

# 2010

## LNAT FREE Sample



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## **Roles of Newspaper**

Last year the king of Jordan was supposed to have disguised himself as a taxi-driver to find out what his people really felt and thought. Driving a cab or riding the Tube would be a good idea, not only for kings and prime ministers, but also for newspaper editors, who play a crucial role in shaping a national identity and culture. A nation's fears and prejudices can certainly be triggered by sensational tabloid campaigns, such as the News of the World's name-and-shame anti-paedophile campaign. But they also develop, less visibly and dramatically, on a day-to-day basis, in response to more muted signals and omissions in the broadsheets.

This week I witnessed a scene on a London bus that strikingly reflected both the real changes in the city's multicultural demography and the lingering racism, xenophobia, and aggression below the surface. A large middle eastern family, including women and babies, and laden with pushchairs and shopping, were having trouble keeping their packages out of the aisle. An elderly lady nearly tripped over their trolley. When they got off at the next stop, a man near the exit loudly expressed his disgust: "Wouldn't have been allowed on the bus in my day. Should go back where they came from! No buses in the desert!"

How did this incident connect to the influence of the serious press? Neither the xenophobe nor the women were probable readers of the Guardian or the Telegraph. I remember that when I first came to London in the 60s, elderly ladies would also make racist remarks on the buses, usually about the Jamaican conductors. Certainly Britain has become a more legally egalitarian country, and the press has contributed, through editorials, to the notable decline of intolerance, incivility, and small-minded provincialism.

(Source: Elaine Showalter, [guardian.co.uk](http://guardian.co.uk), 19 August 2000)

- 1 Of the following, which is not mentioned as the role of newspaper editors?
- A Shaping a national identity
  - B Filling a sense of the culture
  - C Plummeting fears and prejudices
  - D Creating shocking tabloid campaigns
  - E Conveying response through muted signals
- 2 What does the author want to reveal by mentioning two separate incidents about the eastern family and the Jamaican conductor?
- A Everybody is making great efforts to counteract racism.
  - B People's attitude towards the individuals of another race has not changed.
  - C Nowadays very few people indulge in racist remarks.
  - D Earlier people made racist remarks in public but now they have become more sympathetic.
  - E The aggression that was earlier reflected blatantly is still present below the facade.
- 3 What is the main argument of the author?
- A The king of Jordan's effort to find actual public opinion is futile.
  - B Riding in the Tube is the best way to gauge public opinion.
  - C Newspapers play a great role in setting public opinion.
  - D Newspapers play an important role in moulding the public opinion.
  - E Racism is a burning issue and it must be counteracted.

## Privacy of Electronic Mails

Most office workers assume that the messages they send to each other via electronic mail are as private as a telephone call or a face-to-face meeting. That assumption is wrong. Although it is illegal in many areas for an employer to eavesdrop on private conversations or telephone calls—even if they take place on a company-owned telephone—there are no clear rules governing electronic mail. In fact, the question of how private electronic mail transmissions should be has emerged as one of the more complicated legal issues of the electronic age.

People's opinions about the degree of privacy that electronic mail should have, vary depending on whose electronic mail system is being used and who is reading the messages. Does a government office, for example, have the right to destroy electronic messages created in the course of running the government, thereby denying public access to such documents? Some hold that government offices should issue guidelines that allow their staff to delete such electronic records, and defend this practice by claiming that the messages thus deleted already exist in paper versions whose destruction is forbidden. Opponents of such practices argue that the paper versions often omit such information as who received the messages and when they received them, information commonly carried on electronic mail systems. Government officials, opponents maintain, are civil servants; the public should thus have the right to review any documents created during the conducting of government business.

Questions about electronic mail privacy have also arisen in the private sector. Recently, two employees of an automotive company were discovered to have been communicating disparaging information about their supervisor via electronic mail. The supervisor, who had been

monitoring the communication, threatened to fire the employees. When the employees filed a grievance complaining that their privacy had been violated, they were let go. Later, their court case for unlawful termination was dismissed; the company's lawyers successfully argued that because the company owned the computer system, its supervisors had the right to read anything created on it.

In some areas, laws prohibit outside interception of electronic mail by a third party without proper authorisation such as a search warrant. However, these laws do not cover "inside" interception such as occurred at the automotive company. In the past, courts have ruled that interoffice communications may be considered private only if employees have a "reasonable expectation" of privacy when they send the messages. The fact is that no absolute guarantee of privacy exists in any computer system. The only solution may be for users to scramble their own messages with encryption codes; unfortunately, such complex codes are likely to undermine the principal virtue of electronic mail: its convenience.

- 4 Which one of the following statements most accurately summarises the main point of the passage?
- A Until the legal questions surrounding the privacy of electronic mail in both the public and private sectors have been resolved, office workers will need to scramble their electronic mail messages with encryption codes.
  - B The legal questions surrounding the privacy of electronic mail in the work place can best be resolved by treating such communications as if they were as private as telephone conversations or face-to-face meetings.
  - C Any attempt to resolve the legal questions surrounding the privacy of electronic mail in the workplace must take into account the essential difference between public-sector and private sector

business.

- D At present, in both the public and private sectors, there seem to be no clear general answers to the legal questions surrounding the privacy of electronic mail in the workplace.
  - E The legal questions surrounding the privacy of electronic mail in the workplace can best be resolved by allowing supervisors in public-sector but not private-sector offices to monitor their employees' communications.
- 5 Based on the passage, the author's attitude towards interception of electronic mail can most accurately be described as:
- A Outright disapproval of the practice
  - B Support for employers who engage in it
  - C Support for employees who lose their jobs because of it
  - D Intellectual interest in its legal issues
  - E Cynicism about the motives behind the practice
- 6 The author's primary purpose in writing the passage is to:
- A Demonstrate that the individual right to privacy has been eroded by advances in computer technology
  - B Compare the legal status of electronic mail in the public and private sectors
  - C Draw an extended analogy between the privacy of electronic mail and the privacy of telephone conversations or face-to-face meeting
  - D Illustrate the complexities of the privacy issues surrounding electronic mail in the workplace
  - E Explain why the courts have not been able to rule definitely on the issue of the privacy of electronic mail

## Explanations

- 1 To answer this question the candidate will first have to correctly identify what the question is demanding. The question is looking for the option which is *not* mentioned as the role of the newspaper editor. The answer to this question can be found in the first paragraph of the passage.

The first two options, A and B, can be negated because the author mentions that newspaper editors play a major role in “shaping the national identity and culture.” The newspaper editors play an important role in publishing sensational news items. At the end of the first paragraph, the author mentions that the newspaper editors also contribute to the development of public response by the use of “muted signals.” Hence, option D and E are incorrect. Option C, which mentions that “plummeting fears and prejudices,” is not one of the roles of newspaper editors, rather it is the effect of sensational news on the readers. **Hence, the correct option is C.**

- 2 To answer this question the candidate will have to read the last two paragraphs very carefully. The candidates have to find the reason why the author mentions the two incidents.

When the two incidents are compared it becomes clear that there has been a change in response toward people from other race. Hence option B is incorrect. Option A and C are incorrect because the author does not make a mention of them in the passage. Option D should be eliminated because the man’s expression after the eastern family had got down from the bus reflects that people have not become sympathetic.

In the beginning of the second paragraph, the author mentions that she has noticed “both the real changes in the city's multicultural demography and the lingering racism, xenophobia, and aggression below the surface.” The old women of the 1960’s passed on their racist comments blatantly, but the contemporary incident in the bus, where the man passes the racist remark only the eastern family gets down. This reveals that the aggression

that was earlier portrayed blatantly is still present in the hearts of common men. **Hence the correct option is E.**

- 3 To answer this question the student has to take into account the information provided in the first and the last paragraph.

Option A, B and C are incorrect because they are only instances that the author uses to strengthen her opinion about the role of newspapers. Option E states a universal truth but it is incorrect because it is not the main argument of the author. In the last paragraph, the author mentions that “the press has contributed, through editorials, to the notable decline of intolerance, incivility, and small-minded provincialism.” **Hence, it can be inferred that option D is correct.**

- 4 To answer this question the candidate will have to take a complete account of the whole passage.

It is evident from the passage that the author’s main concern is the privacy issues related with the electronic mail system. In the very first paragraph the author mentions that “there are no clear rules governing electronic mail.” Options A and E are incorrect because the author never mentions the need to use encryption codes in emails or the need for supervisors. Options B and C are incorrect because they do not summarise the main point in the passage. Option D accurately states the dilemma associated with the electronic mail system. It mentions that the legal questions surrounding electronic mail, in both public and private sector is not yet solved. **Hence, the correct option is D.**

- 5 In order to answer this question, the candidates will first have to understand the author’s stance regarding the privacy issues related to electronic mails.

The author realises that there is a difference of opinion in the public regarding the privacy policy of electronic mails. The author provides



different instances of the same situation, one from a government office and another from a private office. From the passage it is clear that the author is more interested in the legal issues associated with the privacy of electronic mails. At the end of the first paragraph, the author mentions, “the question of how private electronic mail transmissions should be has emerged as one of the more complicated legal issues of the electronic age.”

**Hence, the correct option is D.**

- 6 The answer to this question emerges from the first and the last paragraph of the passage.

The sole concern of the author, as it emerges from the passage, is the unavailability of any fixed law regarding the privacy of electronic mails, whether in the public or the private sector. The author gives the instance of both the sectors so as to illustrate the complexities associated with electronic mails in the workplace. **Hence, the correct option is D.**