



## GENERAL STUDIES (Test Code : 304)

Name of Candidate	<u>Gaurav Agrawal</u>	Registration No.	<u>1684</u> <u>384</u>
Schedule		Module	
Place	<u>Jaipur</u>	Time	
Classroom	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date	<u>3-oct-2013</u>
Distance Learning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Classroom & Distance Learning	<input type="checkbox"/>

### INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1.(a)	20	<u>51</u>
1.(b)	20	
1.(c)	20	
1.(d)	20	
1.(e)	20	
2.(a)	15	<u>39.5</u>
2.(b)	15	
2.(c)	15	
2.(d)	15	
2.(e)	15	
2.(f)	15	
3.(a)	10	<u>21.5</u>
3.(b)	10	
3.(c)	10	
3.(d)	10	
4.(a)	5	<u>13</u>
4.(b)	5	
4.(c)	5	
4.(d)	5	

### EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, ID Number and Test Code).
2. Candidates should attempt answer to the part/sub-part of a question strictly within the pre-defined space. Any attempt outside the pre-defined space shall not be evaluated.
3. The candidate need not write anything in his/her answer that derogates the dignity of an individual or an organization.
4. Candidates should attempt all questions strictly in accordance with the instruction given under each question.
5. The candidate should respect the instructions, given by the invigilator.

Maximum Marks : 250

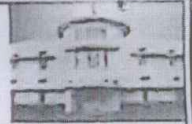
25.0/250

Remarks:

Signature of Examiner

**103, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor B/1-2, Ansal Building, Behind UCO Bank, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-09**

**75, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Old Rajinder Nagar Market, Near Axis Bank, New Delhi - 110060**



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1.(a)	20		1. Alignment Competence 2. Context Competence 3. Content Competence 4. Language Competence 5. Introduction Competence 6. Structure - Presentation Competence 7. Conclusion Competence	
1.(b)	20			
1.(c)	20			
1.(d)	20			
1.(e)	20			
2.(a)	15			
2.(b)	15			
2.(c)	15		<b>INSTRUCTIONS</b>	
2.(d)	15			
2.(e)	15			
2.(f)	15			
3.(a)	10			
3.(b)	10			
3.(c)	10			
3.(d)	10			
4.(a)	5			
4.(b)	5			
4.(c)	5			
4.(d)	5			
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Remarks:		Signature of Examiner		2. Candidates should attempt answer to the part/sub-part of a question strictly within the pre-defined space. Any attempt outside the pre-defined space shall not be evaluated.
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Overall Macro comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1. Presentation & structuring of your answer is good. Keep it up.
2. Be precise when <sup>answers</sup> objective aspects of questions. Refer approach paper for clarity.
3. You have shown good understanding & analysis skill in your answers. Keep it up.
4. You have got good writing skills, keep it up & All the Best!
- 5.

All The Best

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1. Answer the following in about 250 words each: 20 x 5 = 100  
 (a) According to a recent WTO agreement, Least Developed Countries need not comply with IPR protection for pharmaceutical patents till 2021. Explain how these countries can use this opportunity to promote access to drugs, vaccines and diagnostics?

- The 2005 agreement had given LDCs time until July 1, 2013 to comply with TRIPS provisions. The new agreement now
  - extends the deadline to 2021, or
  - when the LDC 'graduates' and moves <sup>out of the</sup> ~~up to the~~ non-LDC category due to economic development, whichever is earlier.
- Additionally, the new agreement removes the "non-rollback" clause i.e. LDCs which had already formed TRIPS compliant laws, can now relax them as per their local needs and situations.
- The LDCs badly needed this window of opportunity because:
  - Structure of Global pharmaceutical market

is such that LDCs don't produce any patented drugs. They are reliant on imports from MNCs of developed countries for almost all patented drugs. These MNCs sell these drugs at exorbitantly high prices which LDCs can't afford.

- LDCs lack the required experience, infrastructure, institutional mechanism to become TRIPS compliant.
- still they are burdened by huge public health problems.

Now, these LDCs can:

- improve public health by importing cheaper generic versions of the patented drugs.
- can also develop their own drug manufacturing industry without worrying about TRIPS.

- effectively use the "rollback" mechanism to meet domestic health needs i.e. can dilute their ZPR laws.
- get additional time to garner enough resources and experience to become TRIPS compliant by 2021.

10.5  
 good  
 well written

1. (b) "The root causes of the Naxal problem in the tribal areas are the loopholes in the Forest (Conservation) Act, the Mines Act, and land acquisition laws, among others." Comment. 20

Loopholes / faulty implementation of laws is one of the biggest contributors of the Naxal issue. for eg.,

*(these are cases of faulty policy making itself)*

- The Forest (Conservation) Act: In the zeal of bringing maximum area under 'forest land', the forest department unilaterally declared vast tracts as "forest land" where people were living. No consultations were made with public. All rights of

people were extinguished and they were displaced without rehabilitation.

2. Land Acquisition Act, 1894: This had no provision of consent of project affected people for acquisition. Urgency clause was rampantly misused. Hardly any compensation was paid. ~~It~~ had no rehab. provisions.

3. Mines Act: All <sup>mineral</sup> resources are owned by the govt. which can grant license to private parties to extract them. Land can be acquired without consent.

4. PESA: The act sought to empower gram sabhas in scheduled areas. But in practice, gram sabhas were never delegated enough powers by states; the gram sabha hearings for land acquisition were farce in most cases, local administration colluded with industrialists.

8.5  
You need to elaborate how these provisions are affecting livelihoods & settings of Oriss & impact towards them as Naxal activities.

5. Forests Rights Act: It vests forest rights with tribals living for  $\geq 75$  years or 3 generations. But in practice, the administration never records their rights, files counter cases to harass them.

Apart from these, ~~as~~ other main causes are:

- collusion of govt. machinery at all levels with industrialists; corruption.
- lack of development
- use of coercive methods by navals and their strong funding channels
- breakdown of administrative capacity in naval areas.

Nonetheless, some recent measures to address naval issue are:

- Supreme court verdict on Niyangiri
- MGNREGS, TSP, IADP, Food Security & U
- strengthening of police forces and central forces.
- revised guidelines for Forest rights act.



1. (c) The issue of allowing GM crops in the country is a subject matter of debate. Critically examine various aspects of this issue in the light of recently submitted SC-appointed Technical Expert Committee report. 20

### Recommendations

- To provide introduction*
- The expert committee has recommended a moratorium on field trials of the GM crops until strong regulatory mechanisms are put into place.
  - It also recommended GM crops should not be allowed in areas with rich biodiversity.
  - There is no compelling reason for India to be 1<sup>st</sup> country to introduce GM food crops in a major way.

### Positives of GM crops

- Also comment on aspect of nutritional security*
- Increased crop production, to enhance food security and help meet the needs of the food Bill.
  - Boost to Indian scientific development and scientists as India is advanced in this field.
  - Poverty alleviation as higher production turns into higher farmer earnings.

## Negatives of GM crops

- Safety and Regulatory concerns: GM crops have nowhere been certified for safety in the world. Before we introduce them, large scale tests are needed. Regulatory bodies must be located in ~~this~~ Environment ministry or health ministry and not agriculture ministry due to conflict of interest in latter.
- Threat to sovereignty of India as GM crops are dominated by western MNCs.
- Bio piracy issues as these MNCs take gene material from India without compensation.
- Rights of farmers as <sup>even</sup> field trials can lead to cross-pollination and farmers' seeds will become infertile.
- Loss of Biodiversity as GM genetic material will overtake natural germplasm.
- Increase farm risk as GM crops need

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heavy investment and thus can lead to higher farmer suicides.

- hurt Indian exports as many EU countries have prohibited GM food.
- ethical concerns such as interfering with nature.

## Conclusion

Perhaps the best way out is to use this moratorium activity to: (a) conduct highly regulated ~~test~~ tests of GM crops to certify safety. (b) improve regulatory mechanisms.

1. (d) The National Spot Exchange Ltd. crisis has been in news recently. Discuss the crisis, its causes and suggest a way forward. 20

The NSEL crisis joins the growing list of financial sector scams like Sahara, Sardha, where the company takes advantage of regulatory loopholes.

## The crisis and reasons

- NSEL was setup as a commodities spot exchange.
- spot exchanges are setup to enable farmers sell their produce on the

10.5

gnd

buyers to hedge their risk.

- commodity spot exchanges can only settle trades within 11 days (T+10 basis) and have to be physically settled i.e. if one sells, one has to physically deliver the commodity.
- Being a spot exchange, NSEL was regulated by APMC which has weak regulations.
- But NSEL, taking advantage of legal loopholes, began offering forward contracts, which could be settled much beyond 11 days.
- It also made settlement on basis of 'e-receipts of warehouses' which effectively meant no more physical delivery and one could short sell.
- Soon these contracts became very popular with speculators.

NSEL was allowed to forward trading in one day contract by govt. in 2008. But NSEL had a limit over the one day.

- Forward contracts have to be regulated by Forward Markets Commission which has stringent regulations.
- When govt. asked NSDL to stop this, it defaulted.

### Lessons from crisis

- As advocated by the FSLRC, we should plug regulatory loopholes by:
  - ~~having~~ unified regulator.
  - principle based regulations than narrow product specific ones.
- Regulators need to be given more powers. ~~in the~~
- Financial transactions should be regulated by specialised financial regulators.
- Increased emphasis on corporate governance and consumer education.
- Protection of consumer rights should be enhanced.

10

1. (e) Examine the causes of rupee depreciation and its impact on the Indian economy. Also discuss the steps taken by the Government and RBI to stem its slide.

20

### Causes of Rupee depreciation

#### • Global factors

- US tapering of ~~the~~ Quantitative Easing

The move is expected to ~~raise~~ raise interest rates there and lead to outflows of money from India to US.

- Global slowdown specially in EU and US. This has led to slowdown in Indian exports to these countries.

This also leads to weaker remittance from residents CAD, hence weaker rupee.

- Selloff in <sup>almost</sup> all major EM currencies like Brazil Real, South African Rand, Russian Ruble. Rupee selloff is a part of it.

- Rising oil and gold prices. These are 2 major import items for us and higher prices mean higher CAD.

#### • Domestic factors

- Weak manufacturing

- weak economy. - stalled investments
  - policy uncertainties (eg. retrospective taxation, GAAR, transfer pricing issues):  
These hurt FDI and FII.
  - export bans . eg. iron ore, cotton
  - high inflation: leads to loss of currency value based on PPP theory.
  - land acquisition, environmental concerns  
They lead to lower investments.
  - higher external borrowings: specially trade credit. These are short term in nature and make economy vulnerable.
- impact  
steps taken
- higher inflation (imports costlier)
  - higher fiscal deficit (higher fuel and fertilizer subsidies)
  - macroeconomic instability: Investors began to fear further selloff. \$ inflows dry up and it becomes a self fulfilling prophecy as BOP crisis materialises.
  - ECB became costly; companies which borrowed abroad to default.

11.5

Good  
well written

- can lead to full scale economic crisis.

Recent steps

- Govt and RBI restricted gold imports
- RBI : (a) hiked MSF rate by 200 bps. (b) dried up short term liquidity by issuing 12000 crores of cash management bonds (c) put restrictions on banks' open fx position.
- (d) provided concessional swap window for FCNR (B) deposits. (e) allowed banks to borrow 100% of tier 1 capital abroad.

- Govt.: (a) set up \$100 billion Bonds currency reserve arrangement. (b) \$50 billion fx swap with Jap. (c) export policy to boost exports.

2. Answer the following in about 200 words each: 15 x 6 = 90

(a) "Indian cyber laws lack teeth to bite data hackers." Analyze. 15

- IT (Amendment) Act, 2008 is the main act to deal with cybercrimes, including hacking, in India.

- It has many stringent punishment against hacking. Yet, there have been multiple such incidents, both in private as well as public sector.

- The reason for rising hacking incidents is, perhaps not weak laws, but weak enforcement, lack of resources & capabilities.



- One of the largest scale hacking, is perhaps, carried out under PRISM programme of US
- Most of the companies like Google, facebook, twitter, paypal where people enter their personal data have their servers in

US

- Even though IT Act has extra-territorial jurisdiction i.e. it applies to cases where hacking was done from outside India, we don't have the enforcement capacity yet so we can't check these instances of organised hacking

- ~~Not~~ then many governments, terrorist groups, individual miscreants target our website and servers here from outside again we can't check them due to enforceability

- Private companies are one of the major victims of hacking. But they just don't report the matter, unless out of control. This is because they fear law suits and credibility loss. If a matter is

You need to mention various provisions of law to reflect their inadequacy in dealing cyber crimes. Lack of implementation is only one aspect.

IS

not reported, law can't be enforced  
 • Our police personnel still lack the skills  
 and training to tackle hacking. CERT-In  
 still doesn't have full operational  
 capabilities and will certainly still  
 need the police.

Thus, its lack of enforcing capabilities,  
 rather than weak laws, which are  
 the bottleneck here.

2. (b) India has been granted the status of 'Authorizing Nation' under the Common Criteria Recognition Arrangement (CCRA). Explain how it can be beneficial for India in the International Electronics & IT Sector. 15

- CCRA is an arrangement of 26 countries including US, Japan, many EU countries.
- India became 17<sup>th</sup> nation to have 'Authorizing nation' status earlier it was a 'consuming nation'.
- Authorizing nation status would mean that electronic and IT products can now be tested in India.
- India can then issue a certificate

of their safety which will be recognised by all the other member countries.

- There will be no need on the part of other countries to re-test the products.

- Now India gains massively because now:

- testing industry in electronics and IT sector develop in India.

- lot of FDI and other investment in the sector can come in.

- India already has a strong position in human resource talent pool. Our engineers are among the best in the world.

- This investment can create lakhs of jobs for them.

Also mention  
aspects of  
infrastructural  
development &  
R&D

- The electronics and IT services exports will ~~go~~ go up leading to easing pressure on CAD.

2. (c) What is global climate change vulnerability index? Also provide its indicators and calculation methodology. 15

- This is an index developed by Maplecroft.
- It ranks 170 countries based on their vulnerability to climate change in next 30 years.
- 16 countries are listed as ~~no~~ extremely vulnerable and India is #2 Bangladesh is most vulnerable.
- It takes into account 3 dimensions.
  1. exposure of countries to natural disasters and sea level rise

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- associated with climate change.
2. vulnerability of populations in terms of resources to climate change
  3. Ability of country's government to adapt to the climate change in future

South Asia is one of the extremely vulnerable zone.

/// Mention calculation methodology to scale of measurement

S.S

2. (d) Geospatial technologies have an Important role in developing strategies for disaster reduction as well as disaster management. Explain. 15

Geospatial Technologies include use of remote sensing satellites, communication systems, GIS etc.

They are important in disaster reduction and management in following ways:

- <sup>Satellite</sup> ~~They can~~ imagery can be used to prepare land use maps.
- Land zoning, based on topography, forest cover, ~~existing use~~ can be done. Geospatial technologies can be

- used to provide the needed info
- Once the land use plans have been developed, satellite imagery can be used for effective monitoring
  - GIS technologies can give us data about the sea level, hydrological cycle, air movement, forest cover, height etc. and can help us prepare vulnerability maps.
  - In urban planning, we can see if the building height norms, road width etc are not being violated
  - Developing hazards such as cyclones, floods, rainfall, drought can be monitored on a real time basis. This can provide valuable info to administration in responding.
  - After in disasters, the traditional communication channels are broken down. These systems can still function

and help us in say identifying safe zones.

- Detailed cadastral maps can be prepared which can help us in disaster planning including climate change

2. (e) The national policy should reflect a paradigm shift in disaster management from a short term to long term perspective. Discuss. 15

- Hazards are work of God. Disasters are man made. Does it even bother us that even the strongest of ~~earthquakes~~ <sup>cyclones</sup> in developed countries (eg Sandy in US) kill only a handful of people whereas the losses here are astronomical?
- The difference lies in perspective. The best way to minimize the damage caused by a disaster is not by acting after it has struck, but by planning before it - for years.



- Even international agreements like Nyogo framework or our own laws such as the Disaster Management Act, 2005 endorse this view. But India is still a long way from fully adopting implementing it.

### Advantages of long term planning

- It enables one to ascertain likely scale and impact of the hazard.
- It enables us to create vulnerability maps.
- One can thus plan appropriate structures, infrastructures, land use, strategies, early warning, communications system etc. so that when the hazard strikes, we have right kind of systems in place.
- If we don't do long term planning, then it may be possible that our preparation are just not adequate for the scale changes needed in national policy.

After the 2005 Act, our policies and laws seem robust on paper, but what we need

is rigorous implementation. Even CAG, in its recent report, has pointed out serious gaps which need to be filled - eg.

- NEC has not met since 2008.
- rules of NDMA have not been framed
- National plan is still not there

The Uttarakhand disaster also brings forward many weaknesses like:

- No vulnerability mapping was done at district
- No integration of disaster plans in economic planning
- Poor state of communications & early warning

2. (f) What is National Investment Fund? Discuss its salient features and changes incorporated in its recent restructuring. 15

• National Investment Fund was the fund created by the UPA govt. where all the proceeds from PSU disinvestment would

go. These proceeds would then be used

- <sup>25%</sup> ~~only~~ for further investment in PSUs or

- <sup>75%</sup> investment in the social sector scheme.

- NIF is not a part of the consolidated fund of India (CFI). This dilutes the parliamentary control.

- Money in NIF is managed by professional

Also mention aspect of continuous

community participation, regular drills, awareness campaigns etc.

7

fund managers like SBI to generate returns.

### Recent restructuring

- Proceeds can now also be used to subscribe to the shares of CPSUs including rights issues / preferential allotment so that govt holding doesn't fall below 51%.
- Proceeds can be used for subscribing shares of public sector banks so that govt. holding remains > 51%.
- Capital investment in railways allowed.
- Govt investment in metro projects.
- Investing in NPCIL and Uranium Corp of India Ltd.
- Recapitalization of RRBs and EXIM bank.

Such allocations from the fund would be decided in the general budget.

3. Answer the following in about 150 words each:

10 x 4 = 40

(a) List out the major recommendations of HLWG headed by Kasturirangan.

The Kasturirangan HLWG on Western Ghats was setup to advise the govt on the Gadgil Panel report and the public comments received on it.

#### Recommendations

- W. Ghats be divided into cultural landscapes and natural landscapes. The natural landscapes occupy ~ 40% of the area. about 90% of this (i.e. 37% of total) should be declared

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Page 26 of 34

This document is personalised for Gaurav Agrawal([crazyphoton@gmail.com](mailto:crazyphoton@gmail.com))

- as ecologically sensitive zone and environmentally damaging activities be prohibited (Gadgil panel advised 100% as ESZ)
- As against ~~total~~ involvement of local communities advocated by Gadgil in ESZ planning, the HLWG recommended constituting a govt body to advise the state govt. It has ~~no~~ local empowerment.
  - HLWG advocated use of satellite imagery but with a resolution of 24 m (vs 3m of Gadgil) to prepare village level maps. These maps need to be <sup>made</sup> ~~to~~ public.
  - HLWG advocated incentivizing green development. Blanket ban on economic activities can't be imposed. Sustainable green agriculture, eco tourism, eco-friendly water management, <sup>green account</sup> ~~need to~~ be need to be encouraged.

6

Good  
well written!

Money laundering means making black money white through financial and banks channels. It involves a 3 step process:

1) Placement black money is introduced into the ~~step~~<sup>formal</sup> banking system, by

- opening shell companies in tax heavens like Cayman Islands

- exploiting legal loopholes like ~~step~~<sup>cash</sup> below Rs 50,000.

- over invoicing imports or under reporting exports.

- using black money to invest in fake companies.

- using bank accounts such as in

2) Layering: Switzerland where identity and source of funds is kept secret.

2) Layering: This money is then moved multiple times through the financial system to make it look legitimate

and make it difficult to trace the source

this can be done by

- P-notes. - moving to multiple accounts ~~across~~ <sup>in</sup> multiple banks across the globe
- using DTAA like Mauritius has with India

3 withdrawal: Money is legitimately removed as white money from the system  
eg. <sup>large and</sup> ~~most~~ of the "FDI" and "FII" in India which comes from Mauritius

3. (c) Enumerate the main features of Wildlife Protection (Amendment) Bill, 2013. 10

The Bill amends the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972

- It seeks to make India compliant with CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered species of wild flora and fauna). India is a signatory
- It regulates trade in wildlife. Removal of any wildlife produce from sanctuaries is a punishable offence. Only grazing, drinking water are exempted
  - Hunting by tribals in Andaman &

Mention  
gram  
in such  
exemption

Nicobar Islands is also exempted  
Trade, manufacture, storage, handling <sup>use</sup> of  
animal traps is prohibited except as  
per the permission from the govt.

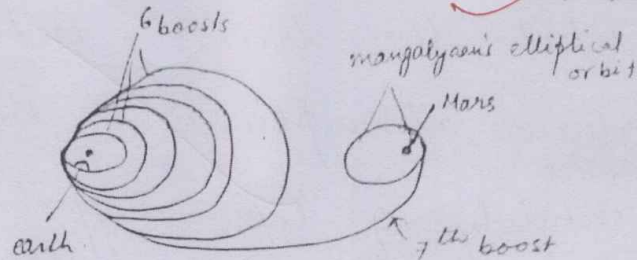
- Punishments for many offences  
and fines have been increased.
- Arrest, search and seizure powers  
have been conferred upon the  
authorised officials, of customs and  
coastguard not below the rank  
of an inspector.
- Activities inside the sanctuaries  
will be regulated.

45



3. (d) What are the aims and objectives of Mangalyaan? 10

India's mars mission is called Mangalyaan.



- It will be launched by PSLV near earth's orbit first then it would receive 7 successive boosts and on the 7<sup>th</sup> boost by on-board engine, it would leave earth's orbit and enter Mars's orbit.
- It would revolve in a highly elliptical orbit around Mars (500 km x 81000 km).
- Its main aim is to be a technology demonstrator. Its data would provide zero with valuable information on boosts, on-board spacecraft, changing orbits, Martian orbit details etc Ans

- This would help ISRO in perfecting the technologies for future launches.
- Additionally, it has onboard equipment to detect the traces of methane in Martian atmosphere to determine the possibility of life supporting conditions there in past.

4. Answer the following in about 50 words each:  
(a) Global Dimming

5 x 4 = 20

- Volcanic ash, aerosols, suspended particles reflect back sunlight from atmosphere. Less sunlight reaches surface. This is global dimming.

- This works to counter global warming.

It is one of the reasons for lower rise ( $0.005^{\circ}\text{C}$  per decade) in from 1998-2013 period compared to predicted earlier ( $0.12^{\circ}\text{C}$  per decade).

- Also called lab meat, it is developed from bovine stem cells. These cells are cultured in a nutrient medium.
- It has the potential to save millions of animals, reduce carbon emissions and global warming, and it has higher energy efficiency than the traditional meat.
  - Recently a burger was made for tech demo

## 4. (c) Xaxa Committee

- Appointed by the govt. to look into the well being of Scheduled Tribes
- to examine the various laws such as PESA, Forests rights Act, and report on their implementation.
- to examine the various socio-economic indicators of the scheduled tribes,
- various schemes run by the govt. for them and recommend improvements.
- to examine provisions of 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> schedules. Its like the Sachar Committee.

- to review tax policies and suggest ways to bring it in line with global best.
- to suggest dispute resolution mechanism
- to focus on human resource development - training, organisation structure, deployment, promotions, capacity building
- to suggest ways to increase use of ICT and integrate databases with other agencies like CBI.

Mention aspects of tax compliance widening tax base etc

3