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PD - 41

Total No. of Pages : 16

Ph.d Entrance Examination March - April, 2026

LAW

Subject Code: 58742

Day and Date : Wednesday, 07-10-2026

Total Marks : 100

Time : 04.00 p.m. to 06.00 p.m.

Instructions :

- 1) All questions are compulsory.
 - 2) Each question carries 2 marks.
 - 3) Answers should be marked in the given OMR answer sheet by darkening the appropriate option.
 - 4) Use black ball point pen only for marking the circle. Do not make any stray mark on the OMR answer sheet.
 - 5) Follow the instructions given on OMR Sheet.
 - 6) Rough work shall be done on the sheet provided at the end of question paper.
 - 7) Only non-programmable calculators are allowed.
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SECTION-1

(RESEARCH METHODOLOGY)

1. The primary purpose of legal research is to:
 - A. Memorise legal provisions
 - B. Systematically investigate legal issues and develop reliable conclusions
 - C. Avoid the use of primary sources
 - D. Replace judicial reasoning

2. In a mixed-methods study, what is the primary purpose of triangulation?
 - A. To increase sample size
 - B. To eliminate all researcher bias
 - C. To corroborate findings through different data sources or methods
 - D. To replace qualitative data with quantitative data
3. Doctrinal legal research is primarily concerned with:
 - A. Field surveys of litigants
 - B. Analysis of legal rules, principles and precedents
 - C. Statistical measurement of social behaviour
 - D. Experimental laboratory research
4. Non-doctrinal legal research generally involves:
 - A. Only interpretation of statutes
 - B. Empirical investigation of law in society
 - C. Reading only law reports
 - D. Compilation of case citations
5. A research problem should ideally be:
 - A. Broad and vague
 - B. Clear, specific and researchable
 - C. Based only on personal opinion
 - D. Impossible to measure

6. A pilot study is mainly conducted to:
 - A. Prove the final hypothesis conclusively
 - B. Test feasibility, procedures and instruments before the main study
 - C. Replace the main sample
 - D. Avoid ethical review
7. The null hypothesis generally states that:
 - A. There is a significant relationship or difference
 - B. There is no significant relationship or difference
 - C. The research is invalid
 - D. The sample is biased
8. Which research design is most appropriate for studying a legal issue using existing statutes, case law and commentaries?
 - A. Doctrinal research design
 - B. Experimental design
 - C. Clinical trial design
 - D. Purely ethnographic design
9. A literature review primarily helps a researcher to:
 - A. Avoid reading previous studies
 - B. Identify existing knowledge, gaps and relevant debates
 - C. Eliminate the need for a research question
 - D. Prove the hypothesis automatically

10. Which of the following is generally considered a secondary legal source?
- A. Constitution
 - B. Statute
 - C. Judicial precedent
 - D. Legal commentary
11. The Constitution of India is classified as:
- A. Primary legal source
 - B. Secondary legal source
 - C. Tertiary source
 - D. Informal source only
12. A research methodology refers to:
- A. Only the bibliography
 - B. The systematic approach and methods used to conduct research
 - C. Only the research title
 - D. The final certificate
13. Sampling means:
- A. Studying every member of a population
 - B. Selecting a subset of a population for study
 - C. Rejecting all data
 - D. Writing the conclusion first
14. In simple random sampling:
- A. Every member has a known and generally equal chance of selection
 - B. Only experts are selected
 - C. Participants select themselves exclusively
 - D. The researcher selects only convenient participants

15. Convenience sampling is a form of:
- A. Probability sampling
 - B. Non-probability sampling
 - C. Census method
 - D. Experimental control
16. A questionnaire is primarily used for:
- A. Collecting structured information from respondents
 - B. Deciding cases in court
 - C. Replacing statutes
 - D. Creating judicial precedent
17. An interview schedule is:
- A. A list of questions or topics used to guide an interview
 - B. A court judgment
 - C. A research hypothesis
 - D. A statistical test
18. Reliability of a research instrument refers to its:
- A. Consistency of measurement
 - B. Legal enforceability
 - C. Length
 - D. Cost
19. Validity refers to the extent to which an instrument:
- A. Produces identical results regardless of what it measures
 - B. Measures what it is intended to measure
 - C. Has many questions
 - D. Is published in a journal

20. In a research study, a researcher formulates the hypothesis: "There is no statistically significant relationship between access to legal aid and the duration of criminal proceedings." This is best classified as:
- A. Directional hypothesis
 - B. Alternative hypothesis
 - C. Null hypothesis
 - D. Causal hypothesis
21. A citation is used mainly to:
- A. Conceal the source of information
 - B. Acknowledge and enable verification of sources.
 - C. Increase the word count
 - D. Replace analysis
22. A research proposal normally contains:
- A. Only the researcher's biography
 - B. Research problem, objectives, methodology and proposed plan
 - C. Only the final findings
 - D. Only a bibliography
23. A pilot study is conducted mainly to:
- A. Publish the final thesis
 - B. Test and refine research instruments or procedures before the main study
 - C. Replace the main study
 - D. Prove every hypothesis

24. A researcher studying judicial attitudes toward environmental litigation deliberately selects judges, advocates, academics, and environmental activists because each group is expected to provide a distinct perspective relevant to the research question. This sampling technique is most appropriately described as:
- A. Simple random sampling
 - B. Systematic sampling
 - C. Purposive sampling
 - D. Cluster sampling
25. Content analysis is a method used to:
- A. Systematically analyse the content of documents, judgments or other texts
 - B. Select respondents randomly only
 - C. Conduct physical experiments
 - D. Calculate court fees

SECTION-2

(Titles of Papers of LL.M. Programme)

26. Which proposition best represents Karl Llewellyn's Legal Realist approach?
- A. Legal rules mechanically determine judicial outcomes in every case.
 - B. The study of law should focus only on abstract concepts and formal logical deductions.
 - C. Attention should be given to how law actually operates in practice, including judicial behaviour and institutional factors, rather than assuming that formal rules alone explain outcomes.
 - D. Law is valid only when it conforms to universal moral principles.
27. Which statement most accurately captures Lon L. Fuller's concept of the "inner morality of law"?
- A. Every morally desirable rule is automatically legally valid.
 - B. A legal system must satisfy certain procedural principles of legality, such as generality, publicity, clarity and consistency, if it is to function as a system of law.
 - C. Law is valid only when enacted by a democratic legislature.
 - D. Judicial precedent is the sole source of legal morality.
28. The writ of Habeas Corpus is primarily issued to:
- A. Secure release from unlawful detention
 - B. Compel performance of a public duty
 - C. Quash a judicial order
 - D. Prevent a person from holding public office

29. Which statement concerning mens rea is most legally accurate?
- A. Every statutory offence necessarily requires proof of mens rea in exactly the same form.
 - B. Mens rea is generally an important component of criminal liability, but legislation may create offences where particular mental elements are modified or excluded, subject to interpretation of the statute and applicable law.
 - C. Motive and mens rea are always identical.
 - D. Mens rea refers exclusively to the physical act constituting an offence.
30. A constitutional court concludes that a restriction imposed by legislation on a fundamental right pursues a legitimate objective but is substantially more restrictive than necessary to achieve that objective. Which constitutional doctrine provides the most direct analytical framework for examining this issue?
- A. Doctrine of eclipse
 - B. Doctrine of severability
 - C. Doctrine of proportionality
 - D. Doctrine of colourable legislation
31. The doctrine of precedent is primarily based on the principle of:
- A. Stare decisis
 - B. Res judicata
 - C. Audi alteram partem
 - D. Nemo iudex in causa sua

32. Which of the following most clearly distinguishes legal positivism from natural law theory?
- A. Positivism necessarily denies the existence of morality.
 - B. Natural law necessarily denies the existence of enacted law.
 - C. Positivism generally treats the existence or validity of law as conceptually separable from its moral merit, whereas natural law theories may connect legal validity more closely with moral principles.
 - D. Both theories maintain that legal validity depends exclusively upon judicial discretion.
33. Consideration under the Indian Contract Act, 1872 must generally move:
- A. Only from the promisee
 - B. At the desire of the promisor
 - C. Only from a third party
 - D. From the court
34. A contract entered into by a person lacking legal capacity is generally:
- A. Always valid
 - B. Voidable at the option of the court
 - C. Void, subject to applicable legal exceptions
 - D. Illegal in every case
35. The essential elements of negligence include:
- A. Duty of care, breach and resulting damage
 - B. Offer, acceptance and consideration
 - C. Motive, preparation and attempt
 - D. Possession, title and ownership

36. The principle of 'volenti non fit injuria' means:
- A. The thing speaks for itself
 - B. An act of God
 - C. To a willing person, no injury is done
 - D. No one should be a judge in their own cause
37. The doctrine of severability generally means that:
- A. Every unconstitutional statute must be repealed in full
 - B. An invalid part of legislation may be severed if the valid remainder can operate consistently with legislative intent
 - C. Courts cannot invalidate statutory provisions
 - D. Fundamental Rights can never be severed
38. Which feature distinguishes the TRIPS Agreement's treatment of international obligations from the traditional national-treatment framework?
- A. TRIPS completely eliminates national treatment.
 - B. TRIPS incorporates a most-favoured-nation (MFN) obligation in addition to national treatment.
 - C. TRIPS applies only to copyright and excludes industrial property.
 - D. TRIPS makes all national IP laws identical.
39. Under criminal law, an attempt is generally:
- A. Mere intention
 - B. An act sufficiently proximate to the commission of the offence after preparation
 - C. Mere knowledge
 - D. A civil wrong

40. A researcher argues that because a particular practice has existed in society for several centuries, it must necessarily constitute a valid source of law. Which legal principle most directly challenges this reasoning?
- A. Every social practice automatically becomes binding law through antiquity.
 - B. Custom may constitute a source of law only when it satisfies legally recognized requirements; mere longevity does not necessarily make every practice legally valid.
 - C. Judicial precedent can never recognize custom.
 - D. Statutory law has no relationship with customary law.
41. Audi alteram partem means:
- A. No one should be a judge in their own cause
 - B. Hear the other side
 - C. The law is certain
 - D. Let the buyer beware
42. Judicial review in India primarily enables courts to:
- A. Examine the constitutional validity of legislative and executive action
 - B. Make all administrative decisions.
 - C. Replace Parliament in every matter
 - D. Conduct elections

43. Hart's criticism of Austin's command theory of law is principally based on the proposition that:
- A. Law never contains sanctions
 - B. All laws are created by judges
 - C. The command model fails adequately to account for power-conferring laws and the continuity of legal systems
 - D. Sovereignty is necessarily divided among several institutions
44. According to the positivist school of jurisprudence, law is primarily understood as:
- A. Law as it ought to be
 - B. Law as a system of rules recognised by a legal system
 - C. Morality alone
 - D. Custom without recognition
45. The concept of 'living law' is associated with:
- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| A. Eugen Ehrlich | B. John Austin |
| C. Hans Kelsen | D. Savigny |
46. The doctrine of separation of powers is concerned with:
- A. Distribution of governmental powers among different organs
 - B. Separation of citizens by status
 - C. Division of courts by language
 - D. Separation of contracts from torts

47. Which of the following most accurately distinguishes ratio decidendi from obiter dicta?
- A. Ratio decidendi consists of every observation made by a judge, whereas obiter dicta consists only of facts.
 - B. Ratio decidendi is the legal principle necessary for the determination of the case, whereas obiter dicta are observations not essential to the decision.
 - C. Obiter dicta are always binding upon subordinate courts, whereas ratio decidendi is merely persuasive.
 - D. Ratio decidendi applies only to criminal cases.
48. Which statement best captures the distinction between a patent and copyright?
- A. Patent protects qualifying inventions; copyright protects qualifying original expression
 - B. Both protect only trademarks
 - C. Copyright requires novelty in the patent-law sense
 - D. Patent protection is automatic for every idea
49. The right to privacy was expressly recognised as a fundamental right by the Supreme Court in:
- A. K.S. Puttaswamy v. Union of India
 - B. A.K. Gopalan v. State of Madras
 - C. Shankari Prasad v. Union of India
 - D. S.R. Bommai v. Union of India

50. Which statement most accurately reflects the TRIPS framework concerning geographical indications?
- A. TRIPS recognizes geographical indications only as ordinary trademarks.
 - B. TRIPS provides protection against misleading use of geographical indications and provides an enhanced level of protection for wines and spirits.
 - C. TRIPS prohibits all geographical indications that are not registered internationally with WIPO.
 - D. TRIPS provides identical protection to every product category without distinction.



- Rough Work -