

# CLAT 2024 UG Set A

---

## English Language

I. In the realm of contemporary literature, the interplay between character and setting is a nuanced dance that shapes the narrative's essence. The setting, often described with painstaking detail, becomes more than a backdrop; it becomes a character, influencing the plot and character development.

Consider, for instance, the barren expanse of the desert in Jhumpa Lahiri's *The Namesake*. The arid landscape mirrors the sense of isolation felt by the protagonist, Gogol, as he navigates his identity crisis in a foreign land. The relentless sun and vast sands are not mere descriptions; they are the silent witnesses to his inner turmoil.

On the other end of the literary spectrum, there is Arundhati Roy's *The God of Small Things*. The lush, vibrant Kerala backwaters are not just the setting; they are a character woven into the fabric of the story. The teeming, humid landscape reflects the complex web of human relationships and secrets that unravel in the narrative. This interplay is not confined to contemporary literature alone. In Shakespeare's timeless tragedy *Macbeth*, the eerie and foreboding setting of the Scottish moors casts a dark shadow over the characters' actions. The moors, shrouded in mist and mystery, serve as an ever-present omen of the impending Tragedy.

1. In contemporary literature, how is the relationship between character and setting described in the passage?

- (A) It is non-existent; characters and settings are entirely separate entities.
- (B) It is a complex interplay where the setting influences the plot and character development.

- (C) Characters and settings are interchangeable.
- (D) Settings are insignificant in contemporary literature.

Ans. (B)

Explanation: The author, in the passage, speaks about the characteristics of the relation between character and context in the contemporary literary works as interdependent. It raises the question as to how the background is not just passively depicted but actively participates in the action by reflecting the feelings and events of the characters.

2. In the novel, *The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri, what does the barren desert landscape symbolize?

- (A) A thriving community.
- (B) The protagonist's sense of isolation and identity crisis.
- (C) A lush, vibrant setting.
- (D) A happy, carefree life.

Ans. (B)

Explanation: According to the given passage, the empty and dry environment of the Arabian desert, depicted in *The Namesake*, reflects Gogol's loneliness and confusion. Desert is rough and hot; it symbolizes main character's internal conflict as he struggles to adapt to the new environment.

3. What role does the Scottish moors play in Shakespeare's *Macbeth*?

- (A) It serves as a beautiful, serene landscape.
- (B) It has no influence on the characters' actions.
- (C) It is an ever-present omen of impending tragedy.
- (D) It is a place for the characters to relax.

Ans. (C)

Explanation: The passage on the Scottish moors in Macbeth can be characterised as desolate, menacing and enshaded by a curtain of fog. This underlines their significance as a prophecy of the tragedy which occurs in the play.

4. What does the term “interplay” refer to in the context of the passage?

- (A) A lack of interaction between characters and setting.
- (B) A complex relationship where the setting influences the narrative.
- (C) An insignificant connection between characters and setting.
- (D) A complete separation of characters and setting.

Ans. (B)

Explanation: interplay refers to a complex relationship where the setting influences the narrative.

5. Which of the following words best describes the setting in The God of Small Things?

- (A) Boring.
- (B) Lush and vibrant.
- (C) Insignificant.
- (D) Dark and foreboding.

Ans. (B)

Explanation: The passage refers to the Kerala backwaters in particular and depicts them in The God of Small Things as sultry and fertile. This differs from the environmental backgrounds such as the desert in The Namesake or the moor in Macbeth making the setting factor influential in the stories.

6. What is the main theme discussed in the passage?

- (A) The characters in contemporary literature are not influenced by their settings.
- (B) Setting in literature is unimportant.
- (C) In literature, settings can be as influential as characters in shaping the narrative.
- (D) Settings have no role in character development.

Ans. (C)

Explanation: The whole passage is dedicated to the description of how the setting in different novels is not just presented as the background for the action but also embraces the major character and contributes to the plot driving forces and overall mood of the story. In the light of the characters of both The Namesake and The God of Small Things as well as Macbeth this concept has been illustrated.

II. The crisis of justice that is the subject matter of discussion in the media today is in fact the crisis of “justice for the middle class”. The main difference between India and the OECD (Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development) countries is that whereas the middle class in these countries has reasonable access to justice, in India it does not. A vocal and powerful middle class has emerged in India since 1991. It is demanding reasonable access to justice. Much of the judicial reform effort will help meet this demand...

The question of justice for the poor is, however, an altogether different challenge. No country in the world has been able to secure justice for the poor. Most of the jails of the richest countries are filled with the poorest. The “masses” are more often victims of the criminal justice system than of crime. In India as well, jails are almost exclusively filled with the poor. The civil justice system is hardly accessible to them. They are often victimised by lawyers, touts and court staff. They are docket-excluded, a new type of untouchability. The language and the logic—and the colonial and feudal culture—of the judicial system are alien to them. It rarely takes cognisance of their needs and interests.

Their main concern, therefore, is to escape the attention of the justice system, criminal and civil. A landless Dalit person in the interior of Madhya Pradesh once gave me an insightful definition of a court from the perspective of the masses: “A court is a place where you are forcibly taken by the police to be punished; no one goes to a court.” In contrast, many lawyers and judges colloquially define a court as “a temple of justice where rights are protected”. These sharply divergent visions mean that justice for one section is often injustice for another. Protecting the livelihood of traditional taxi and auto drivers from predatory pricing by corporate app-based taxi providers by imaginatively using the available tools of law to delay their incursion would be seen by the rich and by sections of the middle class as a failure of the judicial system, and possibly as also resulting in a downgrading of the “ease of doing business” measure. However, the masses would see such a judicial intervention as strong evidence of a good justice system. Although the conflict over competing visions of the nation and conflicting demands from social and economic segments have confined judicial reform of judicial administration mainly to “neutral” areas such as process reform, procedural law, technology, planning and court and case management, judge strength, and the workload of judges, there has been considerable improvement in these areas, and the judicial system has improved its performance.

Their main concern, therefore, is to escape the attention of the justice system, criminal and civil. A landless Dalit person in the interior of Madhya Pradesh once gave me an insightful definition of a court from the perspective of the masses: “A court is a place where you are forcibly taken by the police to be punished; no one goes to a court.” In contrast, many lawyers and judges colloquially define a court as “a temple of justice where rights are protected”.

These sharply divergent visions mean that justice for one section is often injustice for another. Protecting the livelihood of traditional taxi and auto drivers from predatory pricing by corporate app-based taxi providers by imaginatively using the available tools of law to delay their incursion would be seen by the rich and by sections of the middle class as a failure of the judicial system, and possibly as also resulting in a downgrading of the “ease of doing business” measure. However, the masses would see such a

judicial intervention as strong evidence of a good justice system. Although the conflict over competing visions of the nation and conflicting demands from social and economic segments have confined judicial reform of judicial administration mainly to “neutral” areas such as process reform, procedural law, technology, planning and court and case management, judge strength, and the workload of judges, there has been considerable improvement in these areas, and the judicial system has improved its performance.

7. What is the central thesis of the above extract?

- (A) The practice of untouchability takes various forms in modern India.
- (B) The imagination of justice for the rich and poor is vastly different.
- (C) Addressing judge strength and case-load management does not affect the performance of the judicial system.
- (D) Protecting the livelihood of traditional taxi drivers is contrary to the goals of ease of doing business.

Ans. (B)

Explanation: Hence the passage describes the matrices of social inequality in Indian justice system by comparing the two classes. It captures the middle class desire for legal aid and the often cruel paradox of the situation that sees the poor as users of the legal system instead of beneficiaries. The highly contrastive definitions of courts and the opposing concepts concerning the role of judicial interference contribute to reinforcing this main theme.

8. What does the author mean by ‘docket-excluded’ in the second paragraph?

- (A) The poor do not have easy access to the justice system.
- (B) Courts do not list bail petitions of poor undertrial prisoners who populate the country’s jails.
- (C) The poor reject the judicial system as being alien to their language and logic.

(D) The rich are excluded from the country's prisons, which are mostly populated by the poor.

Ans. (A)

9. Which of the following words best describes the experience of different segments of people with the justice system as described in the third paragraph?

- (A) Symbiotic
- (B) Affective
- (C) Conflicting
- (D) Inter-dependent

Ans. (C)

Explanation: Conflicting perfectly captures the notion that one demographic (Indigenous people) can have contrasting views from another (non-Indigenous) when it comes to the justice system (confidence vs. no confidence).

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

- (A) The judicial system reflects the same power relationships as those that exist in society.
- (B) Access to the judicial system is determined more by a person's economic status such as wealth and income, than by their social status, such as religion and caste.
- (C) The judicial system was made by the rich, for the rich, of the rich.
- (D) None of the above.

Ans. (A)

Explanation: Here's why:

- The passage states that issues within the justice system vary by groups within society—the Indigenous group in this case—suggestion some form of link between privilege and justice.
- As for the concerns, such as economic status (B), it may also be a reason, however, the stated is even more general and concerns power relations.
- The specifications of Statement (C) are even more extreme than (A) and may not apply to all entities.
- The author wouldn't possibly approve option (D) because there is no basis to link them together.

11. Which of the following statements is the author most likely to disagree with?

- (A) A truly representative democracy would ensure that the interests of the poor are also represented in the judicial system.
- (B) The Law ensures equality both in text and in practise.
- (C) The poor suffer most at the hands of lawyers and touts, compared to judges who might still pronounce judgments in their favour from time to time.
- (D) All of the above.

Ans. (B) The Law ensures equality both in text and in practise.

12. What makes reform of judicial administration a 'neutral' area?

- (A) Persons across socio-economic strata agree on the need to reform judicial administration.



(B) There is consensus among political parties across the ideological and regional spectrum on reforms to judicial administration.

(C) Reforms to judicial administration do not favour one class of people over another.

(D) Reform of judicial administration is mandated by the Constitution, and thus lies beyond political considerations.

Ans. (C)

IV. English literature is a vast and diverse field that has left an indelible mark on the world of letters. From the eloquent plays of William Shakespeare to the complex novels of Jane Austen and the profound poetry of William Wordsworth, English literature offers a window into the human experience. One of the luminaries of English literature is William Shakespeare, often hailed as the greatest playwright in the history of English language. His works, including Hamlet, Macbeth, and Romeo and Juliet, are celebrated for their exploration of human nature, love, ambition, and tragedy. His characters, such as the tormented Hamlet and the star-crossed lovers Romeo and Juliet, continue to captivate readers and audiences worldwide. The 19th century ushered in a new era of literary giants. Jane Austen's novels, such as Pride and Prejudice and Sense and Sensibility, provide incisive social commentary through the lens of wit and romance. Austen's heroines, like Elizabeth Bennet and Elinor Dashwood, remain beloved literary figures known for their intelligence and resilience. The Romantic era brought forth poets like William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge, who celebrated the beauty of nature and the emotional intensity of the individual. Wordsworth's "I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud" and Coleridge's "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" are testament to the power of the written words to evoke profound emotions and imagery. Moving towards 20th century, English literature continued to evolve. Virginia Woolf's ground-breaking novel Mrs. Dalloway explored the inner thoughts and lives of its characters with a modernist narrative style. Dystopian visions, as seen in George Orwell's Nineteen Eighty-Four provided stark warnings about the dangers of totalitarianism and the

erosion of individual freedom. Today, English literature is a global phenomenon, transcending borders and languages. Indian authors like Arundhati Roy, with her novel *The God of Small Things*, have won prestigious international literary awards. The book not only explores intricate family dynamics but also delves into the broader socio-political landscape of India. In summary, English literature is a testament to the enduring power of storytelling and the written word. It encompasses an array of authors, themes, and styles that continue to captivate and inspire readers across the world.

13. Who is often regarded as the greatest playwright in the history of English language?

- (A) Jane Austen
- (B) William Wordsworth
- (C) William Shakespeare
- (D) George Orwell

Ans. (C)

Explanation: The passage itself describes William Shakespeare as “is often described as the greatest playwright in the history of the English language.

20. Which of Jane Austen’s novels is known for its social commentary and witty portrayal of romance?

- (A) *Nineteen Eighty-Four*
- (B) *Sense and Sensibility*
- (C) “*I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud*”
- (D) “*The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*”

Ans. (B)

Explanation: Here’s why:

- (A) George Orwell wrote *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, not Jane Austen in case you are confused.

- (B) The novel that will be analysed in this case is called *Sense and Sensibility* and it was written by Jane Austen who is a renowned author known for her skillful depiction of the societal issues and romance.
- The full title of the poem is (C) “I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud” written by William Wordsworth.
- (D) In poem, the subject matter is “The Rime of the Ancient Mariner” by Samuel Taylor Coleridge.

Thus, putting an end to the paragraph, the answer to the question is (B) *Sense and Sensibility*.

21. Who are the Romantic poets mentioned in the passage known for celebrating nature and intense human emotions?

- (A) William Shakespeare and Virginia Woolf
- (B) George Orwell and Samuel Taylor Coleridge
- (C) William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge
- (D) Jane Austen and Arundhati Roy

Ans. (C)

Explanation: The above passage mention these poets as figures of the Romantic era who celebrated the beauty of nature and the emotional intensity of the individual.

22. What is the title of Virginia Woolf’s novel known for its modernist narrative style?

- (A) *Pride and Prejudice*
- (B) *Nineteen Eighty-Four*
- (C) *Mrs. Dalloway*

(D) The God of Small Things

Ans. (C)

Explanation: The passage mentions Mrs Dalloway as Virginia Woolf's novel known for its modernist narrative style.

23. Identify the 20th century novel mentioned in the passage that provides a warning about the dangers of totalitarianism?

- (A) Nineteen Eighty-Four
- (B) Romeo and Juliet
- (C) Sense and Sensibility
- (D) "I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud"

Ans. (A)

Explanation: The above passage mentions the novel by George Orwell as an example of a dystopian vision that warns about the dangers of totalitarianism.

### **Current Affairs Including General Knowledge**

V. On the evening of the 10th, General Dyer arrived at Amritsar, and the Deputy-Commissioner handed over the civil power to him. He issued a proclamation by word of mouth that no meetings should be held. Two days later, after there had been no sort of riot, nor murder, General Dyer heard that a meeting was to be held at the Jallianwala Bagh. He proceeded there with about fifty troops, half British, half Indian, and a certain number of Ghurkas, armed with their kukris. The Jallianwala Bagh is an open space, half a mile square, which has one entry wide enough for three persons. The troops got in and lined up on a mound of debris. The walls, seven feet high, and the surrounding houses enclosed the people. There were, too, three alleys through which the people might have been able to pass. Within thirty seconds of the troops getting in, General Dyer gave orders to fire, and the crowd of people, estimated at anything from 5,000 to 20,000, who were

sitting on the ground peacefully listening to the mob oratory, were fired on. The result of the troops' fire into the mass of people we do not know. But we do know that Dyer's own estimate of the casualties resulting from ten minutes continual individual firing, was 400 to 500 killed and 1,500 wounded. The people were not able to escape. They were people who had not offered any violence and who had not been warned. These people were shot down. After ten minutes, the ammunition was exhausted and the troops marched off, and they left 1,500 wounded there. There were men lying there for two days, dying of thirst, eating the ground, bleeding to death and nobody to look after them. Those who lived nearby came and carried away some of the wounded from the heap of dead and dying, but the unfortunate country people died there miserably of their wounds. This is what is done in 1919 in British India...

Centuries hence you will find Indian children brought up to this spot, just as they visit now the Cawnpore Well, and you can imagine the feelings of these Indians for generations over this terrible business.

25. Which incident is described in the passage?

- (A) Baisakhi festival at Amritsar, April 1919
- (B) Jallianwala Bagh Massacre, April 1919
- (C) Congress Protests of April 1919
- (D) Non-Cooperation movement, April 1919

Ans. (B)

Explanation: Based on the passage the details about the location, the firing on an unarmed crowd, and the large number of casualties all point towards Jallianwala Bagh Massacre, April 1919.

26. Why did the General Dyer order to fire on the crowd?

- (A) To bring the crowd under control
- (B) To scatter the crowd

- (C) To teach the crowd a lesson
- (D) To enforce the martial law

Ans. (C)

Explanation: To teach the crowd a lesson

27. In the light of above passage, what was the intention of the speaker?

- (A) To praise General Dyer
- (B) To expose the deeds of General Dyer
- (C) To get sympathy for the Indians who died
- (D) All of the above

Ans. (B)

Explanation: The passage details the brutality of the massacre, highlighting the lack of warning, the trapped crowd, and the suffering of the wounded. This exposes the harsh actions of General Dyer

28. After the incident, who helped the injured and the dying people?

- (A) The army
- (B) The police
- (C) The civil administration
- (D) Some people who lived nearby

Ans. (D)

Explanation: The above passage mention the troops left after firing and there's no mention of the army, police or civil administration helping the victims. So those who lived nearby came and carried away some of the wounded

29. What would be the feelings of the Indian children brought up to the spot?

- (A) Friendliness to the British rule
- (B) Bitterness about the British rule
- (C) A sense of helplessness
- (D) None of the above

Ans. (B)

Explanation: While the passage doesn't explicitly state emotions, considering the context and the speaker's intention, Bitterness about the British rule seems the feeling for the children.

30. What was the full name of General Dyer?

- (A) Reginald Murree Harry Dyer
- (B) Reginald Royce Harry Dyer
- (C) Reginald Edward Harry Dyer
- (D) Reginald Coleman Harry Dyer

Ans. (C) Reginald Edward Harry Dyer

**VI.** Today, India has become the fourth country in the world to touch the surface of the moon. This success becomes even greater when we look at the place from where India had started its journey. There was a time when India did not have the required technology and there was no support either. We used to be among the 'Third World' countries, standing in the third row. Today, India has become the fifth largest economy in the world. Today, from trade to technology, India is among the countries standing in the first row. In this journey from third row to first row, institutions like ISRO have played a major role. Today, you have taken 'Make in India' to the moon.

I have seen the photo in which our moon lander has firmly set its foot on the moon like Angad. On one hand is the confidence of Vikram while on the

other hand is the bravery of Pragyan. Our Pragyan is continuously leaving its footprints on the moon. The pictures taken from different cameras, which have just been released, and I have had the privilege of seeing, are indeed amazing. For the first time, since the beginning of human civilization, for the first time in the history of lakhs of years on the earth, man is looking at the pictures of that place with his own eyes. India has done the work of showing these pictures to the world! All the scientists like you have done it. Today, the whole world is acknowledging the significance of India's scientific spirit, our technology and our scientific temperament. Chandrayaan Maha Abhiyan is a success not only for India but for the entire humanity.

37. In what did India become the fourth country in the world?

- (A) Sending a spacecraft to the moon
- (B) Landing a spacecraft on the moon
- (C) Landing a man on the moon
- (D) Crashlanding (impacting) a spacecraft on the moon

Ans. (B)

Explanation: The above passage mentions that "India has become the fourth country in the world to touch the surface of the moon and landing a spacecraft on the moon.

38. What is the role of Pragyan?

- (A) To move around the moon, leaving footprints
- (B) To take photographs of the moon, while moving
- (C) Showing these pictures to the world
- (D) To record the laser radiation



39. Name one institution that played a major role in bringing India to the forefront.

- (A) Tata Industries
- (B) Indian Oil Corporation
- (C) ISRO
- (D) Reliance industries

40. What is the name of the moon lander and the rover?

- (A) Vikram and Pragyan
- (B) Pragyan-2 and Vikram
- (C) Chandrayaan and Vikram
- (D) Chandrayaan and Pragyan