VARC

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow:

There have been two recent remarkable events concerning national security law in the United Kingdom. The first was a prosecution that collapsed. The case was about alleged spies in the offices of members of parliament. The allegation was that two individuals were passing sensitive information to China. That prosecutions collapse is not by itself remarkable: cases get pulled all the time. But the circumstances of how this matter came to an end are rather odd.

The official reason is that the prosecution felt it no longer had sufficient evidence for a realistic prospect of prosecution, but this makes no sense. There was sufficient evidence to bring the charges in the first place, and the evidence base did not change. The second remarkable event was the government's publishing three witness statements given at various times by its deputy national security adviser. This was evidence to be placed before the court to support the prosecution. For such documents to be placed directly into the public domain is extraordinary.

This ploy helped the government in the face of political criticism. The statements show a government assisting the prosecution by providing relevant evidence. The documents counter accusations by the opposition that the government pressed the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) to drop the case. We do not have all the relevant information, and that is not unusual. The case is about national security, and so we can expect there are things we are not told. There may have been interventions from ministers or officials, but we simply do not know.

But based on the information available, there is a mystery. And as long as there is this mystery, there will be political and media interest—and public speculation. The director of public prosecutions (DPP), who heads the CPS, has not helped himself by his clumsy public handling of the case. His letter to members of parliament on the decision to drop the prosecution raises more questions than it answers. In that letter, the DPP blamed two things. First, he blamed a recent High Court case for narrowing the applicable law, but the case he meant was not in the High Court and it did not narrow the law. Second, he blamed the government for not providing the evidence then required, but the published witness statements show the CPS did get that evidence.

The excuses offered by the DPP are unconvincing and even look like post-facto rationalisations. It is difficult, if not impossible, to see the supposed reasons as explaining why the case was dropped. A close look at the published witness statements indicates that the CPS may have made other errors. The first witness statement points to the CPS having asked

for evidence for an offence under the National Security Act 2023, which requires the prosecution to show that the information was "prejudicial to the safety or interests" of the United Kingdom. But the defendants were not charged under that statute, which was not in force at the time of the relevant offences. They were instead charged under the old Official Secrets Act 1911, which requires evidence of the information being of use to "an enemy."

1. The passage most strongly suggests that the actual reason for the prosecution's collapse was:
A. the CPS's realization that it had been preparing evidence for a legal standard that did not apply to the charges filed.
B. the government's failure to provide the witness statements on time.
C. a secret intervention by government ministers to protect diplomatic relations with China.
D. a recent High Court case that genuinely narrowed the scope of the 1911 Act, making a conviction impossible.

2. The passage suggests that the legal standard of the Official Secrets Act 1911 is different from that of the National Security Act 2023 in that the 1911 Act requires proving:
A. the information was prejudicial to the safety or interests of the United Kingdom.
B. the information was passed before the 2023 Act came into force.
C. the defendants were actively working for a foreign power, whereas the 2023 Act does not.
D. the information was specifically of use to a nation designated as an enemy.

3. Which of the following, if true, would most seriously weaken the author's central argument about the real reason for the case's collapse?
A. Leaked documents show government ministers did secretly meet with the DPP and pressure him to drop the case.
B. An independent legal review confirms that the High Court case did in fact narrow the 1911 law, just as the DPP claimed.
C. It is discovered that use to an enemy and prejudicial to the safety or interests of the UK are legally considered to be identical standards.
D. The published witness statements were later found to be incomplete and selectively edited by the government.

4. Which of the following best summarizes the central mystery discussed in the passage?
A. Why the government decided to release classified documents related to the case.
B. Why the DPP publicly blamed a court decision and government inaction despite contradictory evidence.

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C. How the accused obtained access to sensitive information from Parliament offices.
D. Whether the National Security Act 2023 should replace the Official Secrets Act 1911.

5. The passage given below is followed by four alternate summaries. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the passage.

There was a saying I heard in Iraq: 'Big sky, small mortar.' It provided reassurance that the probability of being hit by one of the many rockets fired at our base was low. Perhaps because of this, the first time I saw a rocket flying overhead, I was struck by how small the black en dash looked against the bright Mesopotamian sky. I took cover behind a concrete blast wall, and it passed harmlessly overhead. Other soldiers not far away from where I was based weren't so lucky. Some were killed by rockets falling out of the night sky while they slept. The difference between us was luck.

A. The author reflects on the randomness of survival in war, where luck, rather than courage or caution, often determines who lives or dies.
B. The author describes how soldiers in Iraq found comfort in sayings that emphasized bravery in the face of constant danger.
C. The passage illustrates the destructive power of warfare and the importance of always being alert to survive rocket attacks.
D. The author recounts a personal experience of narrowly escaping a rocket attack and credits military survival training.

6. The four sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3 and 4) given below, when properly sequenced, would yield a coherent paragraph. Decide on the proper sequencing of the order of the sentences and key in the sequence of the four numbers as your answer.

1. As has been widely remarked, horror films are enjoying rare popularity at the moment.
2. Look at Sinners, in which blues musicians batter vampires, a rare blockbuster not based on other material.
3. Or the fairytale-tinged Weapons, popular enough to top the US box office for the entire month of August.
4. There's always been a market for spooky cinema, but over the last decade or so, what was previously a cult concern has gone mainstream in a big way, reaching new heights in 2025.

7. Five jumbled-up sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5), related to a topic, are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the odd sentence and key in the number of that sentence as your answer.

1. Stanford scientists have discovered a different way of ascertaining our future expiration dates: the "inflammatory-ageing clock"
2. One of the immune system's primary tools is acute inflammation.
3. On the other hand, long-term, system-wide inflammation is "bad."

4. Importantly, it is a short-term response that lasts only as long as needed for the immune system to finish its job.

5. This is a "good" process because it is the body's localized, protective response to things like tissue damage, invasive microbes, or metabolic stress.

8. There is a sentence that is missing in the paragraph below. Look at the paragraph and decide where (option 1, 2, 3, or 4) the following sentence would best fit.

Sentence: Having a well-developed sense of self provides life with meaning, guides behaviour, and can be a psychological resource in times of distress.

Paragraph: ___(1)___. Why might the same person feel too empty and too full of feelings? ___(2)___. The most likely answer lies in the concept of identity, or the internal sense a person has of who they are. ___(3)___. When a person has an unclear, disorganised and unstable sense of self, they will have deep questions about what they should be doing and what should matter. ___(4)___. Some people whose identity is not well integrated go back and forth between periods of emotionally intense efforts to figure out who they are and periods of numb emptiness.

A. Option 1
B. Option 2
C. Option 3
D. Option 4

9. Five jumbled-up sentences (labelled 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5), related to a topic, are given below. Four of them can be put together to form a coherent paragraph. Identify the odd sentence and key in the number of that sentence as your answer.

1. It is also said that he took his name from the fact that the priestess of Pythian Apollo had predicted his birth on a trip made by his father to Delphi.

2. According to the oracle at Delphi, Pythagoras would tell the truth in his life.

3. Pythagoras' mysterious personality was noticeable during his teaching.

4. The Pythian oracle also proclaimed that he would benefit humanity.

5. For the same reason, his mother was renamed Pythaida from Parthenida, which was her original name.

10. Sentences given in the questions below, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. The first and last sentences are A and F, and the four in between are labelled 1, 2, 3, and 4. Choose the most logical order of these four sentences to construct a coherent paragraph from sentences A to F.

A. Connecticut, which is often known as the Constitution State, is an engaging blend of historical depth, economic power, and natural beauty situated in the northeastern United States.

1. Despite being small in size, Connecticut is still one of the most densely populated areas of the US.

2. Being one of the original 13 colonies, its roots run deep in the formation of the nation, marking a different place for it in American history.

3. Let's delve more into the aspects of Connecticut.

4. Explore its strategic location, historical tapestry, vibrant population, and commitment to education and sustainability.

F. Let's see what makes this New England gem a truly unique and influential state.

DILR

12 employees of a company namely Arpita, Chanda, Ekta, Gargi, Lavanya, Nikhil, Om, Rohit, Sakshi, Tarun, Uday and Yogi live in 12 different localities of city namely Badarpur, Chhatarpur, Dwarka, Greater Kailash, Hauz Khas, Janakpuri, Mayur Vihar, Nirman Vihar, Punjabi Bagh, Rohini, Shahdara and Vasant Kunj not necessarily in the same order. They joined the company in the same year but in different months.

The person who joined the company in March lives in Janakpuri. Four people joined the company between those who live in Rohini and Greater Kailash. Tarun joined the company just before the person who lives in Greater Kailash. Om joined the company 3 months before Tarun did. Nikhil lives in Nirman Vihar and joined the company after Rohit, who lives in Chhatarpur (not necessarily the very next month). The first person among them to join the company lives in Punjabi Bagh. Om did not join the company before Rohit and Nikhil. Sakshi joined the company 4 months after Chanda did. Chanda's joining was preceded by Om and followed by Yogi. Uday joined the company in May and does not live in Rohini or Shahdara. Among Arpita and Lavanya, Arpita joined the company earlier and neither of these two lives in Punjabi Bagh or Greater Kailash. Ekta joined just after the person who lives in Vasant Kunj. The persons living in Shahdara, Dwarka and Badarpur joined the company in three consecutive months in the given order. The last person among them to join the company does not live in Mayur Vihar.

11. In which place does Uday live?
A. Rohini
B. Mayur Vihar
C. Vasant Kunj
D. Hauz Khas

12. In which month did the person from Mayur Vihar join the company?
A. June
B. October
C. May
D. July

13. Who joined the company just after the person who lives in Greater Kailash?
A. Sakshi
B. Ekta
C. Yogi
D. Om

14. How many people joined the company between Nikhil and Om?

15. Who lives in Dwarka?

A. Om
B. Yogi
C. Lavanya
D. Chanda

A university gives admission to a student based on their score and the board of education in which he/she passed. There are six boards – A, B, C, D, E, and F – which are considered by the university. The cut-offs for each of these boards were consecutive multiples of 5. Ten students opted for admission to the university, of which only seven were selected. The score of every selected student was equal to their respective cut-offs.

Name	Gender	Board	Cut-off	Score	Selection
Avni	F				Yes
Beena	F				Yes
Charan	M				
David	M			70	
Ekta	F	C		80	No
Fatima	F			70	
Gagan	M	A	80		
Hina	F			75	No
Ishan	M			75	
Jalaj	M	B	75		

The following additional information is known:
- Avni was one of the least scorers.
- Beena had a score greater than that of Charan but less than that of David.
- Ekta's score was the highest among the females.
- Fatima and David belonged to the same board.
- Ishan was the second-highest scorer among males.
- Board 'D' had the lowest cut-off.
- There were two students from each board, except for 'C' and 'F'.
- No student scored less than 60, and only one student scored 65.

16. Which of the following students was not selected?
A. Charan
B. David
C. Ishan
D. Jalaj

17. Which of the following students belonged to board 'F'?
A. Beena
B. Fatima
C. Ishan
D. Charan

18. Which of the following pairs belonged to the same board?
A. Jalaj and Charan
B. Charan and Avni
C. Avni and Beena
D. Hina and Beena

19. What was the cut-off for board 'E'?

20. What was the average score of the female candidates?

QA

21. In the last three years, Ajit has received a salary hike of 10%, 20% and 25% respectively. If the hike in the third year was Rs. 66000, what was the hike received in the second year?
A. Rs. 52800
B. Rs. 48400
C. Rs. 50600
D. Rs. 44000

22. a, b, and c are positive real numbers. If a+3b+4c = 42, find the maximum value of a^2b^4c.
A. $2^{15}3^5$
B. $2^{15}3^3$
C. $2^{13}3^3$
D. $2^{13}3^5$

23. Naveen invested an equal amount in two different schemes. The first scheme offered an interest rate of 16% per annum, compounded half-yearly. The second scheme compounded interest annually. If both investments yielded the same amount of interest after 7 years, what was the annual rate of interest in the second scheme?
A. 16.16%
B. 16.32%
C. 16.64%
D. 16.8%

24. The circumradius of a right triangle is 15 cm, and its inradius is 6 cm. What is the smallest side (in cm) of the triangle?
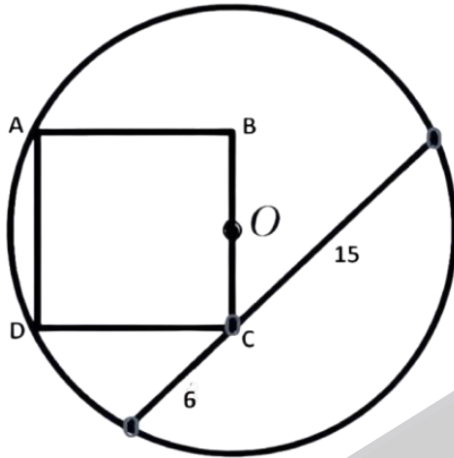
25. Let [n] denote the greatest integer less than or equal to n. Then the equation in x, $[x]^2 + 2[x + 2] − 7 = 0$ has
A. No integer solution
B. Exactly two solutions
C. Four integer solutions
D. Infinite solutions

26. A farmer bought 18 cows, 12 goats, and 15 sheep. The purchase prices of a cow, a goat, and a sheep are in the ratio 7:3:2, while their monthly maintenance is in the ratio 2:4:5. The farmer paid ₹ 14,000 for each cow and spends ₹ 1,000 per month to maintain each sheep. If he keeps cows for 2 months, goats for 3 months, and sheep for 5 months, what is the ratio of the total cost incurred on cows, goats, and sheep?
A. 148:56:75
B. 74:42:45
C. 148:84:75
D. 74:56:75

27. In the given figure, O is the centre of the circle and ABCD is a square. Find the area of ABCD (in sq units).

A. 45
B. 60
C. 90
D. 100

28. If $log_a (-b^2 + 8b - 15) + log_b (-a^2 + 12a - 35) = 0$, where a and b are integers, find a+b.

29. In the following list of numbers, the integer n appears n times in the list: 1, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 4, 4, 4, 4, … 50, 50, …50.
What is the median of this list?
A. 36
B. 35
C. 34
D. 33

30. 18 men and 15 women can complete a piece of work in 15 days. 18 men and 16 children can complete the same amount of work in 18 days. 15 women and 12 children can complete the same work in 30 days. Find the time required by 8 men and 9 women to complete the same amount of work.
A. 34 days
B. 28 days
C. 30 days
D. 24 days

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