



**VINAYAKA MISSION'S RESEARCH FOUNDATION, SALEM**  
**(Deemed to be University under section 3 of the UGC Act 1956)**

**Ph.D Entrance Test – November – 2025**

**Faculty of Law**

**Instructions / Note:**

1. Answer all the questions. Each question carries one mark.
2. No negative marks for wrong answers.
3. Read each question carefully and answer in the OMR sheet provided for each question with only blue/ black pen to fill the circles in the OMR Sheet.
4. Question number 1 - 35 questions belong to Research Methodology component and Question number 36-70 questions belong to the subject at PG level
5. Return the question paper along with the OMR sheet.

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1. Which of the following best defines research?
  - A. A casual observation of facts
  - B. A systematic and objective investigation to gain knowledge
  - C. A random collection of data
  - D. A trial-and-error method
2. Which type of research aims at solving a specific, practical problem?
  - A. Basic research
  - B. Applied research
  - C. Fundamental research
  - D. Theoretical research
3. Which of the following is not a characteristic of research?
  - A. Systematic approach
  - B. Logical reasoning
  - C. Subjective interpretation
  - D. Empirical evidence
4. A good research objective should be \_\_\_\_
  - A. Vague and general
  - B. Specific, measurable, and achievable
  - C. Broad and undefined
  - D. Too ambitious to test



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5. Why is research important in any field?
  - A. It provides entertainment
  - B. It helps in advancing knowledge and solving problems
  - C. It increases workload
  - D. It replaces all previous findings
  
6. A research problem is a statement that \_\_\_\_\_
  - A. Defines the purpose of a study
  - B. Describes a hypothesis
  - C. Provides research findings
  - D. Summarizes data
  
7. Which of the following is NOT a good source for identifying a research problem?
  - A. Personal experience
  - B. Literature review
  - C. Theories and models
  - D. Hearsay and rumors
  
8. Which factor is most important in selecting a research problem?
  - A. Researcher's interest and competence
  - B. Length of the report
  - C. Ease of finding respondents
  - D. Number of available references
  
9. Which of the following helps in refining a research problem?
  - A. Random sampling
  - B. Literature review
  - C. Data coding
  - D. Hypothesis testing
  
10. Which of the following should be avoided while formulating a research problem?
  - A. Precision
  - B. Logical reasoning
  - C. Relevance
  - D. Ambiguity
  
11. Which of the following best describes a Null Hypothesis ( $H_0$ )?
  - A. It states that there is a significant difference between variables
  - B. It is always accepted as true
  - C. It assumes that there is no significant difference between variables
  - D. It is a proven fact



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12. What is an Alternate Hypothesis ( $H_1$  or  $H_a$ )?
- A. It states that no relationship exists between variables
  - B. It is the same as the null hypothesis
  - C. It contradicts the null hypothesis and states that a relationship exists
  - D. It is always true
13. A hypothesis that does not specify exact population parameters is called a \_\_\_\_\_
- A. Null hypothesis
  - B. Composite hypothesis
  - C. Simple hypothesis
  - D. Directional hypothesis
14. In a study on the effect of study time on exam performance, the dependent variable is \_\_\_\_\_
- A. Number of students
  - B. Study time
  - C. Exam performance
  - D. Type of test
15. Doctrinal legal research is also known as \_\_\_\_\_
- A. Empirical research
  - B. Theoretical research
  - C. Experimental research
  - D. Library-based or traditional research
16. Non-doctrinal research is also known as \_\_\_\_\_
- A. Applied research
  - B. Socio-legal or empirical research
  - C. Library research
  - D. Historical research
17. Which of the following is the main characteristic of empirical legal research?
- A. It studies law as written in books
  - B. It is theoretical and conceptual
  - C. It studies law as it operates in society
  - D. It depends only on judicial precedents
18. Case law research involves \_\_\_\_\_
- A. Analysis of judicial decisions and precedents
  - B. Observation and interviews
  - C. Comparison between statutes
  - D. Experimental methods



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19. A study on the reasoning used in landmark Supreme Court judgments is an example of \_\_\_\_\_
- A. Case law research
  - B. Analytical research
  - C. Both A and B
  - D. Empirical research
20. In probability sampling, every item in the population has \_\_\_\_\_
- A. Unequal chance of being selected
  - B. Equal and known chance of being selected
  - C. No chance of being selected
  - D. Random exclusion
21. Dividing the population into homogeneous groups and taking samples from each group is called \_\_\_\_\_
- A. Cluster sampling
  - B. Systematic sampling
  - C. Stratified sampling
  - D. Snowball sampling
22. Statutes are an example of which type of legal source?
- A. Primary source
  - B. Secondary source
  - C. Tertiary source
  - D. Empirical source
23. Judicial precedents are \_\_\_\_\_
- A. Laws enacted by Parliament
  - B. Customs accepted by society
  - C. Past court decisions guiding future cases
  - D. Reports prepared by researchers
24. Which of the following is a secondary source of law?
- A. Constitution
  - B. Supreme Court judgment
  - C. Parliamentary Act
  - D. Legal textbooks and commentaries
25. The Constitution of India is a \_\_\_\_\_
- A. Primary source of law
  - B. Secondary source of law
  - C. Historical source
  - D. Customary law



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26. Which of the following is a non-legal primary data source used in socio-legal research?
- A. Supreme Court rulings
  - B. Interview and field observation
  - C. Law textbooks
  - D. Legal maxims
27. Reliability of a research tool refers to \_\_\_\_\_
- A. Accuracy in measuring what it intends to measure
  - B. Consistency of results over time or across items
  - C. Appropriateness of data collection method
  - D. Ability to measure different concepts
28. The degrees of freedom for a t-test with two groups ( $n_1$  and  $n_2$ ) is \_\_\_\_\_
- A.  $n_1 + n_2 - 2$
  - B.  $n_1 + n_2$
  - C.  $n_1 \times n_2$
  - D.  $n_1 - n_2$
29. The purpose of interpretation in socio-legal research is to \_\_\_\_\_
- A. Present statistical tables
  - B. Give theoretical significance to findings
  - C. Collect field data
  - D. Avoid bias in sampling
30. The validity of interpretation in socio-legal research depends largely on \_\_\_\_\_
- A. Large sample size
  - B. Number of variables studied
  - C. Complexity of statistics
  - D. Consistency between evidence and conclusions
31. The ratio decidendi of a case refers to \_\_\_\_\_
- A. The judge's personal opinion
  - B. The summary of facts
  - C. The reasoning or principle underlying the decision
  - D. The obiter dicta
32. Which of the following best represents a judicial trend in India?
- A. Increasing judicial activism in PILs
  - B. Codification of civil law
  - C. Amendment of the Constitution
  - D. Creation of new tribunals



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33. The case Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala (1973) established which judicial principle?
- A. Doctrine of severability
  - B. Basic structure doctrine
  - C. Doctrine of eclipse
  - D. Colorable legislation
34. The use of multiple coders to analyze the same legal documents improves reliability Through \_\_\_\_\_
- A. Investigator triangulation
  - B. Theoretical triangulation
  - C. Data triangulation
  - D. Methodological triangulation
35. The origin of the term “triangulation” in research was borrowed from \_\_\_\_\_
- A. Sociology
  - B. Navigation and land surveying
  - C. Psychology
  - D. Political science

