

BYJU'S UPSC Monthly Magazine Answer Key December 2020

Q1. Consider the following statements:

1. The Mathura School of Art was influenced by Greek methodologies.
2. The stone used in the Mathura School of Art was red sandstone.
3. A smiling Buddha and less emphasis on spiritual aspects are the prominent features of the Mathura School of Art.

Which of the given statement/s is/are INCORRECT?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The Mathura School of Art was entirely influenced by Indianism.
- The stone used in the Mathura School of Art was red sandstone.
- The sculptures were less spiritual. A smiling Buddha and less emphasis on spiritual aspects are the prominent features of the Mathura School of Art.

Q2. Consider the following statements with respect to Guru Nanak Dev:

1. He aimed at creating a casteless society in which there is no hierarchy.
2. He founded the city of Amritsar.
3. He advocated the concept of "dasvandh".

Which of the given statement/s is/are INCORRECT?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 3 only
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Guru Nanak Dev, also referred to as Baba Nanak, was the founder of Sikhism and is the first of the ten Sikh Gurus.

- He aimed at creating a casteless society in which there is no hierarchy.
- Guru Nanak founded Kartarpur in 1504 AD on the right bank of the Ravi River. The name Kartarpur means “City of Creator or God”.
- Amritsar was founded by Sri Guru Ramdas Ji, the fourth guru of the Sikhs.
- Guru Nanak advocated the concept of “dasvandh” or donating one-tenth of one’s earning among needy persons.

Q3. Which of the following are the members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)?

1. Afghanistan
2. Russia
3. Kazakhstan
4. Turkmenistan
5. Tajikistan
6. Kyrgyzstan

Choose the correct option:

- a) 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only
- b) 1, 2, 3 and 6 only
- c) 2, 3, 5 and 6 only
- d) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only

Answer: c

Explanation:

In the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, there are 8 Member States:

1. China
2. India
3. Kazakhstan
4. Kyrgyzstan
5. Russia
6. Pakistan
7. Tajikistan
8. Uzbekistan

There are 4 Observer States interested in acceding to full membership:

1. Afghanistan
2. Belarus
3. Iran
4. Mongolia

Q4. Consider the following statements with respect to the Indian peacock softshell turtle:

1. It is a riverine turtle.
2. It is listed in the “vulnerable” category in the IUCN Red List.
3. It is a herbivore.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Indian peacock softshell turtle (*Nilssonina hurum*) is a riverine turtle.
- They are generally omnivorous (predominantly carnivorous) and nocturnal.
- They are listed in the “vulnerable” category in the IUCN Red List and Appendix I of CITES.

Q5. Consider the following statements:

1. Ammonia is used in making urea.
2. Coating urea with neem oil facilitates the rapid release of nitrogen from urea.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Ammonia is used in making urea.
- Ammonia reacts with carbon dioxide to produce urea. Urea is always manufactured close to an ammonia plant.
- Spraying urea with neem oil has a few agronomic and environmental benefits.
- Neem has proven nitrification inhibition properties. This way it slows down the process of nitrogen release from urea (by about 10 to 15 percent). Thus it reduces the consumption of the fertilizer.

Q6. Consider the following statements:

1. The Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) is an index of the prevailing direction of economic trends in the manufacturing sector.
2. The headline PMI is a number from 0 to 100.
3. PMI reading at 50 indicates expansion.

Which of the given statement/s is/are INCORRECT?

- a) 2 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 3 only
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) is an index of the prevailing direction of economic trends in the manufacturing sector.
- The headline PMI is a number from 0 to 100.
 - A PMI above 50 represents an expansion when compared with the previous month.
 - A PMI reading under 50 represents a contraction, and a reading at 50 indicates no change.

Q7. Consider the following statements with respect to the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO):

1. It is headquartered at Bishkek in Kyrgyzstan.
2. Uzbekistan, India and Pakistan became the permanent members of SCO in the Astana summit of 2017.
3. The organization has two permanent bodies namely the Executive Committee of the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) and the SCO Secretariat.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 3 only
- c) 1 and 2 only
- d) 2 and 3 only

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Uzbekistan joined the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) as a permanent member at the Shanghai summit in 2001.
- India and Pakistan became the permanent members of SCO in the Astana summit of 2017.
- It is headquartered in Beijing, China.
- The organization has two permanent bodies — First is the Executive Committee of the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) based in Tashkent and second is the SCO Secretariat based in Beijing.

Q8. Consider the following statements with respect to torrefaction:

1. It is a thermal process used to produce liquid biofuels from various streams of woody biomass or agro residues.
2. It involves heating the biomass to temperatures between 250 and 300 degrees Celsius in a low-oxygen atmosphere.
3. The end product of torrefaction has better fuel characteristics than the original biomass.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 2 only
- d) 3 only

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Torrefaction is a thermal process used to produce high-grade solid biofuels from various streams of woody biomass or agro residues.
- The end product is a stable, homogeneous, high quality solid biofuel with far greater energy density and calorific value than the original feedstock. It has better fuel characteristics than the original biomass.
- Torrefaction involves heating the biomass to temperatures between 250 and 300 degrees Celsius in a low-oxygen atmosphere.
- This changes the elements of the biomass into 'coal-like' pellets.
- These pellets can be used for combustion along with coal for industrial applications like steel and cement production.

Q9. Consider the following statements with respect to Interpol:

1. Interpol is a global police co-operation agency and a non-governmental organization (NGO).
2. It is headquartered at Geneva, Switzerland.

3. Interpol Orange Notice is issued to locate, identify or obtain information on a person of interest in a criminal investigation.

Which of the given statement/s is/are INCORRECT?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1, 2 and 3
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Interpol is a global police co-operation agency and a non-governmental organization (NGO). It was established as the International Criminal Police Commission (ICPC) in 1923.
- Its headquarters is located at Lyon, France. Interpol Purple Notice is issued to provide information on modus operandi, procedures, objects, devices, or hiding places used by criminals.
- Orange notice is issued to warn of an event, a person, an object or a process representing an imminent threat and danger to persons or property.

Q10. Consider the following statements:

1. The governor can pardon the death sentence.
2. The governor can suspend or remit the death sentence.
3. The governor can commute the death sentence.

Which of the given statement/s is/are INCORRECT?

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The governor cannot pardon the death sentence and the punishment by court-martial.
- Governor cannot pardon the death sentence even if the said sentence has been prescribed under the state law.
- However, he can suspend, remit or commute the death sentence by using these pardoning powers.

Q11. Consider the following statements with respect to Chang'e 5:

1. Chang'e 5 is a robotic lunar exploration mission consisting of a service module, lunar lander, ascender, and a sample-return vehicle.
2. It is a mission under the Chinese Lunar Exploration Program.
3. The mission aims at retrieving samples from the moon.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

Explanation:

All the statements are correct.

Q12. Consider the following statements with respect to NETRA:

1. It is a real-time network surveillance tool.
2. It is being developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: c

Explanation:

- NETRA (short for Network Traffic Analysis), is being developed by the Center for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics (CAIR), a unit of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- It is a real-time network surveillance tool.

Q13. Where are the Natanz and Fordow nuclear facilities located?

- a) Russia
- b) Israel
- c) Iran

d) North Korea

Answer: c

Explanation:

Iran's nuclear program is made up of a number of nuclear facilities, including nuclear reactors and various nuclear fuel cycle facilities. Natanz and Fordow nuclear facilities are among those.

Q14. Consider the following statements with respect to RT-PCR Testing:

1. It is a nuclear-derived method for detecting the presence of specific genetic material from any pathogen.
2. It combines reverse transcription of RNA into DNA and amplification of specific DNA targets using polymerase chain reaction.

Which of the given statement/s is/are INCORRECT?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Both statements are correct.
- RT-PCR (reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction) is a nuclear-derived method for detecting the presence of specific genetic material from any pathogen, including a virus.
- RT-PCR is a laboratory technique combining reverse transcription of RNA into DNA and amplification of specific DNA targets using polymerase chain reaction.

Q15. Consider the following statements:

1. The definition of goods under the GST Act includes actionable claim.
2. The term actionable claim is defined under GST law.
3. Lottery, gambling and betting are taxable under the GST Act as they are actionable claims.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only

d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: a

Explanation:

- GST Law does not define Actionable Claim separately under the Act. The definition for an actionable claim is taken as the one defined in Section 3 of the Transfer of Property Act.
- The definition of goods under the GST Act includes actionable claim.
- The Supreme Court has held that lottery, gambling and betting are taxable under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Act.
- It asserted that lottery, gambling and betting were actionable claims and came within the definition of 'goods' under Section 2(52) of the Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017.
- The term actionable claim is every kind of claim in a movable property which would be enforced through the courts.
- Actionable Claim relating to lottery, betting and gambling alone will be regarded as 'Goods' since the definition of goods under Section 2(52) includes actionable claim.
- Therefore, only lottery, betting and gambling shall be treated as supplies under the GST regime.

Q16. Which country has India procured the Poseidon P-8I aircrafts from?

- a) Russia
- b) The U.S.A
- c) Japan
- d) France

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Poseidon P-8I aircraft is a maritime reconnaissance and anti-submarine warfare aircraft from the US.
- The P-8I, based on the Boeing next-generation 737 commercial airplane, is a variant of the P-8A Poseidon used by the US Navy. India was Boeing's first international customer for this aircraft.
- The first P-8I aircraft was inducted into the Indian Navy in 2013.
- The P-8Is were deployed to carry out surveillance on the movement of Chinese troops in eastern Ladakh in the last few months.
- The reconnaissance aircraft was deployed in Doklam along the Sikkim border too during the 73-day standoff between Indian and Chinese troops in 2017.
- The P-8Is were also deployed to keep an eye on the movement of Pakistani troops after the Pulwama terror attack.

- UPS

Q17. Consider the following statements with respect to National Air Quality Index (AQI):

1. The measurement of air quality is based on eight pollutants.
2. AQI has six categories of air quality.
3. Both Particulate Matter (PM10) and Particulate Matter (PM2.5) are among the pollutants considered for measuring the AQI.

Which of the given statement/s is/are INCORRECT?

- a) 1 only
- b) 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Under the National Air Quality Index, the measurement of air quality is based on eight pollutants, namely: Particulate Matter (PM10), Particulate Matter (PM2.5), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂), Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂), Carbon Monoxide (CO), Ozone (O₃), Ammonia (NH₃), and Lead (Pb).
- AQI has six categories of air quality. These are: Good, Satisfactory, Moderately Polluted, Poor, Very Poor and Severe.
- In 2014, IIT Kanpur and the Expert Group recommended an AQI scheme.

Q18. Consider the following statements with respect to the 6th Schedule of the constitution:

1. The Schedule consists of provisions for the administration of tribal areas according to Article 244 of the Indian Constitution.
2. The Schedule currently includes 10 autonomous district councils (ADCs) in 4 northeastern States.
3. It deals with the administration of northeastern states of Assam, Nagaland, Tripura and Manipur.

Which of the given statement/s is/are INCORRECT?

- a) 3 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution consists of provisions for the administration of tribal areas according to Article 244 of the Indian Constitution.
- The Schedule currently includes 10 autonomous district councils (ADCs) in 4 northeastern States.
- It deals with the administration of the tribal areas in the four north-eastern states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.

Q19. Consider the following statements with respect to HL-2M Tokamak reactor:

1. It is Iran's largest and most advanced nuclear fusion experimental research device.
2. It is called an "artificial sun" on account of the enormous heat and power it produces.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The HL-2M Tokamak reactor is China's largest and most advanced nuclear fusion experimental research device.
- It is located in Sichuan province.
- It uses a powerful magnetic field to fuse hot plasma and can reach temperatures of over 150 million degrees Celsius (approximately ten times hotter than the core of the sun).
- It is often called an "artificial sun" on account of the enormous heat and power it produces.

Q20. Which of the following is/are applications of Technical Textiles?

1. Radiation protection for fire fighter clothing
2. Geosynthetics for reinforcement of embankments
3. Medical implants
4. Spacesuits

Choose the correct option:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 4 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Technical Textiles are defined as Textile material and products manufactured primarily for their Technical performance and functional properties rather than aesthetic and decorative characteristics.
- Application of technical textiles includes textiles for automotive applications, medical textiles (e.g., implants), geotextiles (geosynthetic reinforcement of embankments), agro-textiles (textiles for crop protection), and protective clothing (e.g., heat and radiation protection for fire fighter clothing, molten metal protection for welders, stab protection and bulletproof vests, and spacesuits).

Q21. Consider the following statements.

1. Great Indian Bustards are classified as near threatened under IUCN classification.
2. Their habitats include swampy areas, mangroves, lakes.

Which of the following statements are correct?

- a) 1 only.
- b) 2 only.
- c) Both 1 and 2.
- d) None

Answer: d

Explanation:

Habitat- Dry scrublands and grasslands

Q22. Anshi Tiger reserve is located in.

- a) Chhattisgarh.
- b) Bihar.
- c) Karnataka.
- d) Kerala

Answer: c

Explanation:

The Dandeli-Anshi Tiger Reserve belongs to the Western Ghats in the Uttara Kannada district. The undulating streams, bamboo, diverse wildlife and innumerable trekking trails make it a dream destination. The Kali river and its tributaries, Kaneri and Nagajhari, flow through this

forest. The Tiger Reserve comprises of two Protected Areas viz., Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary (475.018 sq. km.) and Anshi National Park (339.866 sq. km.) that are contiguous to each other.

Q23. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)?

1. It decides the RBI's benchmark interest rates.
2. It is a 10-member body including the Governor of RBI and is reconstituted every year.
3. It functions under the chairmanship of the Union Finance Minister.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 3 only
- d) 2 and 3 only.

Answer: a

Explanation:

It is a 6 member body functioning under the chairmanship of RBI Governor.

Q24. Kra canal project was associated which of the following pair of countries.

- a) India and Maldives
- b) China and Sri Lanka
- c) Indonesia and Malaysia.
- d) China and Thailand

Answer: d

Explanation:

Kra canal project



Q25. Consider the following pairs:

1. MiG-29K: Russia
2. Rafale: France
3. Mirage 2000: United States
4. Boeing 737: United Kingdom

Which of the pairs are correctly matched?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: a

Explanation:

- MiG-29K: Russia
- Rafale: France
- Mirage 2000: France

- Boeing 737: United States

Q26. Consider the following statements about the Bannerghatta National Park:

1. The national park is located in Tamil Nadu.
2. It is a part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: d

Explanation:

Bannerghatta National Park is located in Bengaluru, Karnataka.

Q27. The Stone Chariot in Hampi is situated within which of the following?

- a) Lotus Mahal Complex
- b) Pattabhirama Temple Complex
- c) Vijaya Vittala Temple Complex
- d) Hemakuta Group of Temples

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The iconic stone chariot in Hampi is situated in front of the Vijaya Vittala Temple at the Vijaya Vittala Temple Complex.
- The famous Stone Chariot is shrine built like a chariot.
- The Vittala temple is built in the Dravidian style of architecture.

Q28. Consider the following statements with respect to the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI):

1. It is the apex anti-money laundering agency of India.
2. It is the lead agency for Anti-Smuggling National Coordination Centre (SCord).
3. The Directorate is run by officers from the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The DRI is the apex anti-smuggling agency of India, working under the Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs, Ministry of Finance, and Government of India.
- The DRI has also been designated as the lead agency for Anti-Smuggling National Coordination Centre (SCord).
- The Directorate is run by officers from the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).

Q29. Consider the following statements with respect to Lakshadweep:

1. Lakshadweep is the first Union Territory to be declared a 100% organic agricultural area.
2. Under the union government's 'One District One Product' programme of food processing, the entire island is being considered as a single district.
3. In the island, Tobacco has been identified as the product under the 'One District One Product' programme of food processing.

Which of the given statement/s is/are INCORRECT?

- a) 3 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1 only

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Lakshadweep is the first Union Territory to be declared a 100% organic agricultural area.
- Under the union government's 'One District One Product' programme of food processing, the entire island is being considered as a single district.
- Coconut Oil has been identified as the product under the 'One District One Product' programme of food processing.

Q30. Consider the following statements:

1. LiDAR is a remote sensing method that uses light in the form of a pulsed laser to measure ranges to the Earth.
2. LiDAR uses ultraviolet, visible, or near-infrared light to image objects.
3. LiDAR can target a wide range of materials, including non-metallic objects, chemical compounds and single molecules.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) 2 and 3 only

Answer: c

Explanation:

All the statements are correct.

Q31. Consider the following statements:

1. India is the world's biggest rice exporter and China the biggest importer
2. As of 2019, India was the largest exporter of iron ore to China.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: a

Explanation:

- India is the world's biggest rice exporter and China the biggest importer.
- China has begun importing Indian rice for the first time in at least three decades.
- In 2019, India was the fourth-largest exporter of iron ore to China after Australia, Brazil and South Africa.
- India's exports of iron ores to China registered a y-o-y increase of 84.51% to reach US\$ 2.22 billion, making India the 4th largest exporter of iron ores to China.
- China has begun importing Indian rice for the first time in at least three decades.

Q32. Consider the following statements with respect to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB):

1. The Crime in India report is the comprehensive statistics of crime across the country published by the NCRB.
2. The Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems (CCTNS) project is implemented by NCRB.
3. 'Prison Statistics of India' is the only annual statistical publication started by NCRB.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 2 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: d

Explanation:

- National Crime Records Bureau, headquartered in New Delhi, was set up in 1986 under the Ministry of Home Affairs to function as a repository of information on crime and criminals so as to assist the investigators in linking crime to the perpetrators.
- The Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems (CCTNS) project is implemented by NCRB.
- Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS) is a project initiated in June 2009 which aims at creating a comprehensive and integrated system for enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of policing at the Police Station level.
- 'Prison Statistics of India' is the only annual statistical publication started by NCRB, other publications having been started prior to the constitution of NCRB and continued by NCRB.
- NCRB brings out the annual comprehensive statistics of crime across the country in its 'Crime in India' report.

Q33. Consider the following statements with respect to Dibru-Saikhowa National Park:

1. It is situated in the south bank of the river Brahmaputra.
2. It is bound by Dibru River in the south.
3. The Park is renowned for the natural regeneration of Salix trees.
4. It is a designated biosphere reserve.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 3 and 4 only
- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: d

Explanation:

All the statements are correct.

Q34. Consider the following statements:

1. Uttar Pradesh has the longest network of National Highways in India.
2. National Highway 44 (NH 44) is the longest-running National Highway in India.
3. NH 44 passes through Uttar Pradesh.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

Explanation:

- National Highway 44 (NH 44) is the longest-running major north-south National Highway in India.
- It passes through the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, in addition to the states of Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu.
- Uttar Pradesh has the longest network of National Highways in India.

Q35. Which of these airports was tagged the “World’s emptiest airport”?

- a) Ratmalana International Airport
- b) Mattala Rajapaksa International Airport
- c) Bandaranaike International Airport
- d) Batticaloa International Airport

Answer: b

Explanation:

Mattala Rajapaksa International Airport in southern Sri Lanka holds the dubious tag of being the world’s emptiest airport due to lack of flights to and from this airport.

Q36. Consider the following pairs:

1. Burevi – Iran
2. Gati – India

3. Amphan – Bangladesh
4. Nivar – Maldives

Which of these are correctly matched?

- a) 2 only
- b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- c) 1 and 2 only
- d) 3 and 4 only

Answer: a

Explanation:

Cyclone Burevi was named by the Maldives, Gati by India, Amphan by Thailand and Nivar by Iran.

Q37. Which of these Wildlife Sanctuaries is known as “Mini Kaziranga”?

- a) Chakrashila Wildlife Sanctuary
- b) Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary
- c) Dehing Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary
- d) Deepar Beel Wildlife Sanctuary

Answer: b

Explanation:

Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary of Assam is often called ‘Mini Kaziranga’ because of similar landscape and a sizeable population of the one-horned rhino. It is a wildlife sanctuary on the southern bank of the Brahmaputra in Morigaon district in Assam.

Q38. Consider the following statements with respect to Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF):

1. It aims at providing widespread and non-discriminatory access to quality Information and communications technology (ICT) services at affordable prices to people in unconnected areas, especially in rural and remote areas.
2. It has been granted statutory status.
3. Funds for this come from the Universal Service Levy (USL) charged from all the telecom operators on their Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR).

Which of the given statement/s is/are INCORRECT?

- a) 1 only

- b) 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) aims at providing widespread and non-discriminatory access to quality ICT services at affordable prices to people in rural and remote areas.
- The Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Act, 2003 gave statutory status to the USOF.
- Funds come from the Universal Service Levy (USL) of 5% charged from all the telecom operators on their Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) which are then deposited into the Consolidated Fund of India, and require prior parliamentary approval to be dispatched.

Q39. What is the classification of Indian Bison/ Gaur in the IUCN Red List?

- a) Endangered
- b) Critically Endangered
- c) Vulnerable
- d) Near Threatened

Answer: c

Explanation:

The gaur, also known as Indian bison is listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List.

Q40. Consider the following statements with respect to Exchange Traded Funds:

1. It is an investment fund traded on stock exchanges.
2. They offer anytime liquidity through the exchanges.
3. An ETF holds assets such as stocks, bonds or commodities.
4. ETF reflects the composition of an Index.

Which of the give statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 1 and 4 only
- c) 1, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Exchange-Traded Fund is an investment fund traded on stock exchanges.
- They offer anytime liquidity through the exchanges.
- An ETF holds assets such as stocks, bonds or commodities (such as gold bars).
- An Exchange Traded Fund is a basket of stocks that reflects the composition of an Index, like the Sensex or the Nifty.

Q41. Herod's Palace recently seen in news is in which country?

- a) Iran
- b) Indonesia
- c) Israel
- d) Japan

Answer: c

Explanation:

Israeli authorities are set to unveil previously off-limits structures within King Herod's palace-fortress Herodium

Herod's Palace at Jerusalem was built by Herod I the Great, King of Judea

Q42. Consider the following statements with reference to Kathakali:

1. It is a well-known dance drama from the state of Kerala whose movements are influenced by ancient martial arts and athletic tradition
2. It is performed by Male dancers only

Which of the above statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both
- d) None

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Kathakali has always been considered a male art form.
- History proves that though women were not welcome during the years when Kathakali made its mark as an art, it still could not stop women from being a part of it.
- Although many women were attracted to Kathakali and learned it, to perform on stage they had to create their own space.

- That resulted in women-only groups formed in different parts of Kerala. They succeeded in staging Kathakali plays and created a parallel space for Kathakali and women.

Q43. The only African country with coastal exposure to both the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea is

- a) Algeria
- b) Mauritania
- c) Morocco
- d) Libya

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Morocco borders Algeria to the east and southeast, Western Sahara to the south, the Atlantic Ocean to the west, and the Mediterranean Sea to the north.
- It is the only African country with coastal exposure to both the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea.

Q44. Which of the following are correctly matched?

Wildlife Sanctuary	State
1. Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary	Arunachal Pradesh
2. Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary	Tamilnadu
3. Sipahijola Wildlife Sanctuary	West Bengal

Options:

- a) 2 and 3 only
- b) 3 only
- c) None
- d) 1 and 2 only

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary- Kerala
- Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary- Assam
- Sipahijola Wildlife Sanctuary- Tripura

Q45. Which of the following statement/s about C. Rajagopalachari is/are correct?

1. He was independent India's first and last Indian Governor General.

2. Rajagopalachari founded the Swatantra Party and was one of the first recipients of India's highest civilian award, the Bharat Ratna.
3. It was founded on the conviction that social justice and welfare can be attained through the fostering of individual interest and individual enterprise in all fields better than through State ownership and Government control.

Options:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: d

Explanation:

Please refer This Day in History – 25th Dec.

Q46. Arrange the following from North to South:

1. North Sea
2. Barents Sea
3. Mediterranean Sea
4. Black Sea

Choose the correct option:

- a) 1, 2, 4, 3
- b) 2, 1, 4, 3
- c) 3, 4, 1, 2
- d) 2, 4, 1, 3

Answer: b

Explanation:

Self-explanatory

Q47. Which of the given pairs are correctly matched?

No	Schedule	Subject Matter
1	1st Schedule	Name of States and UTs and Territorial Jurisdiction of states
2	4th Schedule	Forms of oath and affirmation
3	7th Schedule	Official languages

4	9th Schedule	The state acts and regulations that deal with land reforms
5	10th Schedule	Anti-Defection Laws

Options:

- a) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
- b) 2, 3 and 5 only
- c) 1, 4 and 5 only
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Answer: c

Explanation:

- 1st Schedule: Name of States and UTs and Territorial Jurisdiction of state.
- 4th Schedule: Allocation of seats for States and Union Territories in the Rajya Sabha.
- 7th Schedule: This schedule deals with the three legislative lists: Union, State and concurrent.
- 9th Schedule: The state acts and regulations that deal with land reforms.
- 10th Schedule: Anti Defection Laws.

Read more on the Schedules in the Indian Constitution.

Q48. Consider the following statements with respect to Rossby Waves:

1. They are a type of inertial wave naturally occurring in rotating fluids.
2. It is the meandering or the whirl movement of the Jet Stream.
3. Oceanic Rossby waves move along the thermocline.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Rossby waves, also known as planetary waves, are a type of inertial wave naturally occurring in rotating fluids.
- These waves are associated with pressure systems and the jet stream. The meandering or the whirl movement of the Jet Stream is called 'Rossby Wave'.
- Rossby waves are a natural phenomenon in the atmosphere and oceans due to rotation of the earth. In planetary atmospheres, they are due to the variation in the Coriolis effect

(When temperature contrast is low, speed of the jet stream is low, and Coriolis force is weak leading to meandering) with latitude.

- The meandering jet streams are called Rossby Waves.
- Oceanic Rossby waves move along the thermocline: the boundary between the warm upper layer and the cold deeper part of the ocean.

Q49. Consider the following statements:

1. The Soviet Union's uncrewed Luna 1 and 2 became the first rover to visit the Moon.
2. The US, Japan, China and India have sent missions to explore the Moon.
3. Chang'e 4 spacecraft made the first landing on the far side of the Moon.

Which of the given statement/s is/are INCORRECT?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

Explanation:

- In 1959, the Soviet Union's uncrewed Luna 1 and 2 became the first rover to visit the Moon. Since then, seven nations have followed suit.
- The US, the European Space Agency, Japan, China, and India have sent missions to explore the Moon.
- All manned and unmanned soft landings had taken place on the near side of the Moon, until 3 January 2019 when the Chang'e 4 spacecraft made the first landing on the far side.

Q50. Which of the following Indian state/s share a physical border with Myanmar and Bangladesh?

- 1) Nagaland
- 2) Mizoram
- 3) Manipur
- 4) Tripura

Select the correct answer.

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 3 only
- d) 1 and 4 only

Answer: b

Self-explanatory

Q51. Which among the following belong to Snow Leopard range countries.

1. Russia
2. Mongolia
3. India
4. Iran
5. Kyrgyzstan

Select the correct answer.

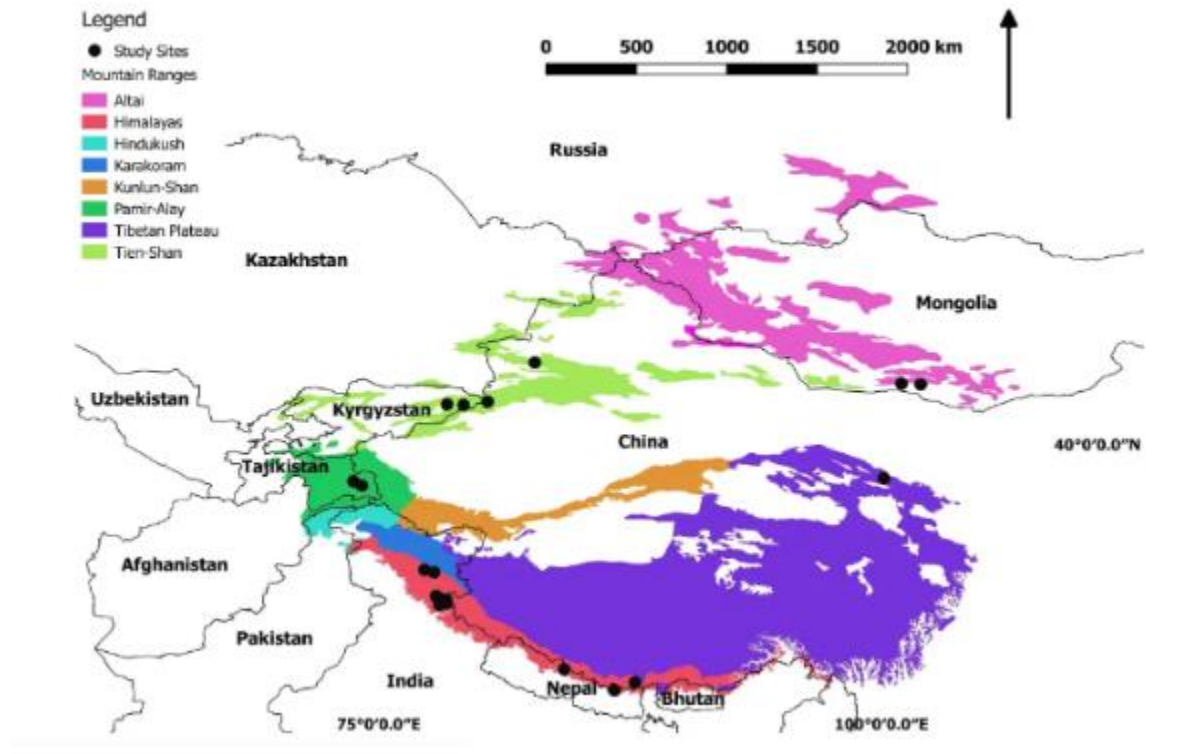
- a) 1, 3 and 4.
- b) 2, 3 and 4.
- c) 1, 2, 3 and 5.
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

Answer: c

Explanation

The elusive snow leopard inhabits parts of 12 countries:

Afghanistan, Bhutan, China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.



Q52. Sahrawi tribe is associated with which of the following countries?

- a) Botswana
- b) Kenya
- c) Mauritania
- d) Democratic Republic of Congo

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Sahrawi tribe are people living in the western part of the Sahara desert.
- It includes Western Sahara, southern Morocco, much of Mauritania and the extreme southwest of Algeria.

Q53. Consider the following statements about Climate Action Summit.

1. The key focus of the summit is to accelerate the actions to implement the Rio declaration.
2. ActNow is the United Nations campaign for individual action on climate change and sustainability.

Which of the following statement/s is true?

- a) 1 only.
- b) 2 only.
- c) Both 1 and 2.
- d) Neither 1 and 2.

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The key focus of the summit is to accelerate the actions to implement the Paris agreement.
- The ActNow campaign was launched at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP 24) in December 2018

Q54. Which is the western most range in the Kaziranga National Park?

- a) Agoratoli
- b) Bagori
- c) Kohora
- d) Burapahar

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Kaziranga National Park in Assam is divided into four ranges: Burapahar range, Bagori range, Kohora range, Agoratoli range.
- Arrangement West to East: Burapahar, Bagori, Kohora, Agoratoli.

Q55. Consider the following statements with respect to Myristica swamp treefrog:

1. It is an arboreal species known for exhibiting unique breeding behaviour.
2. It is endemic to the Western Ghats.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Myristica swamp treefrog is a rare arboreal species. These frogs are rare and elusive for the reason that they are arboreal and active only for a few weeks during their breeding season.
- The frog is endemic to the Western Ghats.
- They exhibit unique breeding behaviour. The breeding season, unlike for other frogs, starts in the pre-monsoon season (May) and ends before the monsoon becomes fully active in June.
- After breeding and egg-laying, they retreat back to the high canopies of the tree and remain elusive till next breeding season.

Q56. Consider the following statements with respect to River Teesta:

1. River Teesta is a tributary of the River Brahmaputra.
2. It flows through Sikkim and West Bengal.
3. It is known as Jamuna in Bangladesh.

Which of the given statement/s are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 1, 2 and 3
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

Explanation:

All the statements are correct.

Q57. Consider the following statements with respect to Jhum cultivation:

1. Under this method, the cultivators cut the tree-tops to allow sunlight to reach the ground and burn the vegetation on the land to clear it for cultivation.
2. It is also known as slash and burn agriculture.
3. Potash, the ash from the burning of the vegetation increases the nutrient content of the soil.
4. This form of cultivation has caused significant damage to the diversity of Indian forests.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2 and 4 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 1, 2, 3 and 4
- d) 2 and 3 only

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Jhum cultivation, also known as the slash and burn type of agriculture, is the process of growing crops by clearing the land of trees and vegetation and then burning them before plantation.
- The burnt soil contains potash which increases the nutrient content of the soil.
- This form of cultivation has caused maximum damage to the diversity of Indian forests.

Q58. Consider the following statements with respect to Presidential elections in India:

1. Nominated members of the houses of the parliament cannot vote in the presidential election.
2. The value of the vote of the member of a legislative assembly is dependent on the population of the state or union territory.
3. The voting is done by an open ballot system.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1, 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 2 only

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Following members do not participate in the election of the President:
 - Nominated members of both Houses of Parliament.
 - Nominated members of the legislative assemblies of the States
 - Nominated members of the state legislative councils (in case of the bicameral legislature) and
 - Nominated members of the Legislative Assemblies (Delhi and Puducherry).
- The value of the vote of the member of a legislative assembly is directly proportional to the population of the state and inversely proportional to the number of elected members of the assembly.
- The President's election is held in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote and the voting is done by secret ballot system.

Q59. "Mucormycosis" recently seen in news is a:

- a) Fungal infection
- b) Viral disease
- c) Genetic disorder

d) Bacterial infection

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Mucormycosis is any fungal infection caused by fungi in the order Mucorales.
- The disease is often characterized by hyphae growing in and around blood vessels and can be potentially life-threatening in diabetic or severely immunocompromised individuals.
- Mucormycosis frequently infects the sinuses, brain, or lungs. While infection of the oral cavity or brain are the most common forms of mucormycosis, the fungus can also infect other areas of the body such as the gastrointestinal tract, skin, and other organ systems.

Q60. Consider the following statements with respect to Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY):

1. It is a health assurance scheme which aims at providing a health cover of Rs. 1 lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization to poor and vulnerable families.
2. It subsumed the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY).
3. There is no cap on family size or age of members for the beneficiaries.
4. Pre-existing diseases are not covered under the scheme.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1 and 4 only

Answer: b

Explanation:

- It is a health assurance scheme which aims at providing a health cover of Rs. 5 lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization to poor and vulnerable families.
- It subsumed the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY). The RSBY had a family cap of five members.
- In PM-JAY, there is no cap on family size or age of members for the beneficiaries.
- Pre-existing diseases are covered from the very first day. This means that any eligible person suffering from any medical condition before being covered by PM-JAY will now

be able to get treatment for all those medical conditions as well under this scheme right from the day they are enrolled.

Q61. Consider the following statements with respect to Malabar Tree Toad:

1. It is endemic to Western Ghats.
2. It is categorised as 'Critically Endangered' on the IUCN Red List.
3. It spends most of its life on trees, coming to the ground only during the first monsoon showers to mate.

Which of the given statement/s is/are INCORRECT?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 2 only
- d) 1 and 3 only

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The Malabar Tree Toad (*Pedostibes tuberculosus*) is a species endemic to the Western Ghats.
- It is also called warty Asian tree toad.
- It is a small species and is found in wet tree hollows or leaf bases containing water.
- It is an arboreal species, meaning it spends much of its life on a tree. It comes to the ground only during the first monsoon showers to mate.
- It is categorised as 'Endangered' on the IUCN Red List.

Q62. Consider the following statements:

1. Rakhine State is situated on the western coast of Myanmar.
2. Sittwe port is located in Rakhine State.
3. Rakhine state is bordered by Bangladesh and India to the northwest.

Which of the given statement is/are INCORRECT?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 3 only
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Rakhine State is situated on the western coast of Myanmar.
- Sittwe port is located in Rakhine State. Sittwe Port is a deepwater port constructed by India in 2016 at Sittwe, the capital of Rakhine State in Myanmar, on the Bay of Bengal. It is situated at the mouth of the Kaladan River.
- Rakhine state is bordered by Bangladesh to the northwest. It does not border India.

Q63. Consider the following statements with respect to the Collegium System:

1. It is the system of appointment and transfer of judges as per the provisions of the Constitution.
2. Collegium is a forum comprising of the Chief Justice of India and the four senior-most judges of the Supreme Court.
3. There was no mention of the Collegium in the original Constitution of India, it was added in the Constitution through successive amendments.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) 1 and 2 only

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Collegium system is the system of appointment and transfer of judges that has evolved through judgments of the Supreme Court, and not by an Act of Parliament or by a provision of the Constitution.
- Collegium a forum comprising of the Chief Justice of India and the four senior-most judges of the Supreme Court.
- There is no mention of the Collegium either in the original Constitution of India or in successive amendments.

Q64. Consider the following statements with respect to the Shore Temple:

1. It was built during the reign of the Pallava dynasty.
2. The Shore Temple complex is a part of the Mamallapuram monuments, designated a UNESCO World Heritage.
3. It overlooks the shore of Bay of Bengal.
4. It has been built in the Dravidian style.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 1, 2 and 3 only

- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The shore temple is located on the Coromandel Coast of Tamil Nadu. It overlooks the shore of Bay of Bengal.
- It was built during the reign of the Pallava dynasty.
- The Mamallapuram monuments and temples, including the Shore Temple complex, were collectively designated a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1984.
- It has been built in the Dravidian style.

Q65. Consider the following statements with respect to S-400 Triumf:

1. It is a modern long-range surface-to-air missile system.
2. It can engage aerial targets such as aircraft, ballistic and cruise missiles, unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV), which are within the range of 400km.
3. S-400 was designed and developed by France.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The S-400 Triumf, (NATO calls it SA-21 Growler), is a mobile, surface-to-air missile system (SAM) designed by Russia.
- It can engage aerial targets such as aircraft, ballistic and cruise missiles, unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV), which are within the range of 400km.
- The missile system integrates a multifunction radar, autonomous detection and targeting systems, anti-aircraft missile systems, launchers, and command and control centre. It can provide a layered defence as it is capable of firing three types of missiles.

Q66. Consider the following statements with respect to enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA):

1. It detects and measures antibodies, hormones, peptides and proteins in the blood.

2. ELISA can provide a useful measurement of antigen-antibody concentration.
3. It is used to diagnose HIV and Zika virus.

Which of the given statement/s is/are INCORRECT?

- a) 1 only
- b) 3 only
- c) 1 and 2 only
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

Explanation:

- ELISA test is used to diagnose antibody-antigen interaction after certain virus infection to a person.
- ELISA is the basic assay technique, known as enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (also referred to as EIA: Enzyme Immunoassay) that is carried out to detect and measure antibodies, hormones, peptides and proteins in the blood.
- ELISA can provide a useful measurement of antigen-antibody concentration.
- It is used to diagnose HIV that causes AIDS, Zika virus, etc.

Q67. Consider the following statements with respect to the Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP):

1. DPSPs are borrowed from the Constitution of Ireland.
2. DPSPs are ideals which are not legally enforceable by the courts for their violation.
3. The DPSP followed the idea of the 'Instrument of Instructions' of the Government of India Act of 1935.
4. They embody the concept of a 'police state'.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 2 and 3 only
- b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) are ideals which are not legally enforceable by the courts for their violation.
- The DPSP followed the idea of the 'Instrument of Instructions' of the Government of India Act of 1935.

- The idea of Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) has been borrowed from the Irish Constitution and enumerated in Part IV (Article 36-51) of our Constitution.
- Directive Principles of State Policy embody the concept of a 'welfare state' and not that of a 'police state'.

Q68. Which of the following indices are released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)?

1. Human Development Index
2. Inequality-adjusted Human Development Index
3. Gender Development Index
4. Gender Inequality Index
5. Multidimensional Poverty Index

Choose the correct option:

- a) 1, 2 and 5 only
- b) 1, 3 and 4 only
- c) 1, 4 and 5 only
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Answer: d

Explanation:

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) annually releases HDR with 5 composite indices:

- 1) Human Development Index
- 2) Inequality-adjusted Human Development Index
- 3) Gender Development Index
- 4) Gender Inequality Index
- 5) Multidimensional Poverty Index

Q69. Consider the following statements with respect to the National Hydrology Project:

1. The project aims at improving the extent, reliability and accessibility of water resources information and to strengthen the capacity of targeted water resource management institutions in India.
2. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
3. The National Water Informatics Centre (NWIC) has been established under the project as a nationwide repository of water resources data.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 1 and 2 only

- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The National Hydrology Project (NHP) was started in 2016 as a Central Sector Scheme with 100% grant to implementing agencies on a pan-India basis.
- The project aims at improving the extent, reliability and accessibility of water resources information and to strengthen the capacity of targeted water resource management institutions in India.
- Thus, the NHP is facilitating the acquisition of reliable information efficiently which would pave the way for an effective water resource development and management.
- Under the Project, the National Water informatics Centre (NWIC) has been established, which is a nationwide repository of water resources data.

Q70. Rivers Icchamati and Hariabhangra are transboundary rivers flowing through India and which another country?

- a) Bangladesh
- b) China
- c) Nepal
- d) Pakistan

Answer: a

Q71. Consider the following statements with respect to CMS-01 satellite:

1. Its applications range from telecommunication, disaster management support to satellite internet access.
2. Its coverage will include the Indian mainland and the Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep islands.

Which of the given statement/s is/are INCORRECT?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: d

Explanation:

Both the statements are correct.

Q72. Consider the following statements with respect to Human Freedom Index:

1. It is a global ranking of personal, civil and economic freedom.
2. The index is published annually by the United Nations Development Programme.
3. The index takes into account 3 indicators to rank 162 countries.

Which of the given statement/s is/are INCORRECT?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 3 only
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Human Freedom Index is a global ranking of personal, civil and economic freedom.
- The index is published by American think tank Cato Institute and Fraser Institute in Canada.
- It takes into account 76 indicators of personal, civil, and economic freedoms to rank 162 countries.
- The scoring is done on a scale of 0 to 10, where 10 represents more freedom.

Q73. Consider the following statements with respect to the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR):

1. It is tasked with the implementation, follow-up, support and review of the Sendai Framework.
2. UN Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction (GAR) is published annually by UNDRR.
3. India is a member of UNDRR's Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies (ARISE).

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 1, 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 2 only

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction now in its current form is known as the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR).
- It is tasked with the implementation, follow-up, support and review of the Sendai Framework.
- UN Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction (GAR) is published once in two years by the UNDRR and is the product of the contributions of nations, public and private disaster risk-related science and research, and others.
- ARISE, the Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies, is a network of private sector entities led by the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR).
- Members of ARISE include 140 countries worldwide including India, which joined it in 2019.

Q74. Inner Line Permit is applicable to which of these states?

1. Arunachal Pradesh
2. Assam
3. Nagaland
4. Mizoram
5. Manipur
6. Tripura

Choose the correct option:

- a) 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 only
- b) 2, 4, 5 and 6 only
- c) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only
- d) 1, 2, 5 and 6 only

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Inner Line Permit (ILP) is an official travel document issued by the concerned state government to allow inward travel of an Indian citizen into a protected area for a limited period.
- It is obligatory for Indian citizens from outside those states to obtain a permit for entering into the protected state.
- Inner Line Permit is currently applicable for Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland and Manipur.

Q75. Consider the following statements:

1. Ethanol is a common by-product of biomass left by agricultural feedstock.
2. The National Policy on Bio-fuels has set a target of 20% blending of biofuels.
3. The current permissible level of ethanol blending is 10%.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 2 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Ethanol is a biofuel and a common by-product of biomass left by agricultural feedstock such as corn, sugarcane, hemp, potato, etc.
- It is produced mainly from molasses, a byproduct of sugar manufacture.
- The National Policy on Bio-fuels has set a target of 20% blending of biofuels.
- The current permissible level of ethanol blending is 10%.

Q76. Gurudwara Sis Ganj Sahib and Gurdwara Rakab Ganj Sahib mark the places of execution and cremation of which of the following Sikh Gurus?

- a) Guru Tegh Bahadur
- b) Guru Gobind Singh
- c) Guru Har Krishan
- d) Guru Har Gobind

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Guru Tegh Bahadur was the ninth of ten Gurus of the Sikh religion.
- Sikh tradition states that Guru Tegh Bahadur stood up for the rights of Kashmiri Pandits who approached him to intercede on their behalf with the emperor and ask him to revoke a recently imposed jizya (tax) and was publicly killed in 1675 on the orders of Mughal emperor Aurangzeb in Delhi for refusing Mughal rulers and defying them.
- Gurudwara Sis Ganj Sahib and Gurdwara Rakab Ganj Sahib in Delhi mark the places of execution and cremation of his body.

Q77. India conducts military exercise Sampriti with which of the following countries?

- a) Sri Lanka
- b) Bangladesh
- c) Nepal
- d) Myanmar

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Sampriti Exercise is a bilateral defence cooperation exercise between the armies of India and Bangladesh.
- It is seen as a part of Indo-Bangladesh defence cooperation.
- There are nine editions of Sampriti, the latest being Sampriti-IX that started off from February 3 – February 16, 2020, in Meghalaya.

Q78. Consider the following statements

1. LOFAR (Low-Frequency Array) is currently the largest radio telescope operating at the lowest frequencies that can be observed from Earth.
2. LOFAR is a single-dish telescope located in the US.

Which of the following statements are correct?

- a) 1 only.
- b) 2 only.
- c) Both 1 and 2.
- d) Neither 1 and 2.

Answer: a

Explanation:

- LOFAR (Low-Frequency Array) is currently the largest radio telescope operating at the lowest frequencies that can be observed from Earth. Unlike single-dish telescope, LOFAR is a multipurpose sensor network, with an innovative computer and network infrastructure that can handle extremely large data volumes.
- After a decade, the International LOFAR Telescope has grown to encompass nine countries. Next to the Netherlands (38 stations), these are Germany (six stations), Poland (three stations), France, Ireland, Latvia, Sweden, and the United Kingdom (one station each); a station in Italy is funded to be built soon

Q79. Arrange the following places from north to south

1. Rutland Island
2. North Sentinel Island
3. Barren Island
4. Havelock Island

Which of the following is the correct answer?

- a) II-I-IV-III

- b) III-I-IV-II
- c) III-IV-II-I
- d) III-I-II-IV

Answer: c

Explanation:

III-IV-II-I is the correct order.

Q80. Which of the following countries are members of NATO:

- 1. Denmark
- 2. Turkey
- 3. Switzerland
- 4. Greece

Identify the correct combination.

- a) II only.
- b) I, III, IV.
- c) I, II, IV.
- d) All of the above.

Answer: c

Explanation:

Switzerland is not a part of NATO, while the other three are the members of NATO.

Q81. The town of Chibok, seen in news is located in which of the following countries?

- a) Sudan
- b) Nigeria
- c) Ethiopia
- d) Chad

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Christian female students were kidnapped from the Secondary School in the town of Chibok in Borno State, Nigeria.
- Responsibility for the kidnappings was claimed by Boko Haram, an extremist terrorist organization based in north-eastern Nigeria.

Q82. Consider the following statements with respect to Guru Tegh Bahadur:

1. He founded the city of Anandpur Sahib.
2. He is the 6th Guru of the Sikh religion.
3. He was beheaded on the orders of Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb.

Which of the given statement/s is/are INCORRECT?

- a) 3 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 only
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Guru Tegh Bahadur is the ninth Guru of the Sikh religion.
- He founded the city of Anandpur Sahib in Punjab in 1665.
- He was beheaded on the orders of Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb on 24 November 1675 in Delhi.
- Gurdwara Sis Ganj Sahib was built in 1783 at the place where he was beheaded.
- The mortal remains of Guru Tegh Bahadur were cremated at Gurudwara Rakabganj.

Q83. Consider the following statements with respect to sedimentary basins:

1. They are the primary locations on the continents where sufficient subsidence exists for long-term preservation of continental sediments.
2. Cambay, Assam Shelf and Assam Arakan Fold Belt are basins with commercial production.
3. Bengal basin is India's latest addition to producing Basins.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

Explanation:

All the statements are correct. Read more on this topic covered in 20th December 2020 PIB Summary and Analysis.

Q84. Consider the following pairs:

1. Thang-Ta: Assam
2. Kalaripayattu: Karnataka
3. Gatka: Punjab

Which of the given pairs are correctly matched?

- a) 1, 2 and 3
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 3 only
- d) 1 and 2 only

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Thang-Ta is a popular term for the ancient Manipuri Martial Art known as Huyen langlon.
- Kalaripayattu is a traditional martial art form originating from Kerala.
- Gatka originates from the state of Punjab. It is a traditional fighting style of the Nihang Sikh Warriors and is used in self-defence as well as sport.

Q85. Consider the following statements with respect to the Information Management and Analysis Centre:

1. It is the nodal agency for maritime data fusion.
2. It is located in Andaman.
3. It was set up after the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1 and 2 only

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The Indian Navy's Information Management and Analysis Centre (IMAC) located in Gurugram is the nodal agency for maritime data fusion. It was set up after the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks.
- It is jointly operated by the Navy and Coast Guard.
- It is located in Gurugram.

Q86. River Patuxent flows in which of the following countries?

- a) Finland
- b) France
- c) United States of America
- d) Hungary

Answer: c

Explanation:

The Patuxent River flows in the state of Maryland, United States of America.

Q87. Consider the following statements about Electronically Transmitted Postal Ballot System:

- 1. Electronically Transmitted Postal Ballot System is jointly developed by ECI and DRDO.
- 2. Electronically Transmitted Postal Ballot System is currently restricted to 'Service voters'.

Choose the correct option:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 and 2

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Electronically Transmitted Postal Ballot System (ETPBS) is the one-way electronic transmission of the postal ballots to the Service Voters.
- It has been developed by ECI and C-DAC.
- Though recommendations have been made to extend it to overseas voters, currently it is restricted to only service voters.

Q88. Consider the following statements about Subhas Chandra Bose:

- 1. He founded the All India Forward Bloc in the year 1939.
- 2. He along with Jawaharlal Nehru criticized the Nehru Report over the issue of dominion status.
- 3. Subhas Chandra Bose was elected as the President of the Indian National Congress (INC) in 1938.

Which of the above are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

Explanation:

All of the above statements are true.

Q89. The English Channel separates which of the following countries?

- a) The United Kingdom and Spain
- b) The United Kingdom and France
- c) The United Kingdom and Belgium
- d) The United Kingdom and Portugal

Answer: b

Explanation:



Q90. Which of the following countries border Nigeria?

1. Mauritania
2. Cameroon
3. Ghana
4. Chad

Choose the correct option:

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 4 only
- d) 1, 3 and 4 only

Answer: c

Countries sharing border with Nigeria



Q91. Consider the following statements:

1. Leopards are classified by IUCN as 'Critically Endangered'.
2. The Northeast landscape is home to the maximum number of leopards in India.

Choose the correct option:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2

d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Leopards are classified as 'Vulnerable' by IUCN.
- Leopards are in maximum number in the Western Ghats region.

Q92. The Copenhagen consensus is related to which of the following?

- a) An agreement signed at the 2009 Copenhagen Conference of Parties (CoP 15)
- b) An agreement signed by all the European countries with regards to internet governance in Europe
- c) Deals with food fortification
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

Explanation:

Copenhagen consensus deals with micronutrient fortification of basic food items with iodine and iron and is an incredibly cheap, simple intervention that saves lives.

Q93. Mouling National Park is located in

- a) Assam
- b) Goa
- c) Arunachal Pradesh
- d) Sikkim

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Mouling National Park is located in Arunachal Pradesh.
- Temperate alpine and coniferous forest at the upper reaches whereas the lower area is covered with tropical evergreen forest.
- Ornamental plants like foxtail, orchids are abundant in this area.
- The park has also an impressive area of animals and birds. Many endangered species like takins, snow clouded leopard, golden langur, hornbill are spotted here.

Q94. Consider the following statements:

1. Article 43-A was added to the Constitution by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976.

2. A-43-A belongs to Gandhian directive principles.

Choose the correct answer:

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: a

Explanation:

Article -43-A belongs to Socialistic DPSP and was added by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act.

Q95. Consider the following statements:

1. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) was formed in 1945 at the end of the Second World War.
2. India is a founding member of the International Labour Organisation.
3. The World Employment and Social Outlook (WESO) is released by ILO.

Choose the correct option:

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

Answer: b

Explanation:

ILO was formed in 1919 as a part of the Treaty of Versailles.

Q96. Consider the following statements:

1. National Commission for Minorities (NCM) is a constitutional body.
2. 5 communities are notified as religious minorities.
3. The tenure of the members of the National Commission for Minorities is 3 years.

Choose the correct answer:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 3 only

- c) 3 only
- d) All of the above

Answer: c

Explanation:

- NCM is a statutory body created by the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992.
- 6 communities, they are Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis.

Q97. Which of the following countries border the Central African Republic?

1. Tanzania
2. Sudan
3. Democratic Republic of Congo
4. Senegal

Choose the correct answer:

- a) 1 and 4 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3 only
- d) 3 and 4 only

Answer: b

Explanation:

Central African Republic in African Map



Q98. The city of Basra is located in

- a) Saudi Arabia
- b) Iran
- c) Syria
- d) Iraq

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The United States have decided to close down its consulate at Basra in Iraq.

Q99. Consider the following statements.

1. Kaundinya Elephant Sanctuary is located in West Bengal.
2. The sanctuary is covered under Project Elephant.

Which of the following statements are correct?

- a) I only
- b) II only

- c) Both I and II
- d) Neither I and II

Answer: b

Explanation:

Kaundinya Elephant Sanctuary is located in Palamner – Kuppam forest ranges of Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh.

Q100. Considering the degree of economic integration, arrange the following in the increasing order of integration:

1. Free Trade Agreement
2. Economic Union.
3. III. Preferential trading area.
4. Customs Union.

Choose the correct answer:

- a) III-I-IV-II
- b) I-II-III-IV
- c) III-I-II-IV
- d) I-III-II-IV

Answer: a

Explanation:

The degree of economic integration can be categorized into the following seven stages:

- 1-Preferential trading area
- 2-Free-trade area
- 3-Customs union
- 4-Single market
- 5-Economic union
- 6-Economic and monetary union
- 7-Complete economic integration

Q101. Consider the following statements.

1. All India Trade Union Congress is the first Central Trade Union of India.
2. All India Trade Union Congress was founded by Gopal Krishna Gokhale.
3. The first session of the All India Trade Union Congress was held in 1920 at Bombay

Choose the correct answer.

- a) I and II.
- b) II and III
- c) I and III
- d) All of the above.

Answer: c

Explanation:

- The founding conference or the first session of AITUC began on October 31st 1920, in Empire Theatre Bombay with Lala Lajpat Rai as the founding President.
- All India Trade Union Congress is the first Central Trade Union of India and the second largest trade union federation in India after the Indian National Trade Union Congress.

Q102. Consider the following statements

1. President Rule under Article 356 was first imposed in the state of Kerala in 1959.
2. The concept of President Rule was borrowed from Indian Councils Act of 1892.

Choose the correct answer.

- a) I only.
- b) II only.
- c) Both I and II.
- d) Neither I and II.

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The president rule was borrowed from the Government of India 1935 Act
- It was first imposed in 1951 in Punjab by the Jawaharlal Nehru led government.

Q103. Satkosia wildlife sanctuary is located in

- a) West Bengal
- b) Odisha
- c) Meghalaya
- d) Sikkim

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Satkosia spreads along the magnificent gorge over the mighty river Mahanadi in Odisha.
- Established in 1976 as a wildlife sanctuary, Satkosia is a paradise of immense scenic charm.
- It is one of the best ecosystems in the country, representing a diverse floral and faunal extravaganza.

Q104. India signed a deal for jointly producing Ka-226T helicopter with which of the following countries.

- a) United States of America
- b) Israel
- c) Russia
- d) France

Answer: c

Explanation:

- India and Russia had signed an intergovernmental agreement in 2015 to sell New Delhi 200 Ka-226T helicopters, but a firm contract is yet to be inked.
- Kamov is a small, twin engine Russian utility helicopter. It is manufactured by Russian Helicopters

Q105. Consider the following statements

1. National Textile Corporation Limited, (NTC) is a schedule "A" public sector company under the ambit of Ministry of Textile, Government of India
2. National Textile Corporation was established in 1968 to look after the functioning of 119 sick textile mills acquired through three Nationalisation Acts

Which of the following statements are correct?

- a) I only
- b) II only
- c) Both I and II.
- d) Neither I and II

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Both the statements are correct

Q106. Consider the following statements

1. Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) is a statutory body established under the provisions of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 to hear and dispose of appeals against orders passed by the Securities and Exchange Board of India.
2. SAT hears and disposes of appeals against orders passed by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)

Which of the following statements are correct?

- a) I only
- b) II only.
- c) Both I and II.
- d) Neither I and II.

Answer: c

Explanation:

Both the statements are true.

Q107. Coringa wildlife sanctuary is situated in

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Kerala
- d) Andhra Pradesh

Answer: d

Explanation:

- The Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Andhra Pradesh, is home to numerous species of flora and fauna.
- Situated in a region with an estuary (where the river meets the sea), Coringa is a major tourist hub.
- The wildlife sanctuary is home to some of the endangered species of animals, birds, and plants and hence is an important bio-diversity zone in terms of the preservation of wildlife.

Q108. Consider the following statements

- I. Polavaram project is a multi-purpose irrigation project on river Krishna.
- II. The project has been accorded 'National project' status.

Which of the following statements are true?

- a) I only.
- b) II only.
- c) Both I and II.

d) Neither I and II.

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Polavaram project is a multi-purpose irrigation project on river Godavari.
- Usually, big multi purpose projects involving irrigation, power generation ,storage of water etc are awarded 'National project' status.
- These projects require huge amount of capital for construction are given national project status because state governments cannot afford such huge capital.

Q109. Consider the following statements

1. Recessions generally occur when there is a widespread increase in spending causing high inflation.
2. Disinflation is a temporary slowing of the pace of price inflation.

Which of the following statements are correct?

- a) I only.
- b) II only.
- c) Both I and II.
- d) Neither I and II.

Answer: b

Explanation:

- A recession is a business cycle contraction when there is a general decline in economic activity.
- Recessions generally occur when there is a widespread drop in spending.
- Disinflation, on the other hand, shows the rate of change of inflation over time. The inflation rate is declining over time, but it remains positive.

Q110. Consider the following statements:

1. Sudan opens to the Persian Gulf.
2. Sudan shares its land borders with Somalia.

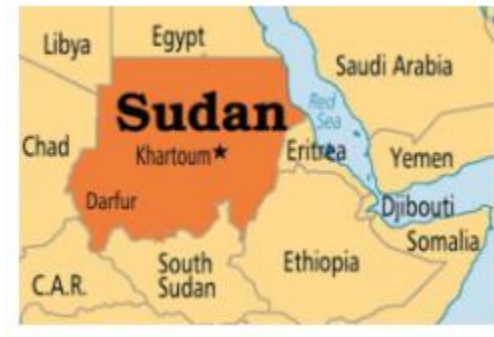
Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: c

Explanation:

Map of Sudan in Africa



Q111. Human Freedom Index is released by

- a) World Bank
- b) World Economic Forum
- c) International Monetary Fund
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

Explanation:

The index was published by an American think tank Cato Institute and the Fraser Institute in Canada. It takes into account 76 indicators of personal, civil, and economic freedoms to rank 162 countries from 2008 to 2018.

Q112. Consider the following statements about the Inner Line Permit (ILP):

1. The Inner Line Permit (ILP) has its genesis in the State Reorganization Act 1956.
2. All the states in the northeast have the Inner Line Permit.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Mizoram are protected by the Inner Line, and lately, Manipur was added (in December last year).
- The concept originates from the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation Act (BEFR), 1873.

Q113. If one is travelling from Andhra Pradesh to Punjab, what is the minimum number of states one has to pass through including the source and destination states?

- a) 6
- b) 7
- c) 5
- d) 4

Answer: c

Q114. Consider the following statements with respect to Blue Flag Certification:

1. Blue Flag is a certification awarded to beaches, marinas and sustainable boat tourism operators that meet the requirements.
2. It is awarded by the Global Environment Facility.
3. India does not have any blue flag certifications to its credit.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 2 and 3 only

Answer: a

Explanation:

- The iconic Blue Flag is one of the world's most recognised voluntary awards for beaches, marinas, and sustainable boating tourism operators. In order to qualify for the Blue Flag, a series of stringent environmental, educational, safety, and accessibility criteria must be met and maintained.
- Blue Flag is a certification awarded to beaches, marinas and sustainable boat tourism operators that meet the requirements.
- The Blue Flag certification is awarded by a non-profit organization called the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE). India is now in the league of 50 "BLUE FLAG" countries.
- The following beaches have been awarded the "Blue Flag":
 - Shivrajpur (Dwarka-Gujarat)

- Ghoghla (Diu)
- Kasarkod (Karnataka)
- Padubidri (Karnataka)
- Kappad (Kerala)
- Rushikonda (Andhra Pradesh)
- Golden (Puri-Odisha)
- Radhanagar (Andaman & Nicobar Islands)

Q115. "Bhashan Char Island", recently in news, is a part of which country?

- a) India
- b) Bangladesh
- c) Myanmar
- d) Malaysia

Answer: b

Explanation:

Bhashan Char is an island in Hatiya Upazila, Bangladesh.

Q116. Consider the following statements regarding the Hubble Space Telescope:

1. It was built by the United States space agency NASA, with contributions from the European Space Agency.
2. Hubble is the only telescope designed to be serviced in space by astronauts.
3. It is the first space telescope.

Which of the given statement/s is/are INCORRECT?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 3 only
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Hubble Telescope is the only telescope designed to be serviced in space by astronauts.
- It was built by the United States space agency NASA, with contributions from the European Space Agency.
- It was not the first space telescope, but it is one of the largest and most versatile, well known both as a vital research tool and as a public relations boon for astronomy. The Hubble telescope is named after astronomer Edwin Hubble and is one of NASA's Great Observatories.

Q117. “Malayali” tribe belongs to which state?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Kerala
- d) Telangana

Answer: b

Explanation:

- The Malayali is a tribal group found in the Eastern Ghats of northern Tamil Nadu. The name derives from malai-alam meaning “hill-place,” denoting an inhabitant of the hills.
- They are divided into three groups: the Periya Malayalis (“big” Malayalis) who live in the Shevaroyes, the Nadu Malayalis (“middle” Malayalis) from the Pachaimalais, and the Chinna Malayalis (“small” Malayalis) from the Kollaimalais.

Q118. Which of the following countries share a land border with Bangladesh?

1. India
2. Myanmar
3. China

Choose the correct answer:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

Answer: b

Explanation:

Bangladesh border



Q119. Consider the following statements with respect to Western Ghats:

1. Western Ghats is spread across 7 states.
2. Western Ghats is one of the biodiversity hotspots of India.
3. Western Ghats is listed among the UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Which of the above statements are true?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) All of the above

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Western Ghats are spread across 6 states (GJ, MH, KA, GA, TN, KL).

Western Ghats in India Map



Q120. Consider the following statements with respect to Central Information Commission (CIC):

1. Central Information Commission is an executive body.
2. Chief Information Commissioner is not eligible for reappointment.

Which of the above statements is/are true?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Central Information Commission is a statutory body under the Right to Information Act of 2005.

Q121. Global Environment Outlook is released by

- a) UNESCO
- b) UNEP
- c) World Bank
- d) NITI Aayog

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Global Environment Outlook (GEO) is a series of reports on the environment issued periodically by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
- The GEO project was initiated in response to the environmental reporting requirements of UN Agenda 21 and to a UNEP Governing Council decision of May 1995 which requested the production of a new comprehensive global state of the environment report.

Q122. Consider the following statements with respect to Akash Missile:

1. Akash is a medium-range mobile surface-to-surface missile.
2. It has been indigenously developed by DRDO under Integrated Guided-Missile Development Programme.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: b

Explanation:

- Akash is a mid-range surface-to-air missile (SAM).
- It is a medium-range nuclear-capable supersonic missile. It has been indigenously developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) under the Integrated Guided-Missile Development Programme (IGMDP).
 - The Integrated Guided Missile Development Program started in 1984.
- It is a multi-target, multi-directional, all-weather air-defence missile system consisting of surveillance and tracking radars for defending vulnerable areas against medium-range air targets penetrating from low, medium and high altitudes.

Q123. Consider the following statements with respect to SAHAYAK-NG:

1. It is India's first indigenously designed and developed Air Droppable Container.
2. It has the capacity to carry a payload of up to 500 kg and can be dropped from a heavy aircraft.
3. It is a GPS aided air dropped container.

Which of the given statement/s is/are INCORRECT?

- a) 1 only

- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 only
- d) 2 and 3 only

Answer: c

Explanation:

- SAHAYAK-NG is India's first indigenously designed and developed Air Droppable Container.
- It is an advanced version of SAHAYAK Mk I. It is a GPS aided air dropped container with the capacity to carry a payload of up to 50 kg and can be dropped from a heavy aircraft.
- The successful maiden test was conducted by the DRDO along with the Indian Navy.
- The container was dropped from IL 38SD aircraft (of the Indian Navy) off the coast of Goa during the test flight.
- The trial was conducted by the Navy to enhance its operational logistics capabilities and provide critical engineering stores to ships which are deployed more than 2000 km from the coast.
- It reduces the requirement of ships to come close to the coast to collect spares and stores.

Q124. Consider the following statements Dibru-Saikhowa:

1. Dibru-Saikhowa is a National Park as well as a Biosphere Reserve situated on the south bank of the river Brahmaputra.
2. It is an identified Important Bird Area (IBA) notified by the Bombay Natural History Society.
3. The park is bound by the Lohit River in the south and Dibru river in the north.

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Dibru-Saikhowa is a National Park as well as a Biosphere Reserve situated on the south bank of the river Brahmaputra in Assam.
- The national park is located in Dibrugarh and Tinsukia districts of Assam.

- It is an identified Important Bird Area (IBA) notified by the Bombay Natural History Society.
- The park is bounded by the Brahmaputra and Lohit Rivers in the north and Dibru river in the south.

Q125. Consider the following statements with respect to Kala-azar:

1. Kala-azar is endemic to the Indian subcontinent.
2. It is also known as Visceral leishmaniasis (VL).

Which of the given statement/s is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Kala-azar is endemic to the Indian subcontinent in four countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal).
- It is also known as Visceral leishmaniasis (VL) and black fever.
- It is a parasitic disease caused by protozoan parasites of the Leishmania genus.