

READING AND COMPREHENSION

1st Text

Carefully read this excerpt and answer the questions below **using only the information provided in the text**:

THE INTERACTION OF LAW AND RELIGION IN AMERICAN CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY.

(from H.J. Berman, *Faith and Order. The Reconciliation of Law and Religion*, Grand Rapids (Michigan) / Cambridge (U.K.), 1993, pp. 209-210.)

When the word “law” is juxtaposed with the Word “religion”, an American Lawyer today is apt to think immediately of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, with its double protection against any governmental interference in “the free exercise” of religion, on the one hand, and against any governmental “establishment” of religion, on the other. From the standpoint of contemporary American constitutional law, religion has become the personal and private affair of individual citizens or groups of citizens. Indeed, in recent decades our courts, in interpreting the “free exercise” clause, have gone very far toward immunizing individual and group activities from governmental control, whether federal or state, whenever they are considered by the persons engaging in them to be of a religious character; and at the same time, under the “establishment” clause, the courts have struck down most forms even of indirect governmental support of religion, whether federal or state.

A theologian, on the other hand, is apt to respond quite differently to the topic “law and religion”. He is apt to think first not of the Constitution but of the Ten Commandments, with their implicit assertions that all human law is founded on divine law, and that the ultimate purpose of human law is to help create conditions in which love of God and love of neighbor may flourish. From the standpoint of theistic faith, the interrelationship of law and religion is a two-way street, in which not only do legal structures and processes serve to protect religion from governmental intervention but also religious structures and processes serve to motivate and give direction to the society as a whole, including its legal system.

1. In the text, the word “law” is linked to the Word:
 - A) “Constitution”.
 - B) “Religion”.**
 - C) “State”.

2. The Author is thinking about

- A) American lawyers.
- B) American theologians.
- C) American lawyers and theologians.

3. The First Amendment of U.S. Constitution concerns

- A) universal religious freedom
- B) the Church.
- C) free exercise of religion and the prohibition of any governmental “establishment” of that.

4. According to Berman, religion has become:

- A. a personal and private affair of individual citizens or groups of citizens.
- B. a personal and private affair of individual citizens.
- C. a public affair.

5. In recent times, the American courts

- A. interpreted only the “free exercise” clause.
- B. interpreted both the “free exercise” and “establishment” clauses.
- C. did not interpret the Amendment.

6. Judicial interpretation

- A. immunized individual or group activities from federal governmental control.
- B. immunized individual or group activities from state governmental control.
- C. immunized individual or group activities from governmental control, whether federal or state.

7. Italian judges

- A. have encouraged governmental support of religion.
- B. did not care of the Amendment.
- C. have controlled religious activities.

8. U.S. courts

- A. have supported governmental control of activities which are of a religious character.

B. have stopped any governmental control of individual or collective religious activities.

C. have organized religious judicial activities.

9. The First Amendment

A. encourages indirect governmental support of religion.

B. forbids any direct and indirect governmental support of religion, whether federal or state.

C. forbids only the indirect state governmental support of religion.

10. From the point of view of a theologian

A. the topic "law and religion" is not interesting.

B. the topic "law and religion" depends on the idea that human law is founded on divine law.

C. religion is much more important than law.

2nd Text

Read carefully this excerpt from the judgment of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom *R (on the application of Steinfeld and Keidan) (Appellants) v. Secretary of State for International Development (in substitution for the Home Secretary and the Education secretary) (Respondent) (2018)* and answer to the questions below only on the basis of the information included in the text:

1. Section 1(1) of the Civil Partnership Act (CPA) 2004 defines a civil partnership as “a relationship between two people of the same sex ... (a) which is formed when they register as civil partners of each other - (i) in England or Wales ...” Under section 2(1) of CPA two people are to be regarded as having registered as civil partners when they have signed the civil partnership register in the presence of each other, a civil partnership registrar and two witnesses. By section 3(1) of CPA, two people are not eligible to register as civil partners if they are not of the same sex. CPA was therefore explicitly and emphatically designed for same sex couples only. The obvious reason for this was that, at the time of the enactment of CPA, the government and Parliament did not consider it appropriate to extend the institution of marriage to same sex couples but recognised that access to responsibilities and rights akin to those which arise on marriage should be available to same sex couples who wished to commit to each other in the way married couples do.
2. All of that changed with the enactment of the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013 (MSSCA). This made the marriage of same sex couples lawful from the date of coming into force of the legislation - 13 March 2014. From that date onwards, same sex couples who marry enjoy the same rights, benefits and entitlements as do married heterosexual couples. They also share the responsibilities that marriage brings.
3. CPA was not repealed when MSSCA was enacted. Consequently, same sex couples have a choice. They can decide to have a civil partnership or to marry. That choice was not - and is not - available to heterosexual couples. Under the law as it currently stands, they can only gain access to the rights, responsibilities, benefits and entitlements that marriage brings by getting married. This circumstance, it is now agreed, brought about an inequality of treatment between same sex and heterosexual couples. It is also now accepted by the respondent that this manifest inequality of treatment engages article 14 - prohibition of discrimination - read in conjunction with article 8 of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (hereafter the Convention or ECHR) - the right to respect for private life.
4. It is also accepted by the respondent Secretary of State that the inequality of treatment of heterosexual couples requires to be justified from the date of its inception, *ie* the coming into force of MSSCA. The principal issue in this appeal, therefore, is whether justification of that inequality includes consideration of the period of time during which, the government claims, it is necessary to investigate how best to eliminate the inequality or whether the justification must be directed exclusively to the very existence of the discrimination. [...].

11. In Section 1 (1) of the Civil Partnership Act of 2004, mentioned by the court, a civil partnership is defined as:

- a. a relationship between two people of the same sex**
- b. a relationship between two people
- c. a relationship between two people, either of different or of the same sex

12. In the Civil Partnership Act of 2004, mentioned by the court, a civil partnership in England and Wales is formed when

a. two people have signed the civil partnership register, in the presence of each other, a civil partnership registrar and two witnesses.

b. two people have signed the civil partnership register, even in different moments, in the presence of three witnesses

c. two people have signed the civil partnership register, in the presence of each other and of two witnesses, among which a civil partnership registrar

13. In the Civil Partnership Act of 2004, mentioned by the court, a civil partnership in England and Wales is allowed

a. only to same-sex partners

b to everyone who is not already married

c. to people of the same sex and to people of different sex when they have already been married with someone else

14. With the enactment of the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013:

a. since 2014 same-sex couples may get married with the same rights and duties than heterosexual people

b. since 2014, all the previous civil partnerships are immediately and automatically turned into marriage

c. since 2014 same sex couples may get married with the same rights than heterosexual people, but with different duties

15. After the enactment of the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013:

a. the Civil Partnership Act of 2004 is still in force

b. the Civil Partnership Act of 2004 was repealed

c. the Civil Partnership Act of 2004 is in force only for heterosexual people

16. Since 2014:

a. same-sex couples can decide to have a civil partnership or to marry

b. everyone can decide to have a civil partnership or to marry

c. heterosexual couples can decide to have a civil partnership or to marry

17. The Court makes clear that:

a. it is agreed that in the law in force there is an inequality of treatment between same sex couples and heterosexual couples

b. there is a shared disagree with the idea that in the law in force there is an inequality of treatment between same sex couples and heterosexual couples

c. the idea that that in the law in force there is an inequality of treatment between same sex couples and heterosexual couples is never taken into account in the legal system

18. The Court makes clear that the respondent:

a. accepts that in the National system there is an inequality of treatment engaging both articles 14 and 8 of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

b. does not see any illegal inequality of treatment in the National system

c. accepts that in the National system there is an inequality of treatment engaging only article 14 of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

19. The Court makes clear that the respondent:

a. accepts that the inequality of treatment of heterosexual couples requires to be justified from the coming into force of the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act

b. accepts that the inequality of treatment of heterosexual couples requires to be justified from the coming into force of the Civil Partnership Act

c. holds that the inequality of treatment of heterosexual couples is justified in the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act

20. The Court makes clear that the principal issue of the appeal is:

a. the object of the due justification of the inequality of treatment between same sex couples and heterosexual couples

b. the possible existence of a duty of the National legislator to justify its choices

c. the nature of the relationship between the Civil Partnership Act and Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act

3rd Text

Read carefully this excerpt from the judgment no. 85 of 2013 of the Italian Constitutional Court and answer to the questions below only on the basis of the information included in the text:

[...]

9.– The rationale of the contested provision is to strike a reasonable balance between the fundamental rights protected by the Constitution, including in particular the right to health (Article 32) and the derived right to a healthy environment, and the right to work (Article 4), from which the constitutionally significant interest of maintaining employment along with the duty incumbent upon public institutions to take all efforts to that effect are derived.

All fundamental rights protected by the Constitution are mutually related to one another and it is thus not possible to identify any one of them in isolation as prevailing absolutely over the others. Protection must at all times be “systematic and not fragmented into a series of rules that are uncoordinated and potentially conflict with one another” (see judgment no. 264 of 2012). If this were not the case, the result would be an unlimited expansion of one of the rights, which would “tyrannise” other legal interests recognised and protected under constitutional law, which constitute as a whole an expression of human dignity.

For the reasons set out above, it is not possible to share the argument of the referring judge for preliminary investigations that the adjective “fundamental” contained in Article 32 of the Constitution indicates a “predominant status” of the right to health over all other rights of the person. Moreover, the fact that this Court has defined the environment and health as “primary values” (see judgment no. 365 of 1993, cited by the referring judge) does not imply a “rigid” hierarchy between fundamental rights. As is the case under other contemporary democratic and pluralist constitutions, the Italian Constitution requires that an ongoing reciprocal balance be struck between fundamental principles and rights, and that none of them may claim absolute status. The classification of the values of the environment and health as “primary” rather means that they cannot be sacrificed in favour of other interests, even if protected under constitutional law, and not that they are placed at the pinnacle of a hierarchically absolute order. Precisely because it is dynamic and not set in advance, the point of equilibrium must be assessed – by Parliament when enacting legislation and by the Constitutional Court upon review – according to the criteria of proportionality and reasonableness in such a manner as to ensure that their essential core is not sacrificed.

21. In Article 32 of the Italian Constitution, the right to health is qualified as:

a. fundamental

b. recessive

c. tyrannical

22. The Court

a. makes reference to a precedent from 1992

b. makes reference to a precedent from 2012

c. does not make any reference to precedents

23. The classification of the values of the environment and health as “primary” means

- a. that they are placed at the pinnacle of a hierarchically absolute order
- b that they “tyrannise” other legal interests

c. none of the above

24. Under the Constitution, public institutions have a duty to take all efforts to the effect of maintaining employment

- a. Wrong
- b. Right**
- c. The Constitution does not deal with employment

25. The right to work is recognized by

- a. Article 4 of the Constitution**
- b. Article 32 of the Constitution
- c. Parliament when enacting legislation and by the Constitutional Court upon review

26. The fact that the Court has defined some values as “primary”

- a. implies that they come first, notably before the right to life
- b. does not imply that there is “rigid” hierarchy**
- c. implies that there is a “rigid” hierarchy

27. The criteria of proportionality and reasonableness are

- a. used to replace the evaluations made by the Parliament when enacting legislation
- b. meaningless
- c. used to assess the point of equilibrium among constitutional values and interests**

28. According to the criteria of proportionality and reasonableness

- a. The core of constitutional values can be sacrificed
- b. The right to work cannot be amended
- c. None of the above**

29. The Court makes it clear that

a. fundamental rights as such are not one of the main concerns of the Constitution

b. all fundamental rights protected by the Constitution are interconnected

c. some rights are not mutually related to the others but are

30. According to the Court, the right to a healthy environment is

a. derived from the right to health

b. derived from the right to work

c. derived from the right to life

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

31. "To be or not to be, that is the question" is a quotation from:

- A) Hamlet
- B) Othello
- C) Julius Caesar

32. The artist Salvador Dalí is particularly famous for:

- A) melting watches
- B) multi-material compositions
- C) perpendicular lines and geometrical colour blocks in primary colours

33. The expression "non violence" recalls in particular the thinking of

- A) Gandhi
- B) Malcolm X
- C) John Fitzgerald Kennedy

34. Who was Louis Armstrong?

- A) a jazz musician
- B) a NASA astronaut
- C) a winner of the Nobel Peace Prize

35. What is meant by the 'Prague Spring'?

- A) a popular movement in Czechoslovakia in 1968 which supported Dubček's democratization and reform process
- B) the coup d'état carried out by Czechoslovak communists in 1948 which put an end to the third Czechoslovak Republic
- C) the invasion of Czechoslovakia by Warsaw Pact troops

36. Which of the following statements defines the term 'deontology'?

- A) the ethical code of conduct which governs a professional activity
- B) the system of valuation and enhancement of the individual, characteristic of a liberal political order

C) the set of rights and duties of every citizen

37. Pablo Picasso's painting entitled "Guernica":

A) commemorates the bombing of a Basque city during the Spanish Civil War

B) is of a small dimension

C) is celebrated for its use of lively and contrasting colours

38. Which event started the Second World War?

A) the invasion of Poland by German troops

B) the annexation of Austria by Germany

C) the assassination of the Hapsburg Archduke Ferdinand

39. Which of the following statements refers to Simone de Beauvoir?

A) in her writings she deals with the role of women in modern society

B) she taught law at the Sorbonne

C) she carried out medical research

40. The 4th of July is a national holiday in the USA to commemorate:

A) Independence Day of the United States

B) the end of the Vietnam War

C) Thanksgiving

41. Which is the correct historical sequence of the following events?

A) Belle Époque - Second World War - Presidency of J.F.Kennedy - Fall of the Berlin Wall

B) Belle Époque - Second World War - Fall of the Berlin Wall - Presidency of J.F.Kennedy

D) Second World War - Belle Époque - Fall of the Berlin Wall - Presidency of J.F.Kennedy

42. Edmund Husserl

A) established the school of phenomenology

B) Was a disciple of Immanuel Kant

D) writing was not consistent with the principles of the Peripatetic School

43. Which of the following statements is NOT correct with respect to the tropical rainforest?

A) The climate is characterized by wide seasonal variations and vast temperature ranges

C) It contains a wide variety of living organisms, both plant and animal

D) Its highly dense vegetation includes trees of different heights, lianas, epiphytic plants

44. In “Crime and Punishment” by Dostoevsky:

A) Raskolnikov kills an old woman

B) Raskolnikov is killed by a prostitute

C) Raskolnikov falls in love with an old woman

45. An avant-garde literary and artistic movement, born after World War I, inspired by the human unconscious and all its manifestations:

A) Surrealism

B) Cubism

C) Abstractism

46. In reference to the Conference at Yalta (1945), which of the following claims is correct?

A) The leading representatives at the conference were Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin

C) It established a military alliance among the states making up the eastern bloc -as a counterpart to NATO

D) Its conclusion saw the signing of the peace treaties bringing an end to World War II

47. Doctrine of ideas, superiority of wisdom over knowledge, doctrine of dialectics are all characteristic aspects of...

A) Platonism

B) Aristotelian thought

D) Kantian thought

48. Tommaso Campanella...

A) brings religious and political motives together in *The City of the Sun*

B) gathers his thought in the celebrated *New Science*

D) identifies the four primalities of every finite being: being, knowing, wishing, being able

49. The term *hypocentre* stands for:

- A) the point beneath the Earth's crust where the fracture generating an earthquake begins to spread
- B) the point of the Earth's surface where the earthquake produces the effects of greatest intensity
- C) a generic subterranean environment, or cavity, which may be both natural and artificial

50. In the novel of the same name by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, the Little Prince encounters the fox. Their dialogue is about:

- A) the value of friendship, love and sharing
- B) disdain for what cannot be attained
- C) cunning and deceit

51. With regard to the *Gothic Novel*, which claim is NOT correct?

- A) It is typical of Medieval literature, in Romance or Vulgar Latin, and it tells of court life
- B) It is a narrative genre characterized by a blending of romantic elements and horror
- D) *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley is an example

52. Donatello's *David* exhibited at the Bargello Museum in Florence:

- A) is a bronze statue the Medici commissioned the sculptor to create
- C) is a statue in Carrara marble, originally exhibited in Piazza della Signoria
- D) is a dynamic work in which David is intent on defeating Goliath

53. Which of the following statements does NOT concern Leonardo da Vinci's Last Supper?

- A) The work was painted during the 17th century
- B) It is a masterpiece of the Italian Renaissance
- D) The pictorial technique used makes the work very fragile

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

54 What is the unit of measure for the storage space of external USB disks?

- A) TeraByte
- B) MegaByte
- C) GBPS

55. To improve the security of a Wi-Fi network

A) The Wi-Fi network password should be changed

B) The router password should be changed

C) The computer password should be changed

56. Which of the following statements about a DVD burner is correct?

A) It can read and write normal CDs as well

B) It can only read and write DVDs but not CDs

C) It can only read normal CDs

57. What is meant by the term streaming?

A) The flow of audio/video data from a source to one or more users through a communication network

B) Downloading copyright-protected videos from the internet

C) All websites which transmit high-quality videos

58. What is a word processor?

A) A program for processing text

B) A processor specifically designed for office use

C) A software program for surfing the web

59. What is Chrome OS?

A) An operating system such as Microsoft Windows

B) A web browser such as Firefox

D) A smartphone app

60. What extension does a Microsoft Word 2007 file have?

A) DOCX

B) PPTX

D) XLSX