Skillshort

Self-Study Preparation Pack

CS EXECUTIVE

Paper 1: Jurisprudence, Interpretation and General Laws (JIGL)

Chapter-wise Practice Questions with Answers

For each of the 14 lessons: 2 quick-check MCQs (a self-test only – the CS Executive paper is fully descriptive) and 1 exam-style descriptive question with a model answer · Laws as amended up to 31 May 2026

28 quick-check MCQs | 14 descriptive questions | Answers with section references

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This subject pack has 6 parts

1 Chapter-wise notes | 2 Important topics & weightage | 3 Past papers: trends & links

4 Mock tests + solutions | **5 Chapter practice questions** | 6 Last-week plan & strategy

Prepared by Skillshort for self-study. Original explanations and questions; not an official ICSI publication. Items marked VERIFY should be checked against the latest official material.

How to use this set

EXAM TIP **Use the MCQs as a 2-minute recall test before each lesson. Then write the descriptive answer by hand in 8–10 minutes without looking, and compare it with the model answer. In the exam, every answer needs: the provision → the rule → its application to the facts → a conclusion.**

1. Sources of Law

1. Which test is used to find the ratio decidendi by reversing the proposition and seeing whether the decision would change?

(a) Goodhart's test
(b) Wambaugh's test
(c) Mischief test
(d) Pith and substance test

2. Under Article 141, the law declared by the Supreme Court is binding on:

(a) the Supreme Court itself
(b) Parliament only
(c) all courts within the territory of India
(d) High Courts only

QUESTION **Explain "precedent" as a source of law and state when a precedent loses its binding force. (5 marks)**

SOLUTION **Answer**

A precedent is a judicial decision containing a principle that later courts follow (*stare decisis*). Only the **ratio decidendi** binds; obiter is persuasive. It loses force when: (1) **reversed** or **overruled** by a higher court; (2) inconsistent with a **later statute**; (3) given **per incuriam** (ignoring a binding statute or precedent); (4) given **sub silentio** without argument on the point; (5) the court that decided it **lacked jurisdiction**; (6) it conflicts with a decision of a larger bench; (7) it is **distinguished** on material facts.

2. Constitution of India

3. Detention beyond 24 hours without production before a Magistrate violates:

(a) Article 20(3)
(b) Article 21A
(c) Article 22(2)
(d) Article 19(1)(d)

4. An ordinance under Article 123 ceases to operate:

(a) 6 months after promulgation
(b) 6 weeks after Parliament reassembles
(c) 30 days after Parliament reassembles
(d) when the President withdraws it, never otherwise

QUESTION **Explain the protection against self-incrimination under Article 20(3) and whether it extends to a company's officer producing documents. (5 marks)**

SOLUTION Answer

Art. 20(3): no person **accused of an offence** shall be **compelled to be a witness against himself**. Elements: (1) the person is accused (an FIR or complaint exists); (2) **compulsion**; (3) testimonial evidence. Voluntary statements are outside it. Taking **fingerprints, signatures, handwriting** or blood samples is not "being a witness" (*State of Bombay v. Kathi Kalu Oghad*, 1961). Narco-analysis, polygraph and brain mapping without consent violate it (*Selvi v. State of Karnataka*, 2010). A company officer may be compelled to produce **company documents** not personal to him, since the protection is personal to the accused; he cannot be compelled to give incriminating oral testimony if he is himself accused.

3. Interpretation of Statutes

5. "Noscitur a sociis" means:

(a) a word is known by the company it keeps
(b) the express mention of one excludes others
(c) general words follow specific words of the same kind
(d) the later law prevails

6. A proviso normally:

(a) enlarges the main enactment
(b) carves out an exception from the main enactment
(c) is ignored in interpretation
(d) overrides the Constitution

QUESTION Explain the rule of ejusdem generis with an example, and state when it does not apply. (5 marks)

SOLUTION Answer

Where **specific words of one class (genus)** are followed by **general words**, the general words are limited to things of the **same kind** as the specific words. Example: "cars, buses, motorcycles and other vehicles" – "other vehicles" means motor vehicles, not bicycles or aircraft. Conditions: (1) the specific words form a distinct genus; (2) they are followed by general words; (3) there is no indication of a contrary intention. It does not apply where the specific words do not form a single class, where only one specific word precedes, or where the legislature clearly intended a wide meaning (*Amar Chandra Chakraborty v. Collector of Excise*, 1972, sets out these conditions).

4. Administrative Laws

7. "Audi alteram partem" means:

(a) no one should be a judge in his own cause
(b) hear the other side
(c) let the buyer beware
(d) the act of God harms none

8. Delegated legislation is controlled by courts on the ground of:

(a) excessive delegation or being ultra vires the parent Act
(b) policy disagreement
(c) political motive alone
(d) lack of laying before Parliament only

QUESTION **An inquiry officer who was the complainant against an employee decides the employee's case and orders dismissal. Is the order valid? (5 marks)**

SOLUTION **Answer**

The rule against **bias** (*nemo judex in causa sua*) requires the deciding authority to be impartial; the test is **reasonable likelihood of bias**, not proof of actual bias. Personal bias arises where the adjudicator is a party, witness, relative or has hostility. A person who is the **complainant cannot be the judge** (*A.K. Kraipak v. Union of India*, 1969; *Manak Lal v. Dr. Prem Chand*, 1957). The doctrine of necessity does not apply because another officer could have been appointed. **The dismissal is void** for violation of natural justice and Art. 14/311 (for Government employees).

5. Law of Torts

9. The rule in Rylands v. Fletcher does NOT apply where:

(a) the escape was due to an act of God
(b) the thing escaped from the defendant's land
(c) the use of land was non-natural
(d) the plaintiff suffered damage

10. "Volenti non fit injuria" refers to:

(a) the plaintiff's consent as a defence
(b) inevitable accident
(c) statutory authority
(d) vicarious liability

QUESTION **A delivery driver employed by a courier company injures a pedestrian while delivering parcels by riding rashly. Who is liable? (5 marks)**

SOLUTION **Answer**

An employer is **vicariously liable** for torts committed by an employee **in the course of employment** (*respondeat superior*; *qui facit per alium facit per se*). The test is whether the act was an authorised act or an unauthorised **mode** of doing an authorised act (Salmond). Rash driving while delivering parcels is an improper mode of doing the authorised work → the **courier company** and the **driver** are **jointly and severally liable** (*State Bank of India v. Shyama Devi*, 1978 on course of employment; *Lloyd v. Grace Smith*, 1912). The company may recover from the driver. Compensation is also available under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

6. Law relating to Civil Procedure

11. A suit by a person who has no interest in the property, against rival claimants, is a:

(a) representative suit
(b) interpleader suit
(c) summary suit
(d) suit by an indigent person

12. A decree passed by a court without inherent jurisdiction is:

(a) voidable
(b) a nullity and can be challenged even in execution
(c) valid unless set aside in appeal
(d) valid if the parties consented

QUESTION **Distinguish res sub judice (s.10) and res judicata (s.11) CPC. (5 marks)**

SOLUTION **Answer**

Basis	Res sub judice – s.10	Res judicata – s.11
Stage	Matter **pending** in a previous suit	Matter already **decided** finally
Effect	**Stays** the trial of the later suit	**Bars** the later suit or issue
Purpose	Avoid conflicting decisions and multiplicity	Finality of litigation
Conditions	Same parties, matter directly and substantially in issue, previous suit pending in a competent Indian court	Same parties and title, matter directly and substantially in issue, heard and finally decided by a competent court
Foreign court	Pendency in a foreign court does not stay	A foreign judgment may operate as res judicata (s.13)

7. Law relating to Crime and its Procedure

13. Theft is defined under which section of the BNS?

(a) s.303 (b) s.316
(c) s.318 (d) s.308

14. Robbery committed by five or more persons conjointly is:

(a) extortion (b) dacoity
(c) criminal breach of trust (d) mischief

QUESTION **Explain how summons is served on a company under the BNSS. (5 marks)**

SOLUTION **Answer**

BNSS s.65 [CrPC 63]: service of summons on a **company or corporation** may be effected by serving it on a **director, manager, secretary or other officer** of the company, or by **letter sent by registered post** addressed to the chief officer of the company in India, in which case service is deemed effected when the letter would arrive in the ordinary course of post. For a firm or association of individuals, service may be on any partner or person in management. The BNSS also permits summons through **electronic communication** in the prescribed form, with the court's seal or digital signature (s.64(2)). The company may appear through a representative (s.342).

8. Law relating to Evidence

15. A confession made to a police officer is:

(a) always admissible
(b) not provable against the accused
(c) admissible if recorded in writing
(d) admissible in civil cases only

16. The certificate for admissibility of electronic records is required under:

(a) BSA s.63 (b) BSA s.15
(c) BSA s.104 (d) BSA s.22

QUESTION **Explain "dying declaration" and its evidentiary value. (5 marks)**

SOLUTION Answer

A statement by a person as to the **cause of his death** or the circumstances of the transaction resulting in his death is relevant when the **cause of death is in question** – **BSA s.26(a) [IEA 32(1)]**. The maker need not have been under expectation of death at the time. It may be oral, written or by signs. Value: it can be the **sole basis of conviction** without corroboration if it is **true, voluntary and consistent**, and the declarant was in a fit mental condition (*Khushal Rao v. State of Bombay*, 1958; *Laxman v. State of Maharashtra*, 2002). Preferably recorded by a Magistrate; multiple inconsistent declarations reduce its weight.

9. Law of Limitation

17. Section 5 of the Limitation Act (condonation of delay) does NOT apply to:

(a) appeals
(b) applications other than under Order XXI CPC
(c) suits
(d) revisions

18. Once time has begun to run, subsequent disability:

(a) stops it
(b) does not stop it
(c) suspends it for one year
(d) extends it by 3 years

QUESTION Explain the exclusion of time spent in proceeding bona fide in a court without jurisdiction. (5 marks)

SOLUTION Answer

s.14: in computing limitation for a suit (or application), the time during which the plaintiff was **prosecuting another civil proceeding with due diligence**, in good faith, in a court of first instance, appeal or revision, against the **same party** for the **same relief**, is **excluded** where that court was unable to entertain it for **defect of jurisdiction** or a similar cause. Conditions: both proceedings are civil; same matter in issue; good faith (due care and attention, s.2(h)); due diligence. It is construed liberally and applies to arbitration-related applications (*Consolidated Engineering v. Principal Secretary, Irrigation Dept.*, 2008).

10. Arbitration, Mediation & Conciliation

19. An application to set aside an arbitral award must be filed within:

(a) 30 days
(b) 3 months, extendable by 30 days
(c) 6 months
(d) 1 year

20. Under the Mediation Act, 2023, mediation is ordinarily to be completed within:

(a) 60 days
(b) 90 days
(c) 120 days, extendable by 60 days
(d) 180 days, extendable by 180 days

QUESTION Can a party seek interim relief from a court after the arbitral tribunal is constituted? (5 marks)

SOLUTION **Answer**

s.9 allows a party to apply to the court for interim measures (preservation of goods, securing the amount in dispute, injunction, receiver) **before, during or after** the arbitral proceedings (before enforcement). If the court grants relief before the proceedings begin, arbitration must start **within 90 days**. Under **s.9(3)**, once the tribunal is constituted the court **shall not entertain** an application **unless** the remedy under **s.17** (interim measures by the tribunal) is **not efficacious**. Tribunal orders under s.17 are enforceable like court orders. So: normally approach the tribunal; the court only where the s.17 remedy is inadequate (e.g. urgent relief against a third party).

11. Right to Information Act, 2005

21. Information concerning the life or liberty of a person must be supplied within:

(a) 24 hours (b) 48 hours
(c) 7 days (d) 30 days

22. The maximum penalty a PIO may face under s.20 is:

(a) ₹10,000 (b) ₹25,000
(c) ₹50,000 (d) ₹1 lakh

QUESTION **Can intelligence and security organisations listed in the Second Schedule refuse all information? (5 marks)**

SOLUTION **Answer**

s.24: the Act does not apply to the intelligence and security organisations in the **Second Schedule** (e.g. IB, R&AW, CBI VERIFY). **Exception**: information pertaining to allegations of **corruption** and **human rights violations** is not excluded. Human rights information is given only with the approval of the Central (or State) Information Commission, **within 45 days**. So they cannot refuse information about corruption or human rights violations; other information is outside the Act.

12. Law relating to Information Technology

23. Compensation for failure to protect sensitive personal data by a body corporate was originally provided under:

(a) s.43A IT Act (b) s.66A IT Act
(c) s.72 IT Act (d) s.79 IT Act

24. Cheating by personation using a computer resource is punishable under:

(a) s.66C (b) s.66D
(c) s.66E (d) s.66F

QUESTION **When is an intermediary exempt from liability for third-party content? (5 marks)**

SOLUTION **Answer**

s.79 – safe harbour: an intermediary is not liable for third-party information hosted by it if: (1) its function is limited to providing access to a communication system; (2) it does not **initiate** the transmission, **select** the receiver or **modify** the information; and (3) it observes **due diligence** (IT (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021). The exemption is lost if it **conspired or abetted**, or fails to **remove or disable access expeditiously** on actual knowledge through a **court order or Government notification** (*Shreya Singhal v. Union of India*, 2015).

13. General Principles of Contract Law

25. An agreement without consideration is valid when:

(a) made orally between friends
(b) in writing, registered, between near relatives out of natural love and affection
(c) made by a minor
(d) made under coercion

26. A contract becomes void by subsequent impossibility under:

(a) s.32 (b) s.56
(c) s.70 (d) s.73

QUESTION **Explain the rules regarding damages under section 73 with reference to Hadley v. Baxendale. (5 marks)**

SOLUTION **Answer**

s.73: the party suffering from breach is entitled to compensation for loss **naturally arising in the usual course of things** (ordinary damages), or loss the parties **knew, when they made the contract, to be likely** to result (special damages). **No compensation for remote and indirect loss**. *Hadley v. Baxendale* (1854): the carrier's delay in delivering a broken crankshaft – loss of mill profits was not recoverable because the carrier was not told that the mill would stand idle. Further rules: the duty to **mitigate** (Explanation to s.73); nominal damages where no loss is proved; exemplary damages are generally not given in contract; s.74 – liquidated damages and penalties – reasonable compensation up to the stated sum.

14. Law relating to Negotiable Instruments

27. Interim compensation in a cheque dishonour case may be up to:

(a) 10% of the cheque amount (b) 20% of the cheque amount
(c) 25% of the cheque amount (d) 50% of the cheque amount

28. A cheque is a bill of exchange drawn on a specified banker and:

(a) payable after 3 days of grace
(b) not expressed to be payable otherwise than on demand
(c) always crossed
(d) payable only to bearer

QUESTION **Distinguish a bill of exchange and a cheque. (5 marks)**

SOLUTION **Answer**

Basis	Bill of exchange (s.5)	Cheque (s.6)
Drawee	Any person	Always a **specified banker**
Payable	On demand or after a time	Always **on demand**
Acceptance	Needed (time bills)	Not required
Days of grace	3 days for time bills	None
Crossing	Not possible	Can be crossed
Stamp	Required (time bills)	Not required
Countermanding	Not possible after acceptance	Drawer can stop payment

Answer key with explanations

Q	Ans	Explanation / working
1	(b)	Wambaugh's inversion test: if inverting the proposition would change the decision, it is part of the ratio.
2	(c)	Art. 141 binds all courts in India; the Supreme Court can depart from its own earlier decisions.
3	(c)	Art. 22(2) – production within 24 hours, excluding journey time.
4	(b)	It lapses 6 weeks from reassembly unless disapproved earlier; the President may also withdraw it.
5	(a)	Associated words take their meaning from each other; (b) is expressio unius, (c) is ejusdem generis.
6	(b)	A proviso qualifies or excepts something from the main provision; it is read with it.
7	(b)	Right to a fair hearing.
8	(a)	Judicial control – ultra vires the Act or the Constitution, excessive delegation of essential legislative functions.
9	(a)	Act of God is a defence to strict liability (but not to absolute liability).
10	(a)	Voluntary assumption of risk with knowledge.
11	(b)	s.88 and Order XXXV CPC.
12	(b)	Lack of inherent jurisdiction cannot be cured by consent (*Kiran Singh v. Chaman Paswan*, 1954).
13	(a)	s.303 theft; s.316 CBT; s.318 cheating; s.308 extortion.
14	(b)	BNS s.310 [IPC 391].
15	(b)	BSA s.23 [IEA 25].
16	(a)	BSA s.63 [IEA 65B].
17	(c)	Delay in filing a suit cannot be condoned under s.5.
18	(b)	s.9 – continuous running of time.
19	(b)	s.34(3).
20	(c)	s.18.
21	(b)	Proviso to s.7(1).
22	(b)	₹250 per day, capped at ₹25,000.
23	(a)	s.43A (omitted when the DPDP Act provisions take effect VERIFY).
24	(b)	s.66C identity theft; s.66D cheating by personation; s.66E privacy; s.66F cyber terrorism.
25	(b)	s.25(1).
26	(b)	Doctrine of frustration.
27	(b)	s.143A.
28	(b)	s.6 – it includes the electronic image of a truncated cheque and a cheque in electronic form.