

## LOGICAL REASONING

### Passage 1

The longest-running drama in the world is a soap opera about life in an English farming village. Every week, 5 million people listen to *The Archers* on BBC Radio 4. It is also the broadcaster's most downloaded radio show. It first aired during the era of the horse-drawn plow and tea on the ration. One of the current casts, June Spencer, who plays the formidable matriarch Peggy Woolley, appeared in the first episode on New Year's Day, 1951. She is 101 years old.

Because it is middle England's omnipresent soundtrack, it can be easier to see *The Archers* as some kind of naturally occurring phenomenon than, say, an experimental, durational artwork that blurs the boundaries between fantasy and reality; or a "peculiarly English epic" as its former editor, or showrunner, Sean O'Connor describes it. To the uninitiated, on the other hand, it can appear somewhere on a scale between charmingly quaint, deeply bewildering, and insufferably smug.

An Irish friend told me she regarded the entire *Archers* mise-en-scene — "the village green, Bonfire Night, the slightly mysteriously located Big House, the cider club and the posh livery stables, even the Bull's beer garden" as "utterly exotic". A puzzled Texan, invited to listen by the hosts of the BBC's Americast podcast, described it as "like *Downton*, except without the interesting period detail or drama". *The Archers* were pitched in 1950 by Godfrey Baseley, a Birmingham-based producer of farming programs, as a means of encouraging improved postwar food production.

And, though the Ministry of Agriculture ceased sending memos to the BBC about warble fly and swine flu in the 70s, the shadow of this didactic past remains a key part of the show's unlikely fictive mixture, its longevity, and its success. Abstruse details of pig husbandry and milking-parlor technology are woven into a narrative in which the idealized rituals of rural life (jam-making, the flower and produce a show, endless cups of tea), form the weirdly eventless, diurnal backdrop to waves of high drama that may or may not be typical of life in the English countryside.

Aside from floods, fraud, suicide, manslaughter, diamond smugglers, spies, a near-fatal stabbing, a plane crash, a collapsing church tower, rape, arson, and a formidable tally of horrific motor-vehicle accidents, these have included a hostage-taking situation in the village shop (scripted in the 90s by the great screenwriter Sally Wainwright, before the multiple Baftas), and, recently, the accidental exploding of the kitchen wing of *Grey Gables*, a country house hotel, by a hapless laborer in the clutches of a villainous modern slaver.

1. Since it is the ubiquitous soundtrack of middle England, it may be safer to see *The Archers* as some result of a divine anomaly than, maybe, an inventive, lengthy sculpture that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (a) Obscures the differences between fancy and vision
  - (b) Blurs the boundaries between truth and fact
  - (c) Bridges the gap between real and virtual worlds
  - (d) None of the above
2. According to the passage, which of the following reflects imprecise information about the passage?
  - (a) June Spencer, who plays the impressive female authority, Peggy Woolley, showed up in the primary scene, is 101 years of age. It very well may be simpler to consider *The Archer* as some sort of normally happening wonder, a state, a test, durational work of art that reveals the limits among dream and reality.
  - (b) Recondite details of pig farming and draining parlour innovation are woven into an account in which the romanticized customs of rustic life structure the unusually eventless, diurnal background to influxes of extreme emotion that might be ordinary of life in the English open country.
  - (c) Beside floods, misrepresentation, self-destruction, homicide, precious stone runners, sees, a close lethal wounding, a plane accident, a falling church tower, assault, incendiary and a considerable count of horrendous engine vehicle mishaps, these have incorporated a prisoner circumstance in the town shop of the shows.
  - (d) The longest-running show on the planet is a drama about existence in an English cultivating town. Consistently, 5 million individuals tune in to *The Archers* on BBC Radio 4. It is likewise the telecaster's most downloaded public broadcast.

3. What can be inferred from the given passage?
  - (a) The show is seen, 'to the literate, then again, it can show up someplace on a scale between charmingly curious, profoundly confounding and unbearably self-satisfied'.
  - (b) The Archers was contributed in the mid-nineteenth century by Godfrey Baseley, a Birmingham-based maker of cultivating programs, as a method for empowering improved after-war food creation.
  - (c) The Archers originally circulated during the time of the pony drawn furrow and tea on the proportion.
  - (d) Although the Ministry of Agriculture stopped sending reminders to the BBC about chatter fly and pig influenza during the 80s, the shadow of this instructive past remains a critical piece of the show's impossible imaginary blend, its life span, and its prosperity.
  
4. When was the first episode of the Archers showcased on television?
  - (a) 70 years ago
  - (b) Mid-nineteenth century
  - (c) Only (a)
  - (d) Both (a) and (b)
  
5. According to the passage, the writer's Irish friend describes the setting of the show as-
  - (a) Ordinary bull's beer garden
  - (b) Uncouth livery stables
  - (c) Rural foliage
  - (d) All of the above

### Passage 2

The recent litigations against Scihub and Libgen by Elsevier, Wiley and ACS bring us to a moment of many realisations about control and governance of knowledge in academia. In the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, globalisation led to the imperative of applying "global" standards to higher education. As global standards have been unofficially understood as the prevailing practices in American and European institutions, this has posed a serious dilemma for institutions in the global south.

Such parameters are often not compatible with the educational systems that have historically evolved in countries like India, with a colonial past and a persisting "non-industrial" present. Precise point-based measurements currently applied to measure knowledge production appear to be misplaced in knowledge ecosystems of the global south. Moreover, the larger question, whether such precise measurements, akin to parameters measuring industrial productivity, help in assessing the relevance of knowledge created and disseminated in any societal context, including those with an industrial culture like in Europe and America, remains unanswered.

In India, UGC has been the regulatory body responsible for maintaining standards in higher education, while addressing challenges of globalisation. Processes of UGC mandated "standardisation" have in particular impacted social sciences and humanities research in Indian universities. Over the years, UGC has linked institutional funding to ranking and accreditation systems like NAAC and NIRF. In order to evaluate institutions, these bodies have evolved "objective" criteria, which rank universities based on faculty research measured by citations in global journal databases like SCOPUS. Even for faculty promotions and eligibility for research supervision, it is articles published in such databases that are considered valid.

The insistence of publication in journals fails to distinguish between the varied trajectory of disciplines. It is more of an imposition of STEM (science, technology, engineering and management) criteria on social sciences and humanities. While in STEM disciplines, research is often highly objective and quantified, and conclusions can be published more easily as reports, short studies or articles, in social sciences and humanities research is subjective, analytical and argumentative. Tyranny of "peer review" is another phenomenon that haunts scholars. Since continuous production and publication has become necessary for professional growth, teachers spend most of their productive time writing articles and getting them published, thereby missing out on quality engagement with pedagogy and research.

There is no doubt that Indian higher education requires reforms, but the latter need to be cognisant of the reality of higher education in India. While the UGC hopes to raise the standards to global levels, precarity of employment, longer teaching hours, a dismal student-teacher ratio, lack of sabbaticals, research and travel grants, access to research facilities and office space, adversely impact the research potential of teachers. "Regulating" research needs to be replaced with "facilitating" research, allowing minds to think and gestate. Unfortunately, in the era of the hegemony of finance capital, governments globally are under pressure to cut back on expenditure on public institutions, including educational. Regulations without facilitation will merely bureaucratise the governance of knowledge without generating any pathbreaking insights.

6. According to the author, why should not the same criteria used to assess publications in the social sciences as in the STEM domain?
  - (a) STEM comprises of different subjects and hence same criteria cannot be applied.
  - (b) Social sciences are descriptive in nature and STEM is objective.
  - (c) Social Sciences base themselves on arguments and analysis and hence an objective criteria like the one applied in STEM may not be viable.
  - (d) All of the above.
7. The author argues against imposition of 'global standards' on Indian educational institutions as such parameters are not in consonance with the education system in India. Which of the following statements, if true, would weaken the author's argument?
  - (a) Having uniform parameters of research help in standardization of research.
  - (b) India's education system is no longer mired in the past, but has evolved to match the best education systems in the west.
  - (c) Borrowing assessment parameters from world-class universities would only help in enhancing the quality of our education system.
  - (d) Both (a) and (b)
8. Precise point-based measurements currently applied to measure knowledge production appear to be misplaced in knowledge ecosystems of the global south. What assumption does the author base this statement on?
  - (a) Global South functions on subjective rather than objective parameters.
  - (b) Knowledge production cannot be assessed against precise measurements.
  - (c) Developing countries have a knowledge ecosystem which differs from the rest of the world.
  - (d) Both (a) and (c)
9. Which of the following is not true about the passage?
  - (a) Global standards are not good enough for the Indian education system.
  - (b) UGC aims at standardisation of research.
  - (c) Education system needs to be made more facilitative.
  - (d) None of the above.
10. "Regulating" research needs to be replaced with "facilitating" research, allowing minds to think and gestate. What does the author imply by this statement?
  - (a) Regulation restricts thinking capabilities which can only be fostered by facilitation.
  - (b) Minds can only think when facilities are provided to them.
  - (c) Research needs to be facilitated through creation of research infrastructure, regulating the same through imposing of standards, may inhibit the mind's ability to think.
  - (d) Both (b) and (c)

### Passage 3

The disastrous leak of a toxic chemical that has killed several people and left hundreds sick near Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh comes as a shock to a nation struggling to cope with a prolonged lockdown. Residents of habitations around Gopalapatnam, close to the site where the LG Polymers plant is located, passed out as the hazardous styrene vapour swept through the

area at night. Several deaths took place as people tried to flee, and the chemical rendered them unconscious. There are horrific stories of people falling from buildings, or into wells and ditches as they lost consciousness. They have become the first victims of the exit from the lockdown, when industrial units were allowed to resume their operations. Styrene, the chemical involved in the disaster-struck plant that produces polystyrene products, is included in the schedule of the Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemical Rules, 1989. The rules lay down strict norms on how it should be handled and stored.

Although it will take an inquiry to establish what caused the incident, the company and the State government knew that the chemical was hazardous, characterised by poor stability under a variety of conditions that could even lead to explosive situations. It is also reasonable to assume that the safety mechanism built into the storage structures of something so hazardous was either faulty or allowed to be overridden. Was the reopening work at the factory left to unskilled people, as some city officials have said? These aspects must be probed in the inquiry to fix accountability. The Andhra Pradesh government must focus immediately on the medical needs of those who have been grievously affected by the gas leak, which has inevitably led to comparisons with the 1984 Bhopal gas disaster. As a harmful chemical, styrene could have chronic effects beyond the immediate symptoms. International safety literature cites it as a substance that may cause cancer; there is thus no safe limit for exposure to it. Solutium payments and compensation for the victims and families are important, but so is access to the highest quality of health care for the victims. What happened in Gopalapatnam is also a warning for industries across India.

11. Which of the following statements can be inferred the passage?
- The harmful chemical, styrene which got accidentally released in the Andhra gas leak has more severe effects beyond the immediate symptoms that occurred at the time of release.
  - The styrene gas leak happened in Andhra Pradesh and it affected the Gopalapatnam residents severely.
  - The styrene gas leak had a natural cause behind it as none of the human error was involved in it.
  - The LG Polymers Plant gas leak was compared to the Bhopal gas tragedy which had occurred in 1985.
- (a) I and II  
(b) I, II and III  
(c) I, II, III and IV  
(d) I and III
12. Which of the following statements weakens the argument given in these lines of the passage- "Residents of habitations around Gopalapatnam, close to the site where the LG Polymers plant is located, passed out as the hazardous styrene vapour swept through the area at night."?
- (a) Gopalapatnam is situated around 200 kms away from the LG Polymers plant.  
(b) The styrene gas formed a hazardous vapour in the air after its release and became fatal for the people of Gopalapatnam who inhaled it while they were sleeping.  
(c) The LG Polymers plant did not take any caution before reopening the plant during the lockdown.  
(d) All of the above
13. Which of the following gives the plausible explanation of the statement as mentioned in the passage- "Styrene, the chemical involved in the disaster-struck plant that produces polystyrene products, is included in the schedule of the Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemical Rules, 1989."?
- (a) Styrene has certain chemicals that are not hazardous to humans.  
(b) Polystyrene contains the toxic substance-Styrene, suspected carcinogens and neurotoxins that are hazardous to humans.  
(c) The Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemical Rules, 1989 do not imply on the polystyrene products.  
(d) None of these

14. The statement “Solatium payments and compensation for the victims and families are important, but so is access to the highest quality of health care for the victims” means that-
- (a) The people who suffered injuries or lost any of their close associates in any accident should be given compensation for the same.
  - (b) The injured victims should be given better health care policies with minimum premium payment if they meet with an accident.
  - (c) The families of the deceased people only are eligible to receive any payments or compensation from the government.
  - (d) None of these
15. “Several deaths took place as people tried to flee, and the chemical rendered them unconscious.” Which of the following statements strengthen the argument given here?
- (a) There were more deaths a lot of people died due to sudden cardiac arrest after running.
  - (b) As the people tried to flee after the gas leak, they died during the stampede.
  - (c) Both (a) and (b)
  - (d) None of these

#### Passage 4

India’s interest lies in expanding relations with other regional powers and, therefore, it is appropriate for the Brazilian president, Jair Bolsonaro, to be Republic Day chief guest. Brazil has been a close multilateral partner in Indian foreign policy after the Cold War. It has been India’s closest partner in BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa), and cooperated in dealing with the climate crisis, Security Council reform and South-South cooperation. Many of these have been aspirational, and stronger on joint statements than tangible results. One reason for this is the lack of economic and strategic links between tier-two powers. Mr Bolsonaro’s visit seeks to address this gap.

In a world marked by increased geopolitical rivalry and reduced multilateral cohesion, many two-tier nations are strengthening relations. The most striking example in the Indian context has been the deep relationship that has emerged with Japan. This is also why New Delhi has countries like France, Indonesia and Australia on its strategic list in the coming years. Brazil, overwhelmingly dominant in South America, is an obvious country for India to seek a closer engagement with. While geography limits security cooperation, unusually for a Latin American leader, the Brazilian president has expressed concerns about China’s rise. India could also take some development lessons from Brazil. This is an emerging economy that has implemented universal health care, successfully adopted genetically modified crops and navigated the process of urbanisation.

Mr Bolsonaro has made deeply objectionable statements about women and climate. His government is responsible for policy changes that have caused extensive destruction of the Amazon forests. This cannot be endorsed, but it also cannot be the basis for determining inter-State relations. A mature foreign policy is driven by interests. Brazil holds elections. Its people are best placed to judge the quality of their president. India will seek to persuade the Brazilian leader, despite his climate scepticism, to ratify the International Solar Alliance. New Delhi’s primary interest is that the Brazilian leader takes business seriously and wants to use economics to add muscle to the bilateral relationship. Brazil needs to be more to Indians than just football.

16. Which of the following can be inferred from the given passage?
- (a) Two- tier nations are willing to cooperate with first-tier nations.
  - (b) First-tier nations are moving away from multilateral cohesion
  - (c) Brazil is going to be the closest allies of India in upcoming years
  - (d) None of the above
17. Which of the following is the most logical and rational assumption?
- (a) India is lagging behind in sectors such as health care, urbanization etc.
  - (b) Brazil has destroyed its rainforest in the amazon basin.
  - (c) India is wary of china’s rise in the Asia and its economic reach
  - (d) Both (a) and (c)

18. Which of the following statement weakens the author argument?
- (a) Brazil cannot be a valuable partner in India's economic transformation and for needs in the food and energy sector
  - (b) There are plans between the two countries to increase defence cooperation, technology sharing and a logistic agreement
  - (c) Common ideologies of the two countries bring them together
  - (d) China being the threat for India in trade and manufacturing brings Brazil and India close.
19. Which of the following strengthens the argument of the author?
- (a) Both countries have been hit by slowdowns and Bolsonaro's visit will help boost trade ties, especially in the fields of energy, agriculture and defence
  - (b) Geo-politically, Brazil appears to be aligned with India. The Latin American country has not joined china's one belt one road initiative
  - (c) Both India and Brazil are hit by corona severally and need themselves in the long run to thrive economically
  - (d) Both (a) and (b)
20. Which of the following is the most logical conclusion of the above passage?
- (a) The needed legal framework has been created to make investment better in both countries, India and Brazil, two big growing democracies, think similarly on several global issues. From terrorism to the environment, India and Brazil have a similar view on all such issues
  - (b) India and Brazil are the emerging nations that hold similar principles on democracy, human rights, global governance and liberal strategies. They are partners on the basis of trade relations and have a lot to learn from each other. With their uniting stance on various multilateral and plurilateral forums, the two countries are considered to be important for the creation of new world order.
  - (c) Brazilian and Indian mindsets, breaking geographical and psychological barriers. There is a need to connect beyond high-level bureaucracies and business sectors, expanding initiatives at the academic and social spheres in order to increase public awareness
  - (d) Both (b) and (c)

### Passage 5

It is 30 years since the "exodus" from the Valley of its minority Hindu Kashmiri Pandit community. The hotly contested circumstances of their departure between January and March 1990, the numbers, and the issue of their return are an important side to the Kashmir story that has fed into the Hindu-Muslim polarisation in India over the years, in turn fuelling the Hindu-Muslim chasm in the Valley. The exodus took place at the same time that the BJP was upping the ante across northern India, and over the years, the plight of Kashmiri Pandits has become a potent Hindutva issue. The fleeing Pandits did not think they would never return to the Valley. But as the situation in Kashmir spiraled into a full-blown militancy, return began to look remote if not impossible. As the numbers arriving in Jammu increased from thousands to tens of thousands over the first few months of 1990, a mostly middle-class community found itself living in tents in squalid, filthy camps far removed from the homes they had left behind. Those who had means rebuilt their lives elsewhere in the country — Delhi, Pune, Mumbai, and Ahmedabad have Pandit populations, also Jaipur and Lucknow — or went abroad. A township of two-room tenements called Jagti was built in Jammu in the last decade to house 4,000-5,000 Pandit families who remained there. In addition, there are hundreds of families living in government tenements in Purkhoo on the outskirts of Jammu, in Nagrota, and in Muthi. Some built new homes and or moved into rented places.

The longing to return to the Valley did not diminish over the years, though it may have become more an idea than a real ambition. Successive governments have promised that they will help this process, but the situation on the ground in Kashmir has meant this remains only an intention. The efforts to resettle Pandits in the Valley in the last two decades have seen ghetto-

like structures come up in various parts of Kashmir, ringed by concertina wire with heavy security, underlining that normal life is impossible. There is an acute realization in the community that the Valley is no longer the same that they left behind in 1990.

21. What is the main idea being conveyed by the author through the passage?
  - (a) Kashmiri Pandits, even if return would not return to the Kashmir they left in 1990s.
  - (b) The exodus has led to religious tensions.
  - (c) Hindutva ideology is responsible for the exodus.
  - (d) None of the above.
  
22. The author asserts that Kashmiri Pandits found the possibility of return remote, what reason does he give for the same?
  - (a) The spiralling of full-blown militancy in the valley.
  - (b) Government inaction.
  - (c) Resettlement was done efficiently
  - (d) None of the above.
  
23. "The longing to return to the Valley did not diminish over the years, though it may have become more an idea than a real ambition" What does the author imply by this statement?
  - (a) While the Kashmiri Pandits wanted to go back to the valley, their wish to return had become more of an idea which may or may not be fulfilled rather than a definite ambition or goal.
  - (b) Kashmiri Pandits missed home.
  - (c) Kashmiri Pandits' longing to go back to their home has grown with times.
  - (d) None of the above.
  
24. Which of the following is true about the passage?
  - (a) It highlights the reasons behind the exodus.
  - (b) It talks about the congested conditions in which Kashmiri Pandits were forced to live after their exodus.
  - (c) It talks about the government's plans for resettlement.
  - (d) Both (a) and (b)
  
25. The author states that, the plight of Kashmiri Pandits has become a potent Hindutva issue. Which of the following arguments, if true would weaken the author's conclusion?
  - (a) Kashmiri Pandits' exodus was the main issue in the election manifesto of right wing parties.
  - (b) Kashmiri Pandits' exodus is the issue on which majority election speeches were given.
  - (c) The Hindutva ideology proponents barely draw attention to the exodus.
  - (d) None of the above.

### Passage 6

In an unnamed village in India, an astrologer lays out his tools of the trade, a mix of cowrie shells, obscure charts, a notebook, and other such curios. They serve no purpose but to create the illusion of mysticism. The astrologer has also painted his forehead with sacred ash, wrapped his head in a turban, and seated himself and his gear beneath a large tree. All of these things serve to give him an air of wisdom, transcendence, and prophetic power, though the narrator is quick to point out that none of these qualities actually belong to the man.

The astrologer has set up his little shop amidst a busy marketplace among people fencing stolen goods, presenting the same cheap food as a variety of gourmet delicacies, and auctioning off low-quality fabrics. The astrologer, quickly established as a fraud, is in the company of other fraudsters and spin doctors selling their wares and making their livings. The marketplace is lit by various shop lights and flares, the dancing shadows of which enhance the astrologer's mystical quality. He notably has no light of his own, but simply borrows that of the other vendors.

The astrologer had never had any intention of becoming one, but had been forced to leave his ancestral home and travel several hundred miles away with no plan and no money. Even so, he is a convincing holy man, using his own insights into human problems to offer vague but comforting advice to people in the market. He functions as a sort of therapist, offering self-affirming advice that he wraps in the guise of astrological wisdom. He is good at his trade; he tells people what they want to hear, and they leave comforted by it. Though it is not an honest living that the astrologer makes, it is still a well-earned one.

26. Which of the following serves as the most plausible explanation of the statement- "Though it is not an honest living that the astrologer makes, it is still a well-earned one."?
- (a) The astrologer just gives self-affirming advice to the people to earn his living which is vague in nature.
  - (b) The astrologer is an imposter who with the help of fraud doctors fool the people.
  - (c) The astrologer has an excellent prophetic power and has gained a lot of fame because of that.
  - (d) None of these
27. Which of the following can be inferred from these lines of the passage- "The astrologer had never had any intention of becoming one, but had been forced to leave his ancestral home and travel several hundred miles away with no plan and no money."?
- (a) The astrologer left his home due to lack of money and wanted to settle his career in the town to earn more money.
  - (b) The astrologer had to leave his home unwillingly without any plans to settle further.
  - (c) The astrologer had a dream to join the profession of mysticism since his childhood.
  - (d) All of the above
28. Which of the following go in the favour of the statement as mentioned by the author- "He notably has no light of his own, but simply borrows that of the other vendors."?
- (a) The astrologer earns a lot of money and has a good reputation in the market.
  - (b) The astrologer is not able to earn the money to fulfil his daily basic needs also.
  - (c) The astrologer has the habit of spending too much on his lavish style of living.
  - (d) None of the above
29. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?
- I. The bunch of fraudsters includes the astrologer also who earn their money by using fraud methods to earn their basic living.
  - II. The astrologer does not possess an air of wisdom, transcendence, and prophetic power which he tries to show and highlight.
  - III. The astrologer functions as a sort of therapist, offering self-affirming advice full of wisdom for others.
  - IV. The astrologer is apt at offering the solutions to the basic problems of common people using his insight.
- (a) I, II and III
  - (b) I and II
  - (c) I, II, III and IV
  - (d) I and III
30. What is the main theme of the story given here?
- (a) It tells the story of a fraudulent astrologer who makes his living by selling cosmic insights to gullible villagers.
  - (b) It tells the story of a person who was forced to become an astrologer due to the lack of money and family support.
  - (c) It tells the story of the person who started practicing trickery for earning money being influenced by the company of people he served.
  - (d) All of the above