims access to humanitarian aid.

Sample Passage 6

The freedom of speech and expression occupies a central place in contemporary political thought and practice. International and regional human rights conventions, ratified by most nations, are committed to guaranteeing free speech and expression to all. Constitutional democracies worldwide have enshrined it as an individual right, often enforceable against the government in a court of law. Today, it would be difficult to imagine a State that calls itself a democracy and does not, at the very least, pay lip service to the ideal of free speech and expression.

This is hardly surprising. We are communicative beings. We use language and other forms of symbolic conduct to construct the world around us, to make ourselves intelligible to others, and to shape our own personalities. Therefore, the freedom to speak and to express oneself understandably ranks high in the list of core human interests. But while free expression is understood and accepted as a vital liberty in the abstract, its application to concrete situations has always been contested and controversial. To start with, it is clear that not all communicative acts are, or ought to be, protected under the rubric of free expression. We probably all agree that laws prohibiting and punishing murder, which prevent a nihilist from ‘expressing’ his philosophy through action, are justified. To take a more familiar example, we probably also agree that punishing a doctor who knowingly provides false information to a patient regarding a life-threatening drug, presents no free speech concerns. Yet these, like others, are communicative acts, and we need to explain why we believe that some—but not all—communicative acts ought to be protected, and where the difference lies.

Not all instances are as intuitively obvious as the aforementioned two examples. Most constitutional democracies have witnessed bitter controversies over the nature and scope of the free speech principle. Should hate speech be protected? Should people be free to consume pornography? Should enthusiastic anarchists be allowed to encourage others to disobey the law? Should we punish people for slandering and defaming others? To what extent should the norms of copyright law prevent people from copying others’ expression? To even begin to answer these questions—as topical in India as everywhere else—we need

a theory, or theories, of free speech. What is valuable about free speech? What are we trying to protect, why are we trying to protect it, and which threats are we trying to protect it from? The enquiry cannot avoid questions of deep political and moral philosophy—of the meaning of democracy, of individual rights, and of the human self.

If controversial questions about free speech cannot be answered without recourse to theory, and if constitutional texts, which do no more than guarantee ‘the freedom of speech and expression’ in abstract terms provide little assistance, it is clear that in deciding a free speech case, courts are applying theory (whether they are aware of it or not).

[Extracted with edits from Gautam Bhatia, *Offend, Shock, or Disturb: Free Speech under the Indian Constitution* (2016)]

51. Which of the following statements is the author most likely to disagree with?
- (A) Modern political thought has acknowledged the importance of freedom of speech.
 - (B) Although all democracies may not uphold freedom of speech to the fullest extent possible, all of them at least pretend to take free speech seriously.
 - (C) Many prominent global treaties attempt to guarantee freedom of speech and expression.
 - (D) Freedom of speech and expression, unlike many of the other fundamental freedoms, does not rank high in the list of human interests.
52. Which among the following is not a reason given by the author to emphasise the importance of language, and by corollary, freedom of speech?
- (A) Humans are communicative beings.
 - (B) Without language and freedom of speech, the world will become a chaotic place.
 - (C) Humans use language to construct the world around them and make themselves intelligible.
 - (D) Humans use language to shape their own personalities.
53. Extrapolating from the examples given by the author, which of the following would be examples of communicative acts which are most likely to deserve protection under the rubric of free expression?

- (A) An arsonist setting fire to a building.
 - (B) A lawyer lying to the court on behalf of their client.
 - (C) Raising of slogans in a protest rally.
 - (D) An anarchist sabotaging a train.
54. Which among the following is a reason given by the author to demonstrate that the application of free expression as a vital liberty to concrete situations is difficult?
- (A) While certain communicative acts are unambiguously beyond the protective cover of free speech, there are certain other acts whose status is difficult to determine.
 - (B) Free speech is inherently an abstract concept, incapable of application to real life situations.
 - (C) Proponents of free speech have conflated the boundaries of theory and practice.
 - (D) Cultural outlook of a country determines the exact scope of application of free speech in that jurisdiction.
55. The formulation of free speech theories facilitates which of the following?
- (A) Gives one an understanding of why free speech is valuable.
 - (B) Helps one evaluate the reasons to protect free speech.
 - (C) Enables one to identify the nature of threats from which free speech needs protection.
 - (D) All of the above.
56. Why does the author say that courts are essentially applying free speech theory while deciding cases relating to freedom of speech?
- (A) Controversial questions about free speech cannot be answered without recourse to theory.
 - (B) Even if courts rely on constitutional texts, they do no more than guarantee 'the freedom of speech and expression' in abstract terms and provide little assistance.

- (C) Neither A or B
- (D) Both A and B.
57. Which of the following questions of moral and political philosophy does the author mention are unavoidable in the enquiry into the foundational ideas of free speech?
- (A) Meaning of democracy, human self and individual rights.
- (B) Meaning of political economy and human psyche.
- (C) The inherent biases within judges of a court.
- (D) Nature of legislative bodies as majoritarian institutions.
58. Against which of the following organizations did the New York Times institute a copyright infringement suit in 2023 for using their material to train AI technologies?
- (A) Microsoft
- (B) Google
- (C) Suno
- (D) Samsung
59. India's ranking in the 2023 World Press Freedom Index fell to 161 from 150 in 2022. Which organization publishes the World Press Freedom Index?
- (A) Amnesty International.
- (B) Reporters sans Frontières
- (C) V-Dem (Varieties of Democracy) Project.
- (D) UNESCO

Sample Passage 7

Especially in Western nations, media is a profound cultural force not just for telling us who we are but shaping who we can be. I couldn't have known it would all turn out all right for Gibran's intellectual and emotional growth or for my feminist enterprise that I gave him almost unfettered access to all sorts of media. I just kind of knew it in my gut.

Gibran went from watching delightful cartoons like The Powerpuff Girls while I worked, to

watching Gilmore Girls with me (we'd settle in front of the TV with our dinner bowls of rice and dal and sing the title song out loud together) to playing video games with his friends to spending hours online on his own, first on his computer and then on his phone. Each medium, each portal, each platform took him further and further away from my eye.

Brace yourself for some startling statistics. A 2019 census of the media use of tweens and teens, conducted by Common Sense Media, an independent non-profit, found that on average, eight to twelve-year-olds in America consume just under five hours' worth of entertainment screen media per day and teens an average of just under seven and a half hours' worth—these estimates do not include time spent using screens for school or homework.

Let that sink in.

Also, the medium that parents of Gen Xers and millennials were so worried about—television—is no longer the main actor. By age eleven, a majority (53 per cent) of kids have their own smartphone, and by twelve more than two-thirds (69 per cent) do, and that's where they're consuming media.

Here's something that tells us why parenting our boys in their use of media may need greater focus. The census found that boys and girls have vastly different tastes in media (it did not mention what tastes non-binary kids have). Boys enjoy all types of gaming more than girls do: mobile games, computer games, and especially console video games. Video gaming is boys' favourite media activity; for girls, it's one of their least favourite, the census found. Forty-one per cent of boys play video games 'every day,' compared to 9 per cent of girls.

Girls' favourite media activity, by far, is listening to music. Overall, girls enjoy music, reading, and television more than boys; and boys are more likely to enjoy video gaming and watching online videos. There continues to be a big difference between boys and girls in terms of enjoyment and use of social media, the research found. Among teens, where social-media use is most common, 50 per cent of all girls say they enjoy using social media 'a lot' compared to about a third (32 per cent) of boys. Seventy per cent of teen girls say they use social media 'every day,' compared to 56 per cent of boys.

[Extracted with edits from: Sonora Jha, How to Raise a Feminist Son (2021)]

60. What does the author think of the impact of media in Western nations?

(A) Media is a deeply impactful cultural force which not only tells people who they are but also shapes them.

- (B) Media has had a negative impact on the development of children and young adults.
- (C) Media cannot shape the society in any meaningful way as it is closely regulated.
- (D) The ownership of prominent media houses by corporate houses has created a consumer culture in the Western nations.

61. Which of the following would best describe the author's decision to provide her son – Gibran - unlimited access to media?

- (A) The author, being a media scholar, had carefully studied the impact of media on children and gave access accordingly.
- (B) The author knew that her son would use media in a careful way and gave access only after being convinced of his abilities to use it wisely.
- (C) Although the author couldn't have been sure about the impact that media may have on her son's intellectual and emotional growth, she had an intuition that it will be alright.
- (D) Providing such access was the norm in the society and the author just followed this norm.

62. According to the information in the passage, which of the following statements is true?

- (A) On average, teens in America consume just under five hours' worth of entertainment screen media per day, including the time spent using screens for school or homework.
- (B) On average, eight to twelve-year-olds in America consume just under five hours' worth of entertainment screen media per day, including the time spent using screens for school or homework.
- (C) On average, eight to twelve-year-olds in America consume just under five hours' worth of entertainment screen media per day, excluding the time spent using screens for school or homework.
- (D) On average, eight to twelve-year-olds in America consume just over seven hours' worth of entertainment screen media per day, excluding the time spent using screens for school or homework.

63. Which of the following statements best describes the evolution of Gibran's media consumption practices?
- (A) While media consumption was a solitary activity for Gibran initially, soon afterwards, he only consumed it with his peers.
 - (B) Although Gibran was extremely interested in media as a child, he soon became disinterested in it.
 - (C) As he grew older, Gibran made it a point to only watch shows when he was having meals with his mother.
 - (D) Gibran went from watching shows with the author to playing video games with his friends to spending a large amount of time online on his own.
64. Which one of the following statements is not true according to the extract given above?
- (A) Gen Xers and millennials predominantly consume media through their smartphones.
 - (B) Parents of Gen Xers and millennials were the sole reason for the excessive consumption of media by their children.
 - (C) Although parents of Gen Xers and millennials were most worried about their children consuming too much television, it was not the medium which was most consumed by them.
 - (D) By age eleven, a majority (53 per cent) of kids have their own smartphone, and by twelve more than two-thirds (69 per cent) do.
65. Why does the author say that parenting boys in their use of media may need greater focus?
- (A) The media consumption habits of boys differed drastically from that of girls.
 - (B) Video gaming is boys' favourite media activity and for girls, it's one of their least favourite.
 - (C) Both A and B.
 - (D) Neither A or B.
66. What are some of the main points of difference in the media consumption habits of

boys and girls?

- (A) Among teens, where social-media use is most common, 50 per cent of all girls enjoy using social media 'a lot' compared to 32 per cent of boys.
- (B) Seventy per cent of teen girls say they use social media 'every day,' compared to 56 per cent of boys.
- (C) Girls' favourite media activity is listening to music and boys are more likely to enjoy video gaming and watching online videos.
- (D) All of the above.

67. Which of the following won the 2024 Academy Award in the category "Best Documentary Feature Film"?

- (A) To Kill a Tiger
- (B) 20 Days in Mariupol
- (C) The Last Repair Shop
- (D) The Elephant Whisperers

68. 'Oppenheimer' – a biographical film about American physicist Robert J Oppenheimer – was directed by?

- (A) Martin Scorsese
- (B) Christopher Nolan
- (C) Quentin Tarantino
- (D) Steven Spielberg

Sample Passage 8

I shall come presently to other aspects of Marx's writings that I found particularly interesting. But, before doing so, I want to discuss briefly some of his idiosyncrasies which became increasingly clearer to me as I continued reading his work. Compared with the extensive economic analyses in which Marx was clearly interested – involving the labour theory of value, unequal ownership of the means of production, widespread exploitation of labour, the falling rate of profit and so on – Marx's scrutiny of political organization seemed oddly rudimentary. It is hard to think of a more breathless bit of

theorizing than the idea of ‘the dictatorship of the proletariat’, with underspecified characterization of what the proletariat’s demands are (or should be), and very little by way of how the actual political arrangements under such a dictatorship might work. In fact there seemed to me a striking lack of interest in Marx’s writings in the problem of how to move on from people’s preferences and priorities to actual social decisions and governmental actions – important aspects of ‘social choice’. Since I was becoming more and more interested in understanding social choice, Marx’s evident reluctance to get into much of that was rather disappointing.

Also, there is an important lacuna in Marx’s treatment of democracy. As John Kenneth Galbraith would make us understand, democracy may be well served if one powerful group exercises ‘countervailing power’ over another, so that no potentially irresistible group becomes too powerful. Galbraith’s ideas began to emerge in my mind as a good supplement to Marx in understanding how democracy might actually work.

It is not, of course, fair to blame Marx (as he sometimes is) for the authoritarian practices of the communist regimes that claim that his thinking was their inspiration, since he neither devised nor recommended them. But surely he would have had reason to appreciate that his reluctance to talk about how power is to be distributed, or exercised, in a post-capitalist society would leave gaps that could be filled with dangerously authoritarian additions. The constructive role of oppositional politics seemed to escape Marx’s attention significantly.

Also, Marx could not be accused of being indifferent to liberty, or to freedom of choice. In fact he was very interested in the freedom to choose. However, his neglect of political organization and of safeguards against authoritarianism may well have contributed to a distortion of the demands of liberty through the unaddressed role of pressure groups and the unchecked use of political power. The lack of liberty and freedom that has been a persistent problem of regimes with Marxist credentials may not have been in any way advocated by Marx, but nevertheless it had a favourable atmosphere in which to flourish as a result of his reticence to comment on power and pressure groups.

[Extracted from *Home in the World - A Memoir* by Amartya Sen, Penguin Books Ltd, 2021]

69. Which of the following best represents the author’s critique of Marx’s writings on political organization?

- (A) The author contends that Marx’s analysis of political organization is comprehensive but overly complex.
- (B) The author argues that Marx’s writings on political organization are too focused on practical implementation, neglecting broader theoretical considerations.

- (C) The author finds fault with Marx's detailed exploration of social choice and governmental actions, deeming it irrelevant to his economic theories.
- (D) The author suggests that Marx's ideas on political organization lack depth and specificity, particularly in terms of the dominance of the working-class.
70. Which of the following statements, if true, would weaken the author's critique of Marx's treatment of social choice?
- (A) The author discovers that Marx's reluctance to delve into the complexities of social choice is intentional, as he believed these matters were best left to practical application rather than theoretical analysis.
- (B) Marx's writings extensively address the intricacies of social choice and provide detailed solutions for moving from individual preferences to societal decisions.
- (C) Upon further examination, the author realizes that Marx's focus on economic analysis inherently incorporates considerations of social choice, rendering the criticism unfounded.
- (D) It is revealed that Marx's earlier works, not examined by the author, actually delve deeply into the problem of social choice, demonstrating a more comprehensive understanding than initially perceived.
71. What were Abhijit Banerjee, Esther Duflo, and Michael Kremer awarded the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences for?
- (A) Their theoretical contributions to macroeconomics.
- (B) Their innovative use of econometric modeling techniques.
- (C) Their experimental approach to alleviating global poverty.
- (D) Their advocacy for free market capitalism.
72. Which of the following is not a book authored by Amartya Sen?
- (A) Development as Freedom
- (B) The Idea of Justice
- (C) The Argumentative Indian

(D) Languages of Truth

73. How does the author suggest Marx's reticence to comment on power and pressure groups contributed to issues with liberty and freedom in regimes with Marxist credentials?
- (A) By directly advocating for authoritarian practices
 - (B) By fostering an environment favourable to the unchecked use of political power
 - (C) By actively promoting the role of pressure groups in political decision-making
 - (D) By implementing robust safeguards against authoritarianism
74. Which of the following, if true, would most challenge the assertion that Marx was deeply interested in the freedom to choose, as described in the passage?
- (A) Marx occasionally expressed reservations about the practical implications of individual liberties within a socialist framework.
 - (B) Marx's writings on freedom primarily focused on collective autonomy rather than individual choice.
 - (C) Marx's later works indicate a shift towards prioritising state control over individual freedoms, reflecting a more authoritarian stance.
 - (D) Marx's personal correspondence suggests a nuanced perspective on freedom, balancing individual rights with societal needs.
75. Which statement summarizes the author's concern about Marx's approach to power distribution and its potential impact on authoritarianism?
- (A) The author claims Marx supported authoritarian practices in communist regimes.
 - (B) The author asserts Marx advocated for authoritarian additions to post-capitalist societies.
 - (C) The author suggests Marx's silence on power distribution could foster authoritarian tendencies.
 - (D) The author believes Marx's focus on oppositional politics countered authoritarianism effectively.

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Part B

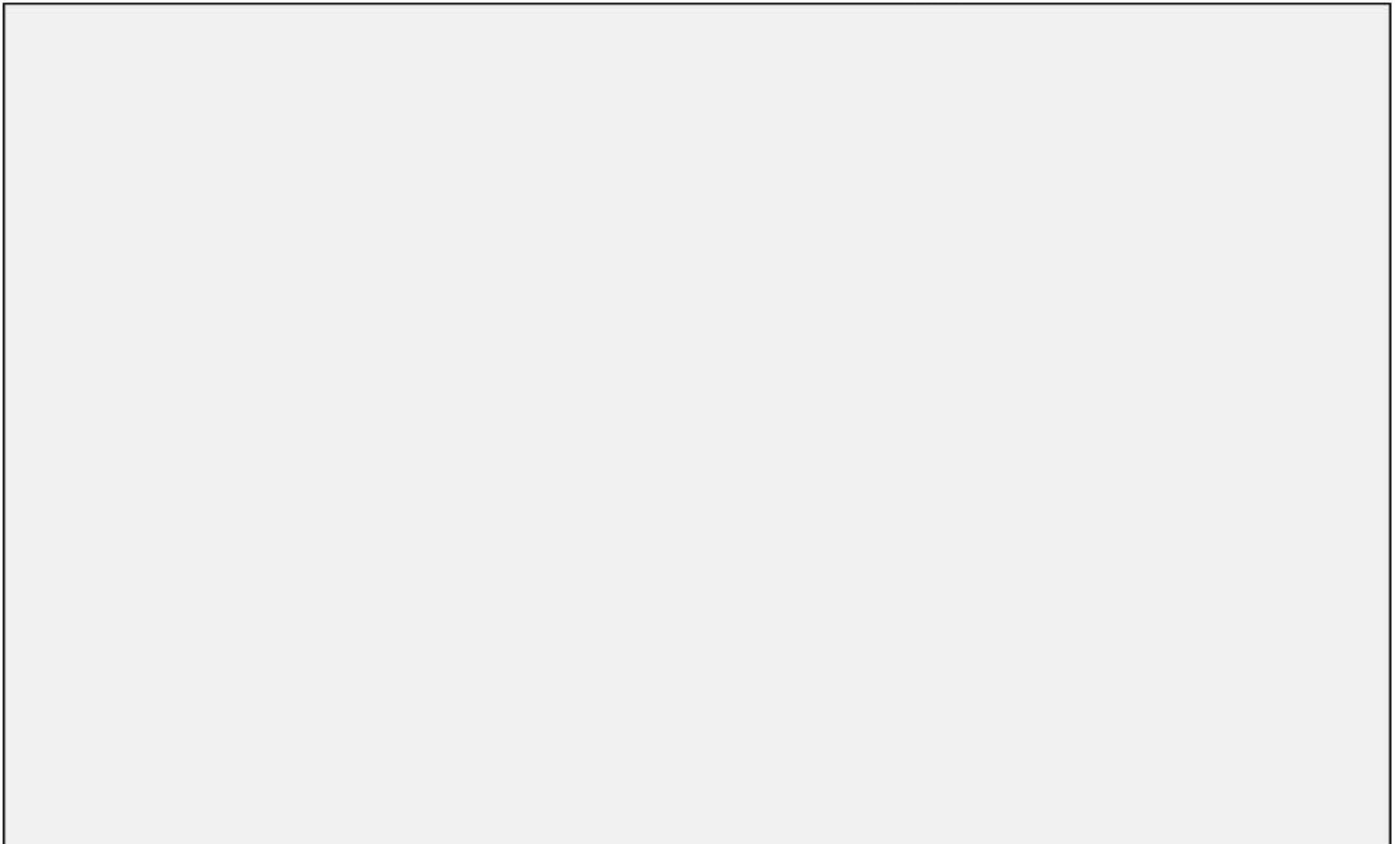
Instructions:

1. Part B of the paper consists of 5 (five) Legal Aptitude/Reasoning problem-based questions and 1 (one) Analytical Ability essay question.
2. Each question in the Legal Aptitude/Reasoning section of Part B is for a maximum of 12 marks.
3. This sample paper contains five sample legal Aptitude/reasoning problem-based questions for practice from NLSAT-LLB 2024.
4. Candidates must answer all the Legal Aptitude/Reasoning questions in the space provided in the paper. In this sample paper, the space is indicated through a grey box. No additional sheets will be provided.
5. Responses to Legal Aptitude/Reasoning questions must be based on the information supplied in the question. No prior knowledge of the law is expected.
6. The Analytical Ability essay section in Part B has three options. Candidates must write an essay of not more than 500 words on one of the provided topics in the space provided for the essay, and must clearly indicate the Question No. being attempted. Candidates shall be tested on their knowledge of the issue, the ability to make cogent written arguments, and the ability to write a well-structured essay. Knowledge of the law is not expected. No additional sheets will be provided. The question carries a maximum of 15 marks.
7. This sample paper contains two options for the Analytical Ability essay questions for practice from NLSAT-LLB 2024.

Sample Problem 1

Riya is a young Indian popstar who is known for her songs with lively beats and relatable lyrics. Her friendship with Manvi, another Indian popstar is well-known and often makes headlines in tabloids. In late 2023, the gossip magazine, Mirror Mirror, carried a piece which insinuated that Riya and Manvi had had a falling out over a role in an upcoming movie. The magazine reported that unconfirmed rumours suggested that the two friends had had an argument after it came to light that one of them (unnamed in the article) had 'backstabbed' the other in order to get a role in the movie.

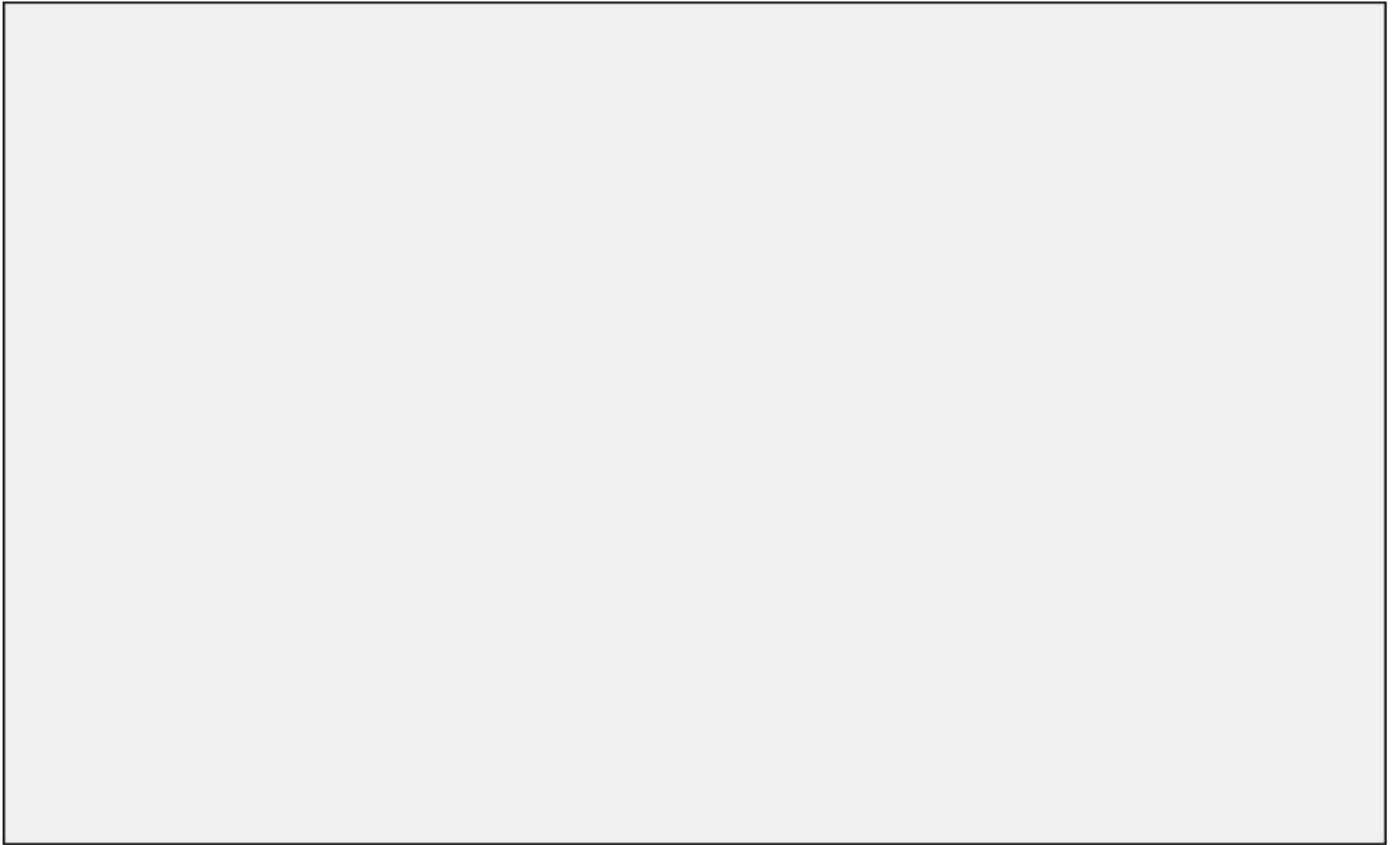
In January 2024, Riya came out with a new single that instantly topped the charts. The single, named 'If Only I Knew', spoke of an unknown character's disappointment with another person. The chorus of the song contained the lyrics, "if only I knew that you were so not true, That you'd take a knife to my back, et tu, et tu, a job is all it takes to end it all and show that character lack." The background vocals when these lines were sung chanted, "Traitor... Traitor... You like Brutus was to Caesar". In the midst of speculation as to what this song was about, Manvi decided to file a suit against Riya claiming that Riya's song had demeaned her in the eyes of the public. How would you decide Manvi's claim?



Sample Problem 2

The Republic of Fresco (Fresco) and the Democratic Union Territories of the Western Featherhead (Featherhead) entered into a treaty which provided the legal framework for investors of each of these countries to make investments in the other country. Among its provisions, the treaty prohibited 'expropriation', which was defined as "the taking of an investment by the State, or any other actions of the State that amounted to the taking of an investment or substantial deprivation of the enjoyment of the investment, when not backed by a public purpose". Any violations under the treaty were to be brought for resolution to the World Court for Dispute Settlement (WCDS).

WooHoo Burgers is a company incorporated in Fresco, which decided to open up branches in Featherhead under the protection of the treaty. The decision was a profitable one and WooHoo Burgers soon became the top foreign food and beverage chain in Featherhead. In July 2023, the top university in Featherhead published an extensive years-long study which indicated that certain fast-foods including burgers had a drastic negative impact on the life expectancy of young people because of the ingredients used in the products. The study also noted that one of the factors that attracted young people to the foods was its attractive packaging. In light of the report, Featherhead decided to enforce a law that required all fast-food companies to place graphic health warnings on their packaging and convert their packaging font to a standard "Bore New Times" font in black and white. WooHoo Burgers filed a claim before the WCDS stating that the prohibition on expropriation as expressed under the treaty had been violated. Should the WCDS accept WooHoo Burgers' argument?



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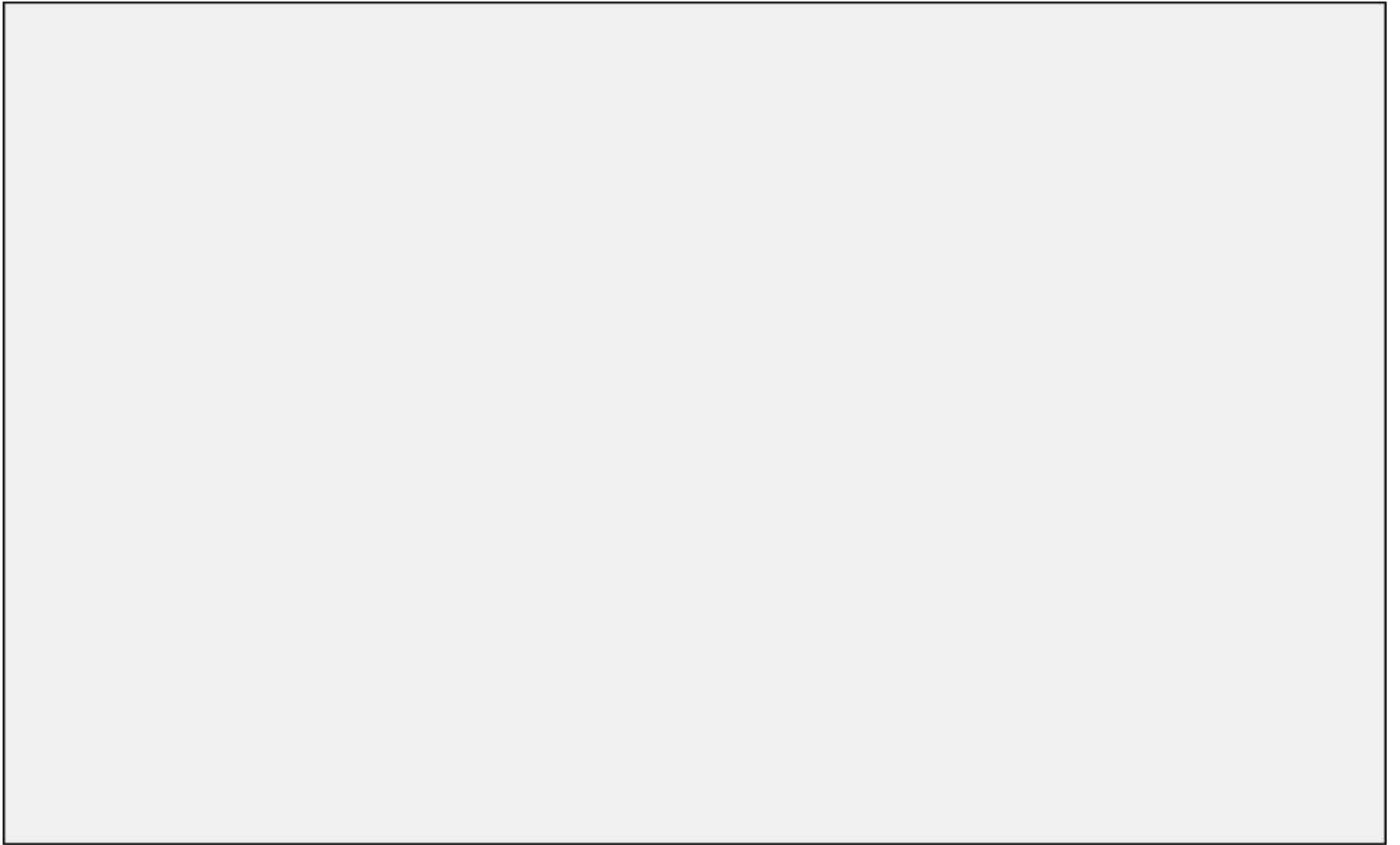
Sample Problem 3

In the fictional city of Lakeview, a law exists stating: “Any individual who causes harm to another person, directly or indirectly, leading to severe injury or death, shall be subject to criminal liability; However, an individual may use reasonable and proportionate force to defend themselves or others from imminent harm, even if such action may cause harm to the aggressor as long as the force used is the minimum required to avert the threat.”

One night, Ms. Singh, known for her expertise in cyber security, discovered a significant flaw in the city’s emergency response system. She decided to inform the relevant authorities by demonstrating the flaw. When she contacted the relevant authorities, they disregarded her claim. She also tried to get the media involved. However, they too did not take her seriously.

Since she was not being believed, Ms Singh decided to demonstrate the flaws and vulnerabilities in the city’s emergency response system. She remotely accessed the system, triggering a false alarm for a major fire at a non-existent address. However, this caused widespread panic and resulted in the emergency services rushing to the fake location. During this chaos, an ambulance involved in the response to the false alarm collided with a motorcycle, severely injuring the motorcyclist.

Ms. Singh is charged under the city’s law for indirectly causing harm leading to severe injury. She argues that she intended to improve public safety by exposing a critical system flaw and that she could not have foreseen the specific series of events leading to the accident. Should Ms. Singh be held criminally liable for the injuries sustained by the motorcyclist?



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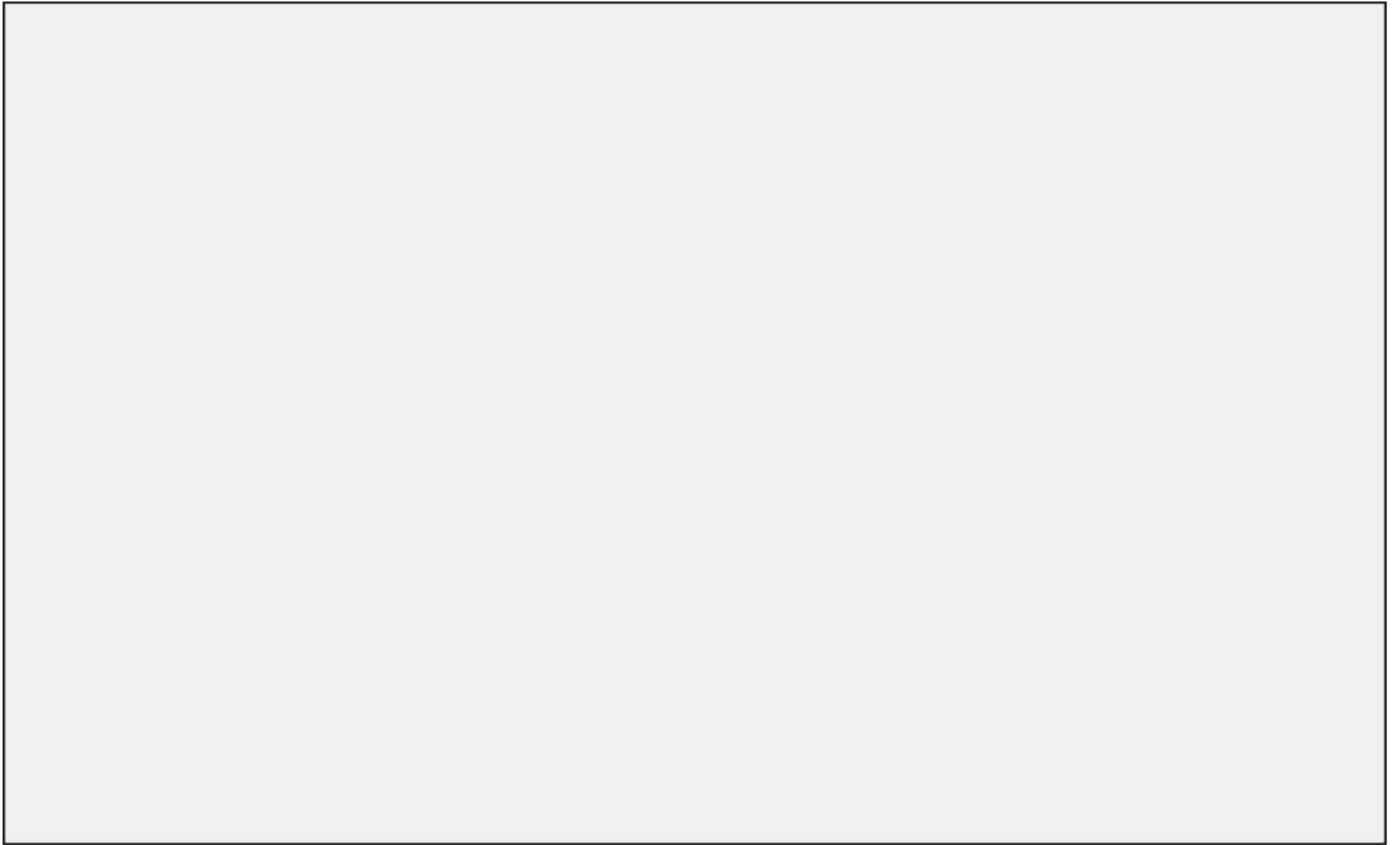
Sample Problem 4

In the hypothetical republic of Oceana, a small island nation known for its rich archaeological heritage, the government enacted the Cultural Heritage Protection Act (“CHPA”) to safeguard its archaeological resources. The Act prohibits the unauthorised excavation, removal, exploration or mapping of archaeological sites and imposes a maximum penalty of five years in prison and substantial fines for anyone found guilty. The CHPA was introduced to combat the increasing instances of looting and unauthorised sales of cultural property in archaeological sites, which were significantly damaging the country’s archaeological heritage.

Dr. Lora Craft, a renowned archaeologist specialising in ancient Oceana civilizations, was conducting a research project on the potential locations of settlements from the pre-classical era. Utilising satellite imagery analysis to identify likely archaeological sites, Dr. Craft discovered what she believed to be an undiscovered settlement. Believing in the importance of her find, she used non-invasive subsurface radar to confirm the presence of structures underground, indicative of a significant archaeological site.

Without obtaining an excavation permit, believing that her non-invasive methods did not constitute excavation or exploration, Dr. Craft published her findings in an international archaeological journal. Her publication included detailed images and data from her satellite and radar analyses, aiming to secure funding and official permission for a full-scale excavation.

However, the publication led to her being prosecuted under the CHPA for unauthorised digital mapping and exploration of archaeological sites. Dr. Craft argues that her use of non-invasive technology does not equate to excavation and that her actions were in the interest of preserving Oceana’s cultural heritage by bringing attention to a previously unknown site. Should Dr. Craft be found guilty under the CHPA?



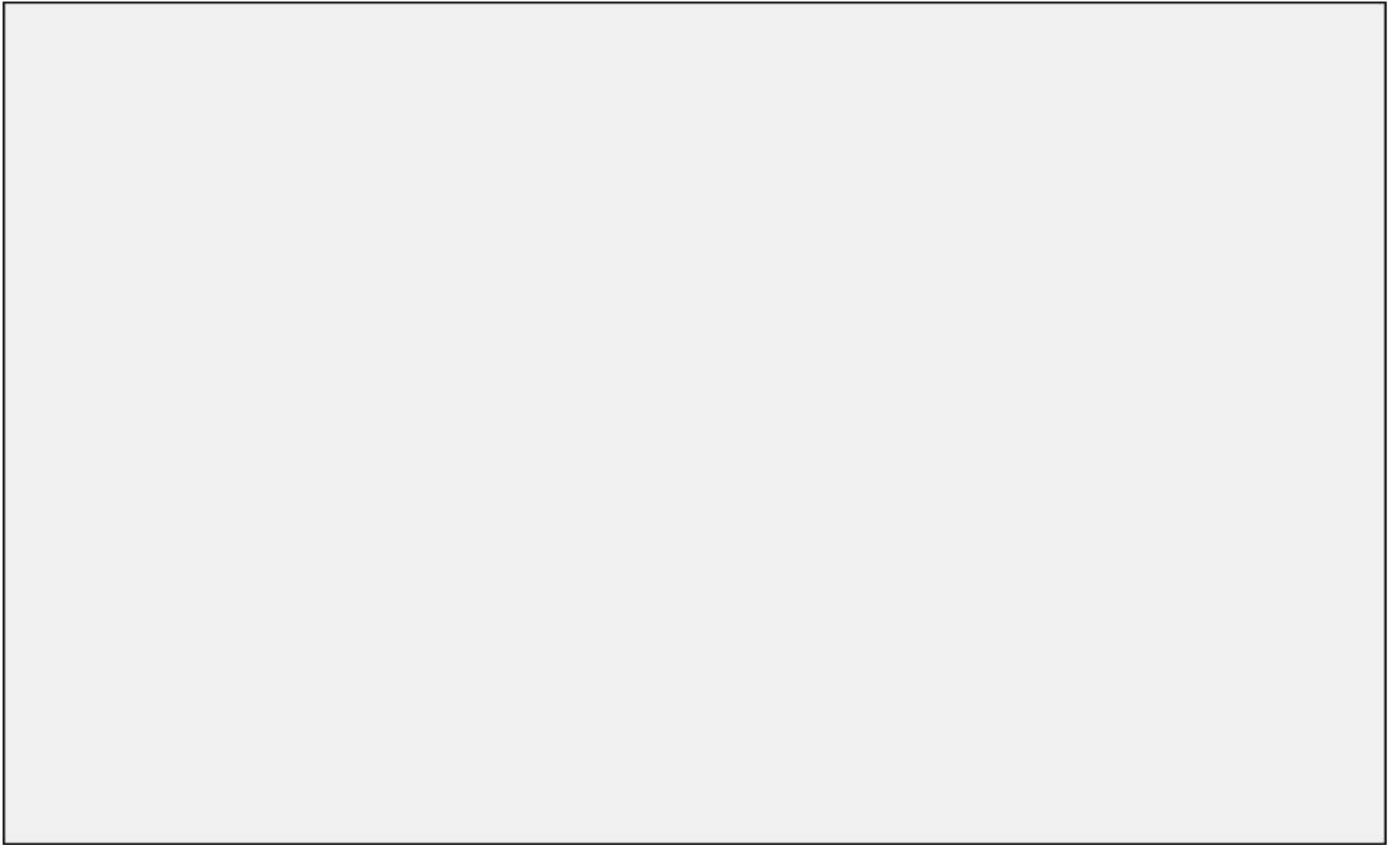
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Sample Problem 5

In 2022, Republic of Bongopolly passed a law on grant of asylum to refugees, the Bongopolly Asylum Act 2022. One of the provisions of this law states that ‘every person who has fled the country of their nationality because of fear of severe threat to their life in the country of their nationality on account of their race, religion or political opinion and seeks asylum in Bongopolly shall be granted refugee status’. In the first major case decided under this law in 2023, the Supreme Court of Bongopolly clarified that the phrase “severe threat to their life will include cases of imposition of substantial economic disadvantage that results in a total deprivation of livelihood.”

Lou Solverson is a renowned film maker (with several national and international awards for his films) and a national of Nidraapur, one of the countries that neighbours Bongopolly. In one of his television interviews, Lou Solverson spoke in favour of maintaining amity between different ethnic communities that live in Nidraapur and the need to ensure equal protection of law for all persons, regardless of their ethnic identity. Lou Solverson’s interview triggered a massive backlash on social media from the supporters of the ruling party of Nidraapur who saw his comments as thinly veiled critique of the government. Lou Solverson was subjected to abusive messages on Instagram and Twitter. In addition, one of several companies with whom Lou Solverson had endorsement contracts, terminated their contract with him.

In response, Lou Solverson left Nidraapur and shifted his film studio to Siestaanagar, the capital of Bongopolly. While he had to spend a sizeable sum on the studio, he was able to resume his ongoing projects within six months of arriving at Siestaanagar. As he approached the date of expiry of his visa, he applied for asylum and grant of refugee status by the Government of Bongopolly under the Bongopolly Asylum Act, 2022. Should Lou Solverson be considered eligible for the asylum?



National Law School of India

Analytical Ability Essay

“In an unequal society, those who land on top want to believe their success is morally justified. In a meritocratic society, this means the winners must believe they have earned their success through their talent and hard work. ... Debates about who deserves what abound in contemporary politics. On the surface, these debates are about fairness: Does everyone have a truly equal opportunity to compete for desirable goods and social positions?” [Michael Sandel, *The Tyranny of Merit: What’s Become of the Common Good?* (2020)].

Is meritocracy a fair system for the distribution of burdens and benefits in society?

OR

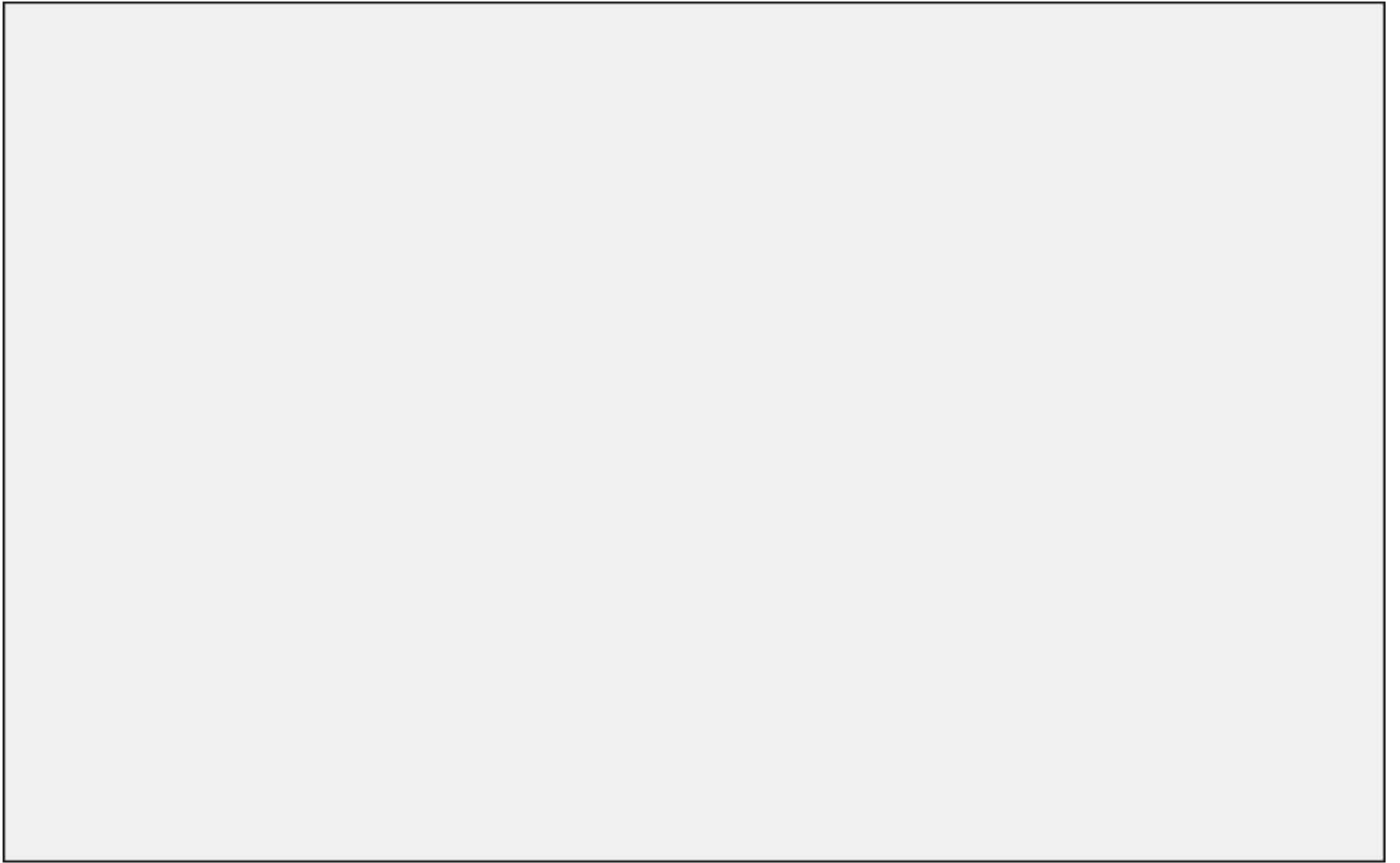
“Climate justice seeks historical accountability from nations and entities responsible for climate change and calls for a radical transformation of the contemporary systems that shape the relationship between humans and the rest of the planet. The status quo is that global and national systems distribute the suffering associated with the global ecological crisis on a racially discriminatory basis.” [Report of the Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance on Ecological Crisis, Climate Justice and Racial Justice (2022)].

Should the burden and responsibility of mitigating the climate crisis be equally distributed across the world?

OR

“Competitive sports is perhaps the last major domain where the strict differentiation of men and women is maintained to promote equality and fairness. In every other domain, including armed combat in defence forces, the opening up of previously male worlds to women is celebrated. But in sports, the separation of women and men is deemed necessary to maintain fairness in competition.” [Sohini Chattopadhyay, *The Day I Became a Runner* (2023)].

How should transpersons be accommodated within competitive sports?



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ANSWER KEY - PART A

Sample Passage 1

Q. No.	Correct Option
1	D
2	C
3	C
4	D
5	A
6	D
7	A
8	B
9	B
10	C

Sample Passage 2

Q. No.	Correct Option
11	C
12	D
13	A
14	B
15	D
16	A
17	B
18	D

19	B
20	B

Sample Passage 3

Q. No.	Correct Option
21	C
22	B
23	C
24	A
25	B
26	D
27	C
28	D
29	B
30	A

Sample Passage 4

Q. No.	Correct Option
31	D
32	A
33	B
34	C
35	A
36	C
37	B

38	B
39	D
40	B

Sample Passage 5

Q. No.	Correct Option
41	D
42	C
43	B
44	B
45	D
46	C
47	D
48	D
49	A
50	B

Sample Passage 6

Q. No.	Correct Option
51	D
52	B
53	C
54	A
55	D
56	D
57	A
58	A

59	B
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Sample Passage 7

Q. No.	Correct Option
60	A
61	C
62	C
63	D
64	B
65	C
66	D
67	B
68	B

Sample Passage 8

Q. No.	Correct Option
69	D
70	A
71	C
72	D
73	B
74	C
75	C