

Previous Year UPSC Prelims Geography Questions With Solutions [2013-2020]

Geography Prelims Questions UPSC 2020

1. Consider the following pairs:

Rivers	Flows into
1. Mekong	Andaman Sea
2. Thames	Irish Sea
3. Volga	Caspian Sea
4. Zambezi	Indian Ocean

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

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

2. Steel slag can be the material for which of the following?

- 1. Construction of base road
- 2. Improvement of agricultural soil
- 3. Production of cement

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

3. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Coal ash contains arsenic, lead and mercury.
- 2. Coal-fired power plants release sulphur dioxide and oxides of nitrogen into the environment.
- 3. High ash content is observed in Indian coal.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

(d) 1, 2 and 3

4. What is the use of biochar in farming?

1. 'Biochar can be used as a part of the growing medium in vertical farming.
2. When biochar is a part of the growing medium, it promotes the growth of nitrogen fixing microorganisms.
3. When biochar is a part of the growing- medium, it enables the growing medium to retain water for a longer time.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

5. What is/are the advantages/advantages of zero tillage in agriculture?

1. Sowing of wheat is possible without burning the residue of the previous crop.
2. Without the need for nursery of rice saplings, direct planting of paddy seeds in the wet soil is possible.
3. Carbon sequestration in the soil is possible.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

6. According to India's National Policy on Biofuels, which of the following can be used as raw materials for the production of biofuels?

1. Cassava
2. Damaged wheat grains
3. Groundnut seeds
4. Horse gram
5. Rotten potatoes
6. Sugar beet

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

7. With reference to pulse production in India, consider the following statements:

1. Black gram can be cultivated as both kharif and rabi crops.
2. Green-gram alone accounts for nearly half of pulse production.
3. In the last three decades, while the production of kharif pulses has increased, the production of rabi pulses has decreased.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

8. "The crop is subtropical in nature. A hard frost is injurious to it. It requires at least 210 frost free days and 50 to 100 centimeters of rainfall for its growth. A light well-drained soil capable of retaining moisture is ideally suited for the cultivation of the crop." Which one of the following is that crop?

- (a) Cotton
- (b) Jute
- (c) Sugarcane
- (d) Tea

9. With reference to the current trends in the cultivation of sugarcane in India, consider the following statements:

1. A substantial saving in seed material is made when 'bud chip settings' are raised in a nursery and transplanted in the main field.
2. When direct planting of setts is done, the germination percentage is better with single budded setts as compared to setts with many buds.
3. If bad weather conditions prevail when setts are directly planted, single-budded setts have better survival as compared to large setts.
4. Sugarcane can be cultivated using settings prepared from tissue culture.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

10. With reference to solar water pumps, consider the following statements:

1. Solar power can be used for running surface pumps and not for submersible Pumps.
2. Solar power can be used for running centrifugal pumps and not the ones with piston.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

11. In the context of India, which of the following is/are considered to be of practice(s) of eco-friendly agriculture?

1. Crop diversification
2. Legume intensification
3. Tensiometer use
4. Vertical farming

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

12. What are the advantages of fertigation in agriculture?

1. Controlling the alkalinity of irrigation water is possible.
2. Efficient application of Rock Phosphate and all other phosphatic fertilizers is possible.
3. Increased availability of nutrients to plants is possible.
4. Reduction in the leaching of chemical nutrients is possible.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

13. . Consider the following minerals:

1. Bentonite
2. Chromite
3. Kyanite
4. Sillimanite

In India, which of the above is/are officially designated as major minerals?

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

14. With reference to Ocean Mean Temperature (OMT), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. OMT is measured up to a depth of 26°C isotherm which is 129 meters in the southwestern Indian Ocean during January — March.

2. OMT collected during January — March can be used in assessing whether the amount of rainfall in monsoon will be less or more than a certain long-term mean.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

15. With reference to chemical fertilizers in India, consider the following statements:

- 1. At present, the retail price of chemical fertilizers is market-driven and not administered by the Government.
- 2. Ammonia, which is an input of urea, is produced from natural gas.
- 3. Sulphur, which is a raw material for Phosphoric acid fertilizer, is a by-product of oil refineries.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

16. Siachen Glacier is situated to the

- (a) East of Aksai Chin
- (b) East of Leh
- (c) North of Gilgit
- (d) North of Nubra Valley

17. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Jet streams occur in the Northern Hemisphere only.
- 2. Only some cyclones develop an eye.
- 3. The temperature inside the eye of a cyclone is nearly 10°C lesser than that of the surroundings.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Geography Prelims Questions UPSC 2019

1. With reference to the management of minor minerals in India, consider the following statements:

1. Sand is a 'minor mineral' according to the prevailing law in the country.
2. State Governments have the power to grant mining leases of minor minerals, but the powers regarding the formation of rules related to the grant of minor minerals lie with the Central Government.
3. State Governments have the power to frame rules to prevent illegal mining of minor minerals.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct?

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

2. Consider the following pairs:

Glacier	River
1. Bandarpunch	Yamuna
2. Bara Shigri	Chenab
3. Milam	Mandakini
4. Siachen	Nubra
5. Zemu	Manas

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

3. With reference to the cultivation of Kharif crops in India in the last five years, consider the following statements:

1. Area under rice cultivation is the highest.
2. Area under the cultivation of jowar is more than that of oilseeds.
3. Area of cotton cultivation is more than that of sugarcane.
4. Area under sugarcane cultivation has steadily decreased.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

4. Among the following, which one is the largest exporter of rice in the world in the last five years?

- (a) China
- (b) India
- (c) Myanmar
- (d) Vietnam

5. The word 'Denisovan' is sometimes mentioned in media in reference to-

- (a) fossils of a kind of dinosaurs
- (b) an early human species
- (c) a cave system found in North-East India.
- (d) a geological period in the history of the Indian subcontinent

6. Consider the following pairs:

Sea	Bordering country
1. Adriatic Sea	Albania
2. Black Sea	Croatia
3. Caspian Sea	Kazakhstan
4. Mediterranean Sea	Morocco
5. Red Sea	Syria

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

7. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Asiatic lions are naturally found in India only.
- 2. A double-humped camel is naturally found in India only.
- 3. One-horned rhinoceros is naturally found in India only.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct?

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

8. Consider the following States:

- 1. Chhattisgarh
- 2. Madhya Pradesh

- 3. Maharashtra
- 4. Odisha

With reference to the States mentioned above, in terms of percentage of forest cover to the total area of the State, which one of the following is the correct ascending order?

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

9. Consider the following pairs

Famous place	River
1. Pandharpur	Chandrabhaga
2. Tiruchirappalli	Cauvery
3. Hampi	Malaprabha

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

10. Why are dewdrops not formed on a cloudy night?

- (a) Clouds absorb the radiation released from the Earth's surface.
- (b) Clouds reflect back the Earth's radiation.
- (c) The Earth's surface would have the low temperature on cloudy nights.
- (d) Clouds deflect the blowing wind to ground level.

11. Consider the following pairs:

Wildlife	Naturally found in
1. Blue-finned Mahseer	Cauvery River
2. Irrawaddy Dolphin	Chambal River
3. Rusty-spotted Cat	Eastern Ghats

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

12. What is common to the places known as Aliyar, Isapur and Kangsabati?

- (a) Recently discovered uranium deposits
- (b) Tropical rain forests
- (c) Underground cave systems
- (d) Water reservoirs

13. On 21st June, the Sun

- (a) does not set below the horizon at the Arctic Circle
- (b) does not set below the horizon at Antarctic Circle
- (c) shines vertically overhead at noon on the Equator
- (d) shines vertically overhead at the Tropic of Capricorn

14. Which one of the following National Parks lies completely in the temperate alpine zone?

- (a) Manas National Park
- (b) Namdapha National Park
- (c) Neora Valley National Park
- (d) Valley of Flowers National Park

Geography Prelims Questions UPSC 2018

1. Which of the following leaf modifications occur(s) in the desert areas to inhibit water loss?

- 1. Hard and waxy leaves
- 2. Tiny leaves
- 3. Thorns instead of leaves

Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

2. Consider the following pairs:

Town sometime mentioned in news	Country
1. Aleppo	Syria
2. Kirkuk	Yemen
3. Mosul	Palestine
4. Mazar-i-Sharif	Afghanistan

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

3. With reference to the Genetically Modified mustard (GM mustard) developed in India, consider the following statements :

1. GM mustard has the genes of a soil bacterium that give the plant the property of pest-resistance to a wide variety of pests.
2. GM mustard has the genes that allow the plant cross-pollination and hybridization.
3. GM mustard has been developed jointly by the IARI and Punjab Agricultural University.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

4. In which one of the following States is Pakhui Wildlife Sanctuary located?

- (a) Arunachal Pradesh
- (b) Manipur
- (c) Meghalaya
- (d) Nagaland

5. Which of the following has/have shrunk immensely/dried up in the recent past due to human activities ?

1. Aral Sea
2. Black Sea
3. Lake Baikal

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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

6. Among the following cities, which one lies on a longitude closest to that of Delhi?

- (a) Bengaluru
- (b) Hyderabad
- (c) Nagpur
- (d) Pune

7. The Earth's magnetic field has reversed every few hundred thousand years.

1. When the Earth was created more than 4000 million years ago, there was 54% oxygen and no carbon dioxide.
2. When living organisms originated, they modified the early atmosphere of the Earth.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

8. With reference to the circumstances in Indian agriculture, the concept of "Conservation Agriculture" assumes significance. Which of the following fall under the Conservation Agriculture?

1. Avoiding the monoculture practices
2. Adopting minimum tillage
3. Avoiding the cultivation of plantation crops
4. Using crop residues to cover soil surface
5. Adopting spatial and temporal crop sequencing/crop rotations

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

9. Consider the following pairs :

Regions sometimes mentioned in news	Country
1. Catalonia	Spain
2. Crimea	Hungary
3. Mindanao	philippines
4. Oromia	Nigeria

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched ?

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

10. Which one of the following is an artificial lake ?

- (a) Kodaikanal (Tamil Nadu)
- (b) Kolleru (Andhra Pradesh)

- (c) Nainital (Uttarakhand)
- (d) Renuka (Himachal Pradesh)

11. Consider the following statements

1. Most of the world's coral reefs are in tropical waters.
2. More than one-third of the world's coral reefs are located in the territories of Australia, Indonesia and the Philippines.
3. Coral reefs host far more animal phyla than those hosted by tropical rainforests.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

12. Which of the following is/are the possible consequence/s of heavy sand mining in riverbeds?

1. Decreased salinity in the river
2. Pollution of groundwater
3. Lowering of the water-table

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

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

13. Consider the following statements:

1. The Barren Island volcano is an active volcano located in the Indian territory.
2. Barren Island lies about 140 km east of Great Nicobar.
3. The last time the Barren Island volcano erupted was in 1991 and it has remained inactive since then.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

14. With reference to agricultural soils, consider the following statements :

1. A high content of organic matter in soil drastically reduces its water holding capacity.
2. Soil does not play any role in the sulphur cycle.
3. Irrigation over a period of time can contribute to the salinization of some agricultural lands.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

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

Geography Prelims Questions UPSC 2017

1. Mediterranean Sea is a border of which of the following countries?

- 1. Jordan
- 2. Iraq
- 3. Lebanon
- 4. Syria

Select the correct answer
using the code given below:

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

2. Consider the following statements:

- 1. In India, the Himalayas are spread over five states only.
- 2. Western Ghats are spread over five states only.
- 3. Pulicat Lake is spread over two States only.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

3. With reference to 'Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD)' sometimes mentioned in the news while forecasting Indian monsoon, which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. IOD phenomenon is characterised by a difference in sea surface temperature between the tropical Western Indian Ocean and the tropical Eastern Pacific Ocean.
- 2. An IOD phenomenon can influence an El Nino's impact on the monsoon.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

4. Which of the following is geographically closest to Great Nicobar?

- (a) Sumatra
- (b) Borneo

- (c) Java
- (d) Sri Lanka

5. With reference to river Teesta, consider the following statements:

1. The source of river Teesta is the same as that of Brahmaputra but it flows through Sikkim.
2. River Rangeet originates in Sikkim and it is a tributary of river Teesta.
3. River Teesta flows into the Bay of Bengal on the border of India and Bangladesh.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

6. If you travel by road from Kohima to Kottayam, what is the minimum number of States within India through which you can travel, including the origin and the destination?

- (a) 6
- (b) 7
- (c) 8
- (d) 9

7. From the ecological point of view, which one of the following assumes importance in being a good link between the Eastern Ghats and the Western Ghats?

- (a) Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve
- (b) Nallamala Forest
- (c) Nagarhole National Park
- (d) Seshachalam Biosphere Reserve

8. At one of the place in India, if you stand on the seashore and watch the sea, 'you will find that the sea water recedes from the shore line a few kilometres and comes back to the shore, twice a day, and you can actually walk on the seafloor when the water recedes. This unique phenomenon is seen at

- (a) Bhavnagar
- (b) Bheemunipatnam
- (c) Chandipur
- (d) Nagapattinam

Geography Prelims Questions UPSC 2016

1. Consider the following pairs:

Famous Place	Region
1. Bodhgaya	Baghelkhand
2. Khajuraho	Bundelkhand

3. Shirdi	Vidarbha
4. Nasik (Nashik)	Malwa
5. tirupati	Rayalaseema

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

2. Which of the following is/are tributary/ tributaries of Brahmaputra?

- 1. Dibang
- 2. Kameng
- 3. Lohit

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

3. In which of the following regions of India are shale gas resources found?

- 1. Cambay Basin
- 2. Cauvery Basin
- 3. Krishna-Godavari Basin

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

4. With reference to 'Initiative for Nutritional Security through intensive Millets Promotion', which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. This initiative aims to demonstrate the improved production and post-harvest technologies, and to demonstrate value addition techniques, in an integrated manner, with a cluster approach.
- 2. Poor, small, marginal and tribal farmers have a larger stake in this scheme.
- 3. An important objective of the scheme is to encourage farmers of commercial crops to shift to millet cultivation by offering them free kits of critical inputs of nutrients and micro-irrigation equipment.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1 only

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

5. Recently, which of the following States has explored the possibility of constructing an artificial inland port to be connected to sea by a long navigational channel?

- (a) Andhra Pradesh
- (b) Chhattisgarh
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Rajasthan

6. Recently, linking of which of the following rivers was undertaken?

- (a) Cauvery and Tungabhadra
- (b) Godavari and Krishna
- (c) Mahanadi and Son
- (d) Narmada and Tapi

7. Consider the following pairs:

Community sometimes in the affairs of mentioned in the news

- 1. Kurd : Bangladesh
- 2. Madhesi : Nepal
- 3. Rohingya : Myanmar

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

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

Geography Prelims Questions UPSC 2015

1. In the South Atlantic and South-Eastern Pacific regions in tropical latitudes, cyclones do not originate. What is the reason ?

- (a) Sea surface temperatures are low
- (b) Inter-tropical Convergence Zone seldom occurs
- (c) Coriolis force is too weak
- (d) Absence of land in those regions

2. Which one of the following pairs of States of India indicates the easternmost and westernmost State ?

- (a) Assam and Rajasthan
- (b) Arunachal Pradesh and Rajasthan
- (c) Assam and Gujarat

(d) Arunachal Pradesh and Gujarat

3. What explains the eastward flow of the equatorial countercurrent ?

- (a) The Earth's rotation on its axis
- (b) Convergence of the two equatorial currents
- (c) Difference in salinity of water
- (d) Occurrence of the belt of calm near the equator

4. Consider the following pairs:

Place of Pilgrimage	Location
1. Srisailem	Nallamala Hills
2. Omkareshwar	Satmala Hills
3. Pushkar	Mahadeo Hills

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched ?

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

5. Consider the following rivers :

- 1. Vamsadhara
- 2. Indravati
- 3. Pranahita
- 4. Pennar

Which of the above are tributaries of Godavari ?

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

6. In India, the steel production industry requires the import of

- (a) saltpetre
- (b) rock phosphate
- (c) coking coal
- (d) All of the above

7. Consider the following statements:

- 1. The winds which blow between 30 N and 60 S latitudes throughout the year are known as westerlies.

2. The moist air masses that cause winter rains in the NorthWestern region of India are part of westerlies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

8. In a particular region in India, the local people train the roots of living trees into robust bridges across the streams. As the time passes, these bridges become stronger. These unique 'living root bridges' are found in

- (a) Meghalaya
- (b) Himachal Pradesh
- (c) Jharkhand
- (d) Tamil Nadu

9. Tides occur in the oceans and seas due to which among the following?

- 1. Gravitational force of the Sun
- 2. Gravitational force of the Moon
- 3. Centrifugal force of the Earth

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

10. In which of the following activities are Indian Remote Sensing (IRS) satellites used?

- 1. Assessment of crop productivity
- 2. Locating groundwater resources
- 3. Mineral exploration
- 4. Telecommunications
- 5. Traffic studies

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

11. Consider the following States:

- 1. Arunachal Pradesh
- 2. Himachal Pradesh
- 3. Mizoram

In which of the above States do 'Tropical Wet Evergreen Forests' occur?

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

12. Which one of the following countries of South-West Asia does not open out to the Mediterranean Sea?

- (a) Syria
- (b) Jordan
- (c) Lebanon
- (d) Israel

13. In India, in which one of the following types of forests is teak a dominant tree species?

- (a) Tropical moist deciduous forest
- (b) Tropical rainforest
- (c) Tropical thorn scrub forest
- (d) Temperate forest with grasslands

14. "Each day is more or less the same, the morning is clear and bright with a sea breeze; as the Sun climbs high in the sky, heat mounts up, dark clouds form, then rain comes with thunder and lightning. But the rain is soon over."

Which of the following regions is described in the above passage?

- (a) Savannah
- (b) Equatorial
- (c) Monsoon
- (d) Mediterranean

Geography Prelims Questions UPSC 2014

1. With reference to 'Changpa Community of India, consider the following statement:

- 1. They live mainly in the State of Uttarakhand.
- 2. They rear the Pashmina goats that yield a fine wool.
- 3. They are kept in the category of Scheduled Tribes.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

2. Which of the following statements is / are correct regarding vegetative propagation of plants?

- 1. Vegetative propagation produces clonal populations.
- 2. Vegetative propagation helps in eliminating the virus.

3. Vegetative propagation can be practiced most of the year.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

3. The seasonal reversal of winds is the typical characteristic of

- (a) Equatorial climate
- (b) Mediterranean climate
- (c) Monsoon climate
- (d) All of the above climates

4. Consider these pairs

1. Cardamom Hills	Coromandel Coast
2. Kaimur Hills	Konkan Coast
3. Mahadeo Hills	Central India
4. Mikir Hills	North-East India

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

5. Consider the following rivers:

- 1. Barak
- 2. Lohit
- 3. Subansiri

Which of the above flows / flow through Arunachal Pradesh?

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

6. Which one of the following pairs of islands is separated from each other by the 'Ten Degree Channel'?

- (a) Andaman and Nicobar
- (b) Nicobar and Sumatra
- (c) Maldives and Lakshadweep
- (d) Sumatra and Java

7. Which of the following phenomena might have influenced the evolution of organisms?

1. Continental drift
2. Glacial cycles

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

8. Turkey is located between

- (a) Black Sea and Caspian Sea
- (b) Black Sea and Mediterranean Sea
- (c) Gulf of Suez and Mediterranean Sea
- (d) Gulf of Aqaba and Dead Sea

9. What is the correct sequence of occurrence of the following cities in South-East Asia as one proceeds from south to north?

1. Bangkok
2. Hanoi
3. Jakarta
4. Singapore

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

10. Consider the following pairs

Region often in news	Country
1. Chechnya	Russian Federation
2. Darfur	Mali
3. Swat Valley	Iraq

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

11. Consider the following pairs :

Programme	Project Ministry
1. Drought-Prone Area Programme	Ministry of Agriculture
2. Desert Development Programme	Ministry of Environment and Forests
3. National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas	Ministry of Rural Development

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched

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

12. Which of the following adds/add carbon dioxide to the carbon cycle on the planet Earth?

- 1. Volcanic action
- 2. Respiration
- 3. Photosynthesis
- 4. Decay of organic matter

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

13. If you travel through the Himalayas, you are likely to see which of the following plants naturally grow there?

- 1. Oak
- 2. Rhododendron
- 3. Sandalwood

Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

14. Which of the following are some important pollutants released by the steel industry in India?

- 1. Oxides of sulphur
- 2. Oxides of nitrogen
- 3. Carbon monoxide
- 4. Carbon dioxide

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

15. Recently, a series of uprisings of people referred to as 'Arab Spring' originally started from

- (a) Egypt
- (b) Lebanon
- (c) Syria
- (d) Tunisia

16. With reference to two non-conventional energy sources called 'coalbed methane' and 'shale gas', consider the following 'statements':

1. Coalbed methane is the pure methane gas extracted from coal seams, while shale gas is a mixture of propane and butane only that can be extracted from fine-grained sedimentary rocks.
2. In India abundant coalbed methane sources exist, but so far no shale gas sources have been found.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

17. Consider the following pairs :

Region	Well-known for the production of
1. Kinnaur	Areca nut
2. Mewat	Mango
3. Coromandel	Soya bean

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

18. Consider the following pairs :

National highways	Cities Connected
1. NH 4	Chennai and hyderabad
2. NH 6	Mumbai and Kolkata

3. NH15	Ahmedabad and Jodhpur
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Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

Geography Prelims Questions UPSC 2013

1. Consider the following pairs-

Tribe	State
1. Limboo (Limbu)	Sikkim
2. Karbi	Himachal Pradesh
3. Dongaria	Odisha
4. Bonda	Tamil Nadu

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

2. In which of the following States is lion-tailed macaque found in its natural habitat?

- 1. Tamil Nadu
- 2. Kerala
- 3. Karnataka
- 4. Andhra Pradesh

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

3. Consider the following pairs-

National Parks	River Flowing Through Parks
1. Corbett National park	Ganga

2. Kaziranga National Park	Manas
3. Silent Valley National Park	Kaveri

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

4. Consider the following pairs:

- 1. Nokrek Biosphere Reserve : Garo Hills
- 2. Logtak (Loktak) Lake : Barail Range
- 3. Namdapha National Park : Daffla Hills

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

5. Consider the following

- 1. Star tortoise
- 2. Monitor lizard
- 3. Pygmy hog
- 4. Spider monkey

Which of the above is found in India?

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

6. Which of the following statements regarding laterite soils of India are correct?

- 1. They are generally red in colour.
- 2. They are rich in nitrogen and potash.
- 3. They are well-developed in Rajasthan and UP.
- 4. Tapioca and cashew nuts grow well on these soils.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- (a) 1, 2 and 3
- (b) 2, 3 and 4
- (c) 1 and 4

(d) 2 and 3 only

7. Contour bunding is a method of soil conservation used in -

- (a) desert margins, liable to strong wind action
- (b) low flat plains, close to stream courses, liable to flooding
- (c) scrublands, liable to spread of weed growth
- (d) None of the above

8. Consider the following crops

- 1. Cotton
- 2. Groundnut
- 3. Rice
- 4. Wheat

Which of these are Kharif crops?

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

9. During a thunderstorm, the thunder in the skies is produced by the:

- 1. meeting of cumulonimbus clouds in the sky
- 2. lightning that separates the nimbus clouds
- 3. violent upward movement of air and water particles

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

10. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Natural gas occurs in the Gondwana beds.
- 2. Mica occurs in abundance in Kodarma.
- 3. Dharwars are famous for petroleum.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

11. Which of the following is / are the characteristic/ characteristics of Indian coal?

- 1. High ash content
- 2. Low sulphur content

3. Low ash fusion temperature

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

12. On the planet earth, most of the freshwater exists as ice caps and glaciers. Out of the remaining freshwater, the largest proportion

- (a) is found in atmosphere as moisture and clouds
- (b) is found in freshwater lakes and rivers
- (c) exists as groundwater
- (d) exists as soil moisture

13. The Narmada river flows to the west, while most other large peninsular rivers flow to the east. Why?

- 1. It occupies a linear rift valley.
- 2. It flows between the Vindhya and the Satpuras.
- 3. The land slopes to the west from Central India.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

14. The annual range of temperature in the interior of the continents is high as compared to coastal areas. What is / are the reason / reasons?

- 1. Thermal difference between land and water
- 2. Variation in altitude between continents and oceans
- 3. Presence of strong winds in the interior
- 4. Heavy rains in the interior as compared to coasts

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

15. Variations in the length of daytime and night time from season to season are due to

- (a) the earth's rotation on its axis
- (b) the earth's revolution around the sun in an elliptical manner
- (c) latitudinal position of the place
- (d) revolution of the earth on a tilted axis

16. Which one of the following pairs is correctly matched?

Geographical Feature	Region
(a) Abyssinian Plateau	Arabia
(b) Atlas Mountains	North-Western Africa
(c) Guiana Highlands	South-Western Africa
(d) Okavango Basin	Patagonia

17. The most important fishing grounds of the world are found in the regions where:

- (a) warm and cold atmospheric currents meet
- (b) rivers drain out large amounts of fresh water into the sea
- (c) warm and cold oceanic currents meet
- (d) continental shelf is undulating

18. Which of the following is/are unique characteristics/characteristics of equatorial forests?

- 1. Presence of tall, closely set trees with crowns forming a continuous canopy
- 2. Coexistence of a large number of species
- 3. Presence of numerous varieties of epiphytes

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

19. "Climate is extreme, rainfall is scanty and the people used to be nomadic herders." (2013)

The above statement best describes which of the following regions?

- (a) African Savannah
- (b) Central Asian Steppe
- (c) North American Prairie
- (d) Siberian Tundra

20. With reference to the usefulness of the by-products of sugar industry, which of the following statements is / are correct?

- 1. Bagasse can be used as biomass fuel for the generation of energy.
- 2. Molasses can be used as one of the feedstocks for the production of synthetic chemical fertilizers.
- 3. Molasses can be used for the production of ethanol.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

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

21. Consider the following:

1. Electromagnetic radiation
2. Geothermal energy
3. Gravitational force
4. Plate movements
5. Rotation of the earth
6. Revolution of the earth

Which of the above are responsible for bringing dynamic changes on the surface of the earth?

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

22. Which one among the following industries is the maximum consumer of water in India?

- (a) Engineering
- (b) Paper and pulp
- (c) Textiles
- (d) Thermal power

23. Which of the following leaf modifications occurs/occur in desert areas to inhibit water loss?

1. Hard and waxy leaves
2. Tiny leaves or no leaves
3. Thorns instead of leaves

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

UPSC Prelims Geography Solutions 2013-2020

The answers of UPSC Geography Questions asked in Prelims from the year 2013 to 2020 are given in the tables below:

Geography Questions UPSC Prelims 2020 - Solutions				
1. c	2. d	3. d	4. d	5. d
6. a	7. a	8. a	9. c	10. d

11. d	12. c	13. d	14. b	15. b
16. d	17. c			

Geography Questions UPSC Prelims 2019 - Solutions				
1. a	2. a	3. a	4. b	5. b
6. b	7. a	8. c	9. a	10. b
11. d	12. d	13. a	14. d	

Geography Questions UPSC Prelims 2018 - Solutions				
1. d	2. b	3. b	4. a	5. d
6. a	7. c	8. d	9. c	10. a
11. d	12. b	13. d	14. b	

Geography Questions UPSC Prelims 2017 - Solutions				
1. c	2. b	3. b	4. a	5. b
6. b	7. a	8. c		

Geography Questions UPSC Prelims 2016 - Solutions				
1. c	2. d	3. d	4. c	5. d
6. b	7. c			

Geography Questions UPSC Prelims 2015 - Solutions				
1. a	2. d	3. d	4. a	5. d
6. c	7. b	8. a	9. d	10. a
11. c	12. b	13. a	14. b	

Geography Questions UPSC Prelims 2014 - Solutions				
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1. b	2. c	3. c	4. c	5. b
6. a	7. c	8. b	9. c	10. a
11. d	12. c	13. d	14. d	15. d
16. d	17. d	18. d		

Geography Questions UPSC Prelims 2013 - Solutions

1. a	2. a	3. d	4. a	5. a
6. c	7. d	8. c	9. d	10. b
11. a	12. c	13. a	14. a	15. d
16. b	17. c	18. d	19. b	20. c
21. d	22. d	23. d		