

MAX IAS - Old Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi
SANGRAM-2 ALL INDIA OPEN MOCK- GS Full Length Test 2025

1. Which of the following languages belong to the Indo-European Family?

1. Bengali
2. Marathi
3. Oriya
4. Assamese

5. Kannada

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

2. Consider the following statements with respect to the Sangam Literature:

1. Sangam poetry dealt with themes such as love, good and evil, community.
2. Majority of the poems are compiled by women poets.
3. Poets came from villages with varied social backgrounds.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) None

3. Which of the following literary works are compiled by Shaiva Saints?

1. Nalayira Divya Prabandham
2. Tirumurai

3. Periyapuramam

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

4. The terms *phala*, *langala* and *sira* in Rig Veda refers to:

- (a) Measures of time
- (b) Plough
- (c) Trade
- (d) Iron

5. Consider the following statements:

1. Uttarapatha was a land-cum-river route extending from northwest India to Tamralipti on the Bay of Bengal.
2. Dakshinapatha or the southern route stretched from Pataliputra in Magadha to Swarnagiri in south.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

6. Consider the following statements with respect to Ajivika sect:

1. The central idea of Ajivika was niyati or fate.
2. It did not believe in Karma or transmigration.

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55 Bada Bazar Road, Old Rajinder Nagar - New Delhi, Ph: 8130080860, 6303329332

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3. Ajivikas practised discrimination on the basis of caste.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

7. Consider the following statements with respect to the Arthashastra:

- 1. Kautilya describes forests, pastures and mines as state property.
- 2. It advocates tax-free and hereditary grants of land to Brahmanas and priests.
- 3. Establishing settlements on unoccupied land was an important state activity.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

8. With reference to the Gupta administrative system, which one of the following is the correct sequence in ascending order in terms of size?

- (a) Vithi- Vishayas- Bhuktis
- (b) Vishayas- Bhuktis- Vithi
- (c) Bhuktis- Vithi- Vishayas

(d) Bhuktis- Vishayas- Vithi

9. During the Sultanate period of Indian History theologians were collectively known as?

- (a) Amirs
- (b) Sipahsalar
- (c) Dastar-bandan
- (d) Ahl-i-Suyuf

10. The works Sakhis, Mangal and Basant are attributed to which of the following?

- (a) Ramananda
- (b) Kabir
- (c) Tulsidas
- (d) Guru Nanak

11. Which of the following factors are responsible for unemployment in developing countries like India?

- 1. Deficiency of effective demand
- 2. Lack of land, capital and other complementary sources
- 3. Effective demand has never been great enough

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

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12. Which of the following techniques of monetary policy has been designed to secure larger resources from the banking system for financing public investment?

- (a) Cash Reserve Ratio
- (b) Statutory Liquidity Ratio
- (c) Marginal Standing Facility
- (d) Liquidity Adjustment Facility

13. Which of the following statements is correct with respect to the relationship between money supply, high-powered money and money multiplier?

- (a) Money supply increases with increase in money multiplier with high-powered money remaining constant.
- (b) Money supply decreases with increase in money multiplier with high-powered money remaining constant.
- (c) Money supply increases with decrease in high-powered money with money multiplier remaining constant.
- (d) There is no relationship between money supply, high-powered money and money multiplier.

14. Demand-pull inflation occurs during which of the following conditions?

- 1. When the economy is working at full employment
- 2. When there is natural rate of unemployment.
- 3. When the full capacity output of the economy is used.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

15. Which of the following are components of marketable internal debt :

- 1. Government dated securities
- 2. Special securities issued against small savings
- 3. Securities issued to international financial institutions

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

16. FDI in India are subject to regulation and oversight by which of the government bodies:

- 1. Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)
- 2. Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT)
- 3. Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- 4. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)

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

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17. Consider the following statements with respect to the American Depository Receipt (ADR):

1. An American Depository Receipt (ADR) is a non-negotiable receipt.
2. The dividends are paid to the holders of ADRs in foreign currency.
3. ADRs provide a means to US investors to trade the non-US company's shares in US dollars.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) None

18. Consider the following statements with respect to the Interest Rate Swaps:

Statement I- Financial intermediaries as well as non-financial firms use interest rate swaps to effectively change the maturity of outstanding debt.

Statement II- In an interest rate swap, the parties to the agreement, termed the swap counterparties, agree to exchange payments indexed to two different interest rates.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation for Statement I.
- (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct

explanation for Statement-I.

(c) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.

(d) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

19. Which of the following are components of the capital account of balance of payments?

1. External assistance
2. Commercial Borrowings
3. Invisibles
4. NRI deposits

(a) 1, 3 and 4 only

(b) 2, 3 and 4 only

(c) 1, 2 and 4 only

(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

20. Fiscal consolidation is achieved through which of the following measures?

1. Reduction in expenditure on major subsidies
2. Budget support to PSUs to be extended
3. Reduction in interest payment on past debt
4. Austerity measures to curtail non-plan expenditure

(a) 1, 3 and 4 only

(b) 1 and 4 only

(c) 3 and 4 only

(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

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21. Constitution, through which of the following created a secular state based on the principles of equality and non-discrimination?
1. Preamble
 2. Fundamental Rights
 3. Fundamental Duties
 4. Directive Principles of State Policies
- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 1, 2 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
22. When there is a conflict between two parties in respect of the same Fundamental Right, Courts would give primacy to:
- (a) Individual Interest
 - (b) Maintain Status Quo
 - (c) Reasonableness of Restrictions
 - (d) Public Interest
23. Consider the following statements with respect to the writ of Certiorari:
1. A writ of Certiorari can be issued to judicial or administrative bodies on grounds of excess of jurisdiction or failure to exercise jurisdiction.
 2. A writ of Certiorari is also issued if there is a violation of the principles of natural justice.
24. Consider the following statements:
- Statement I: Fundamental Duties are addressed to the citizen but without any legal sanctions for their violation.
- Statement II: Fundamental Duties foster the principles of transformative constitutionalism and constitutional morality.
- Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
- (a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation for Statement I.
 - (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
 - (c) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
 - (d) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.
25. Consider the following statements with respect to Authority:
1. Authority implies the right to issue regulations and make final pronouncements.
 2. Authority implies that someone has the right to receive obedience.
- How many of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2

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3. Authority is incompatible with science and morality.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

26. Consider the following statements with respect to Government:

- 1. The Government is a subordinate agency through which the sovereign people express their will.
- 2. The Government makes laws and administers them.
- 3. An individual can resist the Government.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

27. Consider the following statements:

- 1. The Governor may make regulations for the peace and good government of any area in a State which is for the time being a Scheduled Area.

2. Tribes Advisory Council would be established in states under the provisions of the Sixth Schedule.

3. The President make rules prescribing or regulating, appointment of the Chairman of the Tribes Advisory Council.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

28. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: In a parliamentary democracy like India, Civil servants are directly controlled by Parliament.

Statement II: The various terms and conditions governing the method of recruitment and tenure of office in regard to civil servants have to be approved by Parliament.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation for Statement I.
- (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
- (c) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
- (d) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

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29. Consider the following statements:

1. Parliament can confer by law functions on authorities other than the President.
2. President determines the qualifications and manner of selection of members for appointment to the Finance Commission.
3. Subject to the provisions of any law made by Parliament, the President may by order declare any State not to be a "foreign State."

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

30. Parliament has exclusive power to make laws on which of the following subjects?

- (a) Public health and sanitation
- (b) Relief of the disabled and unemployable
- (c) Local government
- (d) Audit of the accounts of the Union and of the States

31. Consider the following statements:

1. Unequal distribution of matter and energy forms the base for the development of galaxies.
2. A galaxy starts to form by the accumulation of hydrogen gas in the form of a very large cloud called nebula.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

32. Which of the following is the most explosive of the earth's volcanoes?

- (a) Mid-Ocean Ridge Volcanoes
- (b) Caldera
- (c) Shield Volcanoes
- (d) Composite Volcanoes

33. Consider the following pairs:

<u>Passes</u>	<u>States</u>
1. Shipki La	: Himachal Pradesh
2. Lipu Lek	: Sikkim
3. Dihang	: Arunachal Pradesh

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair
- (b) Only two pairs
- (c) All three pairs
- (d) None

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34. Consider the following statements:

1. The Aravali range runs through Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana and Delhi.

2. Pipli Ghat pass is an important pass located in the Vindhya Range.

3. Dhupgarh is the highest peak of the Satpura Range.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 1 and 3 only

(c) 2 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

35. Consider the following pairs:

Waterfalls

Rivers

1. Yenna : Tapi

2. Shivasamudram : Narmada

3. Dhuandhar : Krishna

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

(a) Only one pair

(b) Only two pairs

(c) All three pairs

(d) None

36. The sudden onset of the southwest monsoon during October-November is attributed to:

(a) Westerly Jet Stream

(b) Easterly Jet Stream

(c) El Nino

(d) La Nina

37. "The trees are low and widely scattered, euphorbias are conspicuous and Indian wild date is common." The above description refers to which of the following forests?

(a) Tropical Moist Deciduous

(b) Tropical Dry Deciduous

(c) Himalayan Dry Temperate

(d) Tropical Thorn

38. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The continental interiors experience warmer summers, colder winters, and a greater range of temperatures as compared with maritime districts.

Statement II: The specific heat of land is one-third that of water.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct. and Statement II is the correct explanation for Statement I

(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I

(c) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect

(d) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

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39. Which type of rock is extremely hard and resistant and for this reason they are quarried for road making?

- (a) Mechanically formed Sedimentary rocks
- (b) Chemically formed Sedimentary rocks
- (c) Igneous rocks
- (d) Metamorphic rocks

40. Consider the following statements:

1. Five Indian states and one Union Territory share a boundary with China.
2. The Sino-Indian border separates Ladakh of India from the Zhejiang province of China.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

41. Captagon which has been in the news recently and captured international attention is a:

- (a) Cancer treatment drug
- (b) Narcotic substance
- (c) Anti malarial drug
- (d) Invasive weed

42. Consider the following statements:

1. Quantum computing comprises aspects of physics and solves complex problems faster than classical computers.
2. The United Nations proclaimed 2024 as the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology (IYQ).

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

43. Consider the following statements:

1. Polygenic editing technology is available only through in vitro fertilisation.
2. A gene variant that is a risk factor for one disease could offer protection against another.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

44. AlphaFold2 in the news is associated with which of the following:

- (a) Space research
- (b) Nanotechnology
- (c) Biology and medicine
- (d) Defence

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45. *Ideonella sakaiensis* 201-F6, a bacterium identified recently is associated with:

- (a) Cancer treatment
- (b) Food fortification
- (c) Plastic treatment
- (d) Wastewater treatment

46. Consider the following statements regarding Polyphenols:

1. Polyphenols chemicals do not naturally occur in plants.
2. Polyphenols have the potential to combat neurodegenerative diseases.
3. Gut microbes turn polyphenols into smaller, more absorbable metabolites.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

47. Which of the following are categorised as fungi?

1. Molds
2. Yeasts
3. Mushrooms
4. Polypores
5. Plant parasitic rusts

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only

(d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

48. Consider the following statements:

1. AKASH is a Short Range Surface to Air Missile system to protect vulnerable areas and vulnerable points from air attacks.
2. Astra Beyond-Visual-Range Air to Air Missile is capable of engaging and destroying highly manoeuvring and supersonic speed air targets up to range of 1000 km.
3. Agni-5 is capable of striking targets at ranges up to 5,000 kilometres with a very high degree of accuracy.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

49. Consider the following statements with respect to India's three-stage nuclear power program:

1. The first stage comprises of Fast Breeder Reactors (FBRs) fuelled by mixed oxide of Uranium²³⁸ and Plutonium²³⁹.
2. The second stage comprises of Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors fuelled by natural uranium.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

50. The term Spaghettification is associated with:

- (a) Black holes
- (b) International space station
- (c) Space Debris
- (d) Exoplanet

51. Consider the following statements regarding air pollution:

1. Around 99% of the global population currently breathes air that exceeds WHO-recommended limits.
2. Low and middle-income countries are the most exposed to pollution compared to high-income countries.
3. PM10 is more likely to travel into and deposit on the surface of the deeper parts of the lung.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

52. Which of the following countries is the largest producer of nickel used in the production of Electric Vehicles?

- (a) Indonesia
- (b) Russia
- (c) China
- (d) Philippines

53. The characteristic of which of the following biome is that- “many tree seedlings and saplings remain in a suppressed state from year to year”?

- (a) Tropical Rainforest
- (b) Temperate Grassland
- (c) Savannah
- (d) Temperate Forest

54. Consider the following statements regarding Amazon:

1. Amazon is the world's largest river in terms of watershed area and water flow.
2. The Amazon basin includes Uruguay and Argentina.
3. Black squirrel monkeys are endemic to the Amazon rain forest.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

55. Consider the following statements with respect to the lemurs:

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1. Lemurs are found only in the Congo Basin.

2. Lemurs are strictly frugivores.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

56. Consider the following statements regarding parasites:

- 1. Parasites consume only part of each prey item.
- 2. Parasites don't usually kill the prey.
- 3. They attack one or very few prey items in the course of their life.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

57. Consider the following statements regarding IPCC:

- 1. It is created by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
- 2. The Emission Gap Report is published annually by IPCC.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

58. Consider the following statements regarding dengue:

- 1. Dengue is a bacterial infection transmitted to humans through the bite of infected mosquitoes.
- 2. Dengue is found in tropical and sub-tropical climates worldwide.
- 3. There is no specific treatment for dengue/severe dengue and it is non-fatal.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

59. The principle of Common But Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR) is enshrined as a basic principle of:

- (a) United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- (b) United Nations Environment Programme
- (c) The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

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(d) World Meteorological Organization

(a) 1 and 2 only

60. Consider the following statements

(b) 1 and 3 only

regarding the Green Climate Fund (GCF):

(c) 1, 2 and 3 only

1. GCF was established under the Cancún Agreements as a dedicated financing vehicle for developed and developing countries within the global climate architecture.

(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

2. It serves as the Financial Mechanism of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement.

63. The Atlantic Charter 2025 is associated with which of the following?

(a) Trade

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

(b) Food Security

(c) Climate Change

(a) 1 only

(d) Defence

(b) 2 only

64. The Camp David Accords established a framework for a historic peace treaty was concluded between:

(c) Both 1 and 2

(a) Israel and Egypt

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

(b) Israel and Palestine

61. Which of the following South American countries is in a deep political and economic crisis:

(c) Israel and Lebanon

(a) Venezuela

(d) Israel and Jordan

(b) Peru

65. Consider the following statements:

(c) Brazil

1. Lake Superior is located in North America on the border between the United States and Mexico.

(d) Colombia

2. Lake Baikal contains 20% of the world's fresh surface water.

62. Which of the following countries are Caspian littoral states?

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

1. Republic of Azerbaijan

(a) 1 only

2. Republic of Kazakhstan

(b) 2 only

3. Islamic Republic of Iran

4. Ukraine

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(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

66. Consider the following statements regarding the National Agriculture Insurance Scheme (NAIS):

1. The scheme covers standing crop losses but not post-harvest losses.

2. There is coverage for food crops, oilseeds, and selected commercial/horticultural crops.

3. The scheme promotes the stability of farm incomes and encourages farmers to adopt modern agricultural practices.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 1 and 3 only

(c) 2 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2, and 3

67. Consider the following statements:

1. The political and cultural unity of India was attained during the reign of Ashoka.

2. The use of monumental stone sculpture can be dated to the period of the Indus Valley Civilisation.

3. Of all the Ashokan inscriptions, the Major Rock Edicts are considered the earliest inscription.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 2 only

(b) 1 and 3 only

(c) 1 and 2 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

68. Consider the following statements with respect to the Emergency Session:

1. The procedure for summoning Lok Sabha for an emergency session is generally the same as for a regular session.

2. If the session is summoned at short notice and there is no time to issue the regular summons, members may be informed through Press and Electronic Media

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

69. Consider the following statements:

1. In summer, the Sun's rays spread over a great area, increasing the temperature.

2. In winter, much of the heat of the rays of the sun is absorbed by atmospheric impurities and water vapour.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

70. Consider the following statements regarding Gangetic dolphin:

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1. Females are larger than males.
2. The gestation period is 9-11 months and a female gives birth to only one calf, once

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

71. Which of the following Vijayanagara kings wrote a book in Telugu called "Amuktamalyada"?

- (a) Achyanta Raya
- (b) Sadasiva Raya
- (c) Virupaksha
- (d) Krishnadeva Raya

72. Under which of the following Acts the Governor-General was also given the title Viceroy?

- (a) Government of India Act, 1858
- (b) Indian Council Act, 1861
- (c) Government of India Act, 1919
- (d) Government of India Act, 1935

73. Consider the following statements with respect to the non-cooperation movement:

1. The goal of the Congress was attainment of self-government by constitutional and legal means.

2. Many groups of revolutionary terrorists also pledged support to the movement.

3. The most successful item of the programme was the boycott of foreign clothes.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

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

74. Arrange the following tribal and peasant movements in Indian History chronologically:

1. Indigo Revolt
2. Santhal Rebellion
3. Revolt of Birsa Munda

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

75. Consider the following statements with respect to the Swadeshi movement:

Statement I: The Swadeshi Movement was able to draw for the first time large sections of society into the ambit of modern political ideas.

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Statement II: During the Swadeshi movement the use of traditional popular customs and festivals was misinterpreted and distorted by communalists.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation for Statement I.

(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.

(c) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.

(d) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

76. Consider the following statements with respect to Sikhism:

1. The Adi Granth or "The First Sacred Book" was compiled by the fifth guru Arjan Mal.

2. The autobiography Bichitra Natak was written by Guru Amardas.

3. The Dal Khalsa or the army of the theocracy of the Singhs was organised by Banda Bahadur.

How many of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) Only one

(b) Only two

(c) All three

(d) None

77. Consider the following statements with respect to devaluation:

1. Devaluation of currency certainly improves the position of the Balance of Trade.

2. Devaluation may lead to expansion in the output of goods, rise in prices or both.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

78. Which of the following are the advantages of the fixed exchange rate system?

1. Exchange rate stability

2. Serves as an anchor against inflation

3. Promotes capital outflow

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 1 and 3 only

(c) 2 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

79. Which of the following organisations was founded based on comparative costs?

(a) World Trade Organisation

(b) World Bank

(c) International Monetary Fund

(d) United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

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80. Which of the following countries recently joined the IMF?

- (a) Cuba
- (b) Monaco
- (c) North Korea
- (d) Liechtenstein

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

81. Which of the following are included in calculating the cost of production for determining MSP?

1. Hired human labour, bullock labour/machine labour.
2. Material inputs like seeds, fertilisers, manures
3. Depreciation on implements and farm buildings
4. Imputed value of family labour
5. Rent paid for leased in land

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

83. Consider the following statements:

1. Normally, bills seeking to amend the Constitution brought forward by Ministers are introduced in the Lok Sabha.
2. States in India don't have any role in regard to the amendment of the Constitution.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

82. Consider the following statements regarding food grain production in India.:

1. Food grain Production in India has continuously increased in recent years.
2. Pulses Production in India has continuously decreased in recent years.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only

84. Consider the following statements:

1. Under the Constitution, the Speaker exercises only a casting vote in the case of equality of votes.
2. The Speaker does not take any part in the deliberations of the House except in the discharge of his duties as the Presiding Officer.
3. An appeal lies to the Speaker against a ruling given by the Deputy Speaker or any other person presiding over a sitting of the House in the absence of the Speaker.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only

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(b) 1 and 3 only

(c) 2 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

85. Consider the following statements:

1. The judiciary can question the validity of any proceedings of Parliament on the grounds of any alleged irregularity of procedure.

2. Judicial conduct of a Judge of the Supreme Court or of a High Court cannot be discussed on the floor of the House in any debate.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

86. Consider the following statements:

1. While appointing a Judge of the Supreme Court, the choice of the President is limited to Judges of High Courts who have held that office for at least five years.

2. There is no ban on the re-employment of retired Judges of the Supreme Court or a High Court

3. Under the Constitution, the number of Judges of the Supreme Court, other than the Chief Justice has been limited to 'not more than seven'.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 1 and 3 only

(c) 2 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

87. Termination of a session of the House by an order made by the President under article 85(2) is called as:

(a) Prorogation

(b) Dissolution

(c) Adjournment sine die

(d) None

88. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: India, that is Bharat, shall be a union of states.

Statement II: States are the regional administrative units into which the country has been divided.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation for Statement I

(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I

(c) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect

(d) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct

89. Consider the following statements with respect to the Chilika lake:

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1. It is considered to be the second-largest lagoon in India.

(b) Mahi

2. It is spread across two districts in the state of Odisha.

(c) Tapi

(d) Narmada

3. The Nalaban Island within the lake is notified as a Bird Sanctuary.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

(a) 2 and 3 only

(b) 1 and 2 only

(c) 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

90. Consider the following statement with respect to Mahua:

1. The Mahua tree is endemic to India.

2. Its oil is used by tribals as vegetable butter.

3. It serves as an important fuel oil, hence a good source of biodiesel.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

(a) 3 only

(b) 1 and 2 only

(c) 2 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

91. Which of the following rivers originate from Multai on the Satpura Ranges?

(a) Sabarmati

92. Which of the following are the bordering countries of the Mediterranean Sea?

1. Albania

2. Algeria

3. Cyprus

4. Jordan

5. Andorra

How many of the given above is/are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 4 only

(b) 1, 2 and 3 only

(c) 1, 4 and 5 only

(d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

93. Consider the following pairs:

Deserts

Countries

1. Dasht-e- Margo : Iran

2. Dasht-e- kavir : Afghanistan

3. Tanami desert : China

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

(a) Only one pair

(b) Only two pairs

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(c) All three pairs

(d) None

94. Consider the following statements with respect to Kanchenjunga:

1. Kanchenjunga is part of the lesser Himalayas.

2. It contains the widest and most extensive zone of Krummholz.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

95. The largest source of anthropogenic methane emissions is:

(a) Wetlands

(b) Agriculture

(c) Energy

(d) Biomass burning

96. The species *Acanthus volubilis* wall, *cyonometra iripa* Kostel found in India are:

(a) Insectivorous plants

(b) Mangroves

(c) Invasive plants

(d) Ornamental plants

97. Consider the following statements regarding wetlands:

1. Khijadia Wildlife Sanctuary is a brackish water wetland near the coast of the Gulf of Kutch in Gujarat.

2. Tampara Lake in the Ganjam District of Orissa is connected to the Rushikulya river.

3. Nanda Lake in Goa comprises intermittent freshwater marshes that lie adjacent to one of the major tributaries of the Zuari River.

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 1 and 3 only

(c) 2 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

98. Consider the following statements:

1. The Thar Desert or the Great Indian Desert is a large, arid region in the north-western part of the Indian subcontinent and is the world's 7th largest desert.

2. In India, the Thar Desert covers Rajasthan, Gujarat, Punjab, and Haryana.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

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99. Ratapani Tiger Reserve which was declared the 57th Tiger Reserve of the country, is located in:

- (a) Chattisgarh
- (b) Rajasthan
- (c) Madhya Pradesh
- (d) Maharashtra

100. Consider the following statements regarding National Park:

1. Human activity is permitted inside the national park.
2. No person shall destroy, exploit or remove any Wild Life including forest produce from a National Park.
3. Grazing of livestock shall be permitted in a National Park.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

1. Ans: d

Explanation:

Indo-European languages- **Hindi, Bengali, Marathi, Urdu, Gujarati, Oriya, Punjabi, Assamese, Others.**

Dravidian languages- **Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam.**

Hence, option d is correct.

2. Ans: b

Explanation:

There are two kinds of Sangam poems- **akam** and **puram**. Akam poems had **love as their theme, while puram poems were mostly about war**. Puram poetry were 'public poetry' dealing with **all kinds of themes other than love, such as good and evil, community and kingdom.**

Hence, statement 1 is correct.

The anthologies include a total of 2,381 poems ascribed to 473 poets, **30 of whom were women.**

Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

The poets came from cities and villages and had varied social and professional backgrounds. They included teachers, merchants, carpenters, astrologers, goldsmiths, blacksmiths, soldiers, ministers, and kings. Due to their varied themes and authorship, Sangam poems offer a good idea of everyday life in the time when they were composed.

Hence, statement 3 is correct.

3. Ans: c

Explanation:

Early medieval Tamil literature includes the devotional poetry of the **Vaishnava saints (Alvars) and Shaiva saints (Nayanars or Nayanmars).**

Vaishnava poetry started with the compositions of **Peyalvar, Puttalvar and Poikaialvar**. In the 10th century, Nathamuni collected the Alvars hymns into the canon known as the **Nalayira Divya Prabandham**. The Alvarvaipavam is a sacred biography of the Vaishnava saints.

Shaiva devotional literature began with the compositions of **Tirumular and Karaikal Ammaiyar**. The hymns of the Nayanmar saints were compiled in the 10th century by

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Nambi Andar Nambi and this compilation formed the core of the Shaiva canon, the **Tirumurai**. Nambi also wrote a work called the Tiruttondar Tiruvantati about the saints. In the 12th century, the accounts of the Shaiva saints were collected in a text called the **Periyapuramam**. All these texts, written by Sekkilhar, provide valuable insights into the religious and social history of early medieval South India.

Hence, option c is correct.

4. Ans: b

Explanation:

In Rig Veda there are references to various agricultural implements:

Plough- phala, langala, sira

Hoe- khanitra

Sickle- datrasrini

Axe- Parashu, kulisha

Hence, option b is correct.

5. Ans: a

Explanation:

The Uttarapatha was the major trans-regional trade route of northern India. **It stretched from the north-west, across the Indo-Gangetic plains, up to the port of Tamralipti on the Bay of Bengal. The Uttarapatha was a land-cum-river route.** Buddhist texts refer to the riverine movement of traders and goods along the Ganga.

Hence, statement 1 is correct.

The **Dakshinapatha- the great southern trade route-** is mentioned in the Arthashastra, but was operational from the early historical period. **It stretched from Pataliputra in Magadha to Pratishthana on the Godavari** and was also connected to ports on the western coast. Swarnagiri was the capital of the southern province of the Mauryan Empire under Emperor Ashoka, located in Karnataka.

Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

6. Ans: a

Explanation:

The Ajivika sect was founded by Makkhali Gosala. Others associated with the Ajivika sect were- Purana Kassapa and Pakudha Kachchayana.

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A central Ajivika idea was that of niyati (fate), the principle that ultimately determined and controlled everything. Human effort was of no consequence in the strictly deterministic doctrine. **Karma and transmigration existed, but human effort played no role in it, as the paths of souls over thousands of years had already been mapped out.** The Ajivikas had regular places (known as sabhas) where meetings were held and important ceremonies performed.

Hence, statement 1 is correct & statement 2 is incorrect.

The Ajivikas practised severe asceticism, often eating very little food. They practised ahimsa (non-injury, non-violence). **They did not practice discrimination on the basis of caste or class.**

Inscriptions indicate that the Barabar rock cut caves were dedicated to Ajivika monks by Ashoka. The caves at Nagarjuni Hills were dedicated to Ajivikas by Ashoka's grandson, Dasharatha Maurya.

Hence, statement 3 is incorrect.

7. Ans: c

Explanation:

According to Arthashastra, an ancient Indian text, urban taxes included shulka- duties on imported and exported goods and excise duty on local manufacturers. Taxes were realised in cash and kind. Land laid waste by the enemy or foresters or afflicted with disease or famine were exempted from taxes. **Kautilya describes forests, pastures and mines as state property. Mines under an officer called the akaradhyaksha were considered important.**

Hence, statement 1 is correct.

Arthashastra also **advocates tax-free and hereditary grants of land to Brahmanas and priests** such as the ritvig, acharya and purohita.

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

The Kautilyan state had landed estates and employed workers and sharecroppers to till the land. **The Arthashastra mentions shunyanivesha- establishing settlements on unoccupied land- as an important state activity.**

Hence, statement 3 is correct.

8. Ans: a

Explanation:

The Gupta empire was divided into **provinces known as deshas or bhuktis**, administered by governors who were usually designated as uparikas.

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The provinces of the Gupta empire were divided into **districts known as vishayas**, under officers known as vishayapatis who were generally appointed by the provincial governor.

Administrative units below the district level included clusters of settlements known variously as **vithi, patta, bhumi, pathaka and petha**.

Hence, option a is correct.

9. Ans: c

Explanation:

There was a privileged class in Muslim Society consisting of Umara or the nobility and the Ulama or the theologians together with other religious groups. **The nobles (Ahl-i-Suyuf or “men of the sword”) were mostly of foreign origin.**

The nobles of the second grade were given the title of Malik and those of the third grade were designated as Amir. The term Amir was also used in a generic sense to indicate all the holders of important military and civil posts. **Military officers of lower ranks were called Sarkhails and Sipahsalar**s but they were not recognised as nobles.

The Ahl-i-Qalam or “Men of the Pen” formed the second privileged class. The term Ulama covered various groups such as theologians, ascetics, Sayyids, Pirs and their descendants. They did not belong to the nobility but they enjoyed wealth and influence in varying degrees. **Theologians were collectively known as Dastar-Bandan.**

Hence, option c is correct.

10. Ans: b

Explanation:

Kabir believed in one God. He rejected both the Vedas and Quran and the supremacy of the Brahmans and Mullas. He preached against the meaningless formalities and rituals of Hinduism and the rites and practices of Islam. He was opposed to caste and image worship. He criticised the Muslim form of prayer, the fasts of Ramzan and the reverence of tombs and graves.

He emphasised the unity of God and path of love, devotion and Bhakti. Like his Guru, Ramananda, he preached in Hindi. His poems, particularly Dohas, had a great appeal for the common people. According to him, Ram and Rahim, Krishna and Karim, Mecca and Kashi were the expressions of the same God.

Kabir was the author of a large number of poems which contain his teachings. **The most important of his works are the Bijak, Sabads, Sakhis, Mangal, Basant, Holi, Rekhtal etc.**

Hence, option b is correct.

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11. Ans: d

Explanation:

In **developed countries**, unemployment is cyclical. It is because of **deficiency of effective demand** that is, the total effective demand of the community is not sufficient to absorb the entire production of goods that can be produced with the available stock of capital.

Unemployment in developing countries is structural. It arises because effective demand had never been great enough and due to lack of land, capital and other complementary services in relation to the total population and labour force.

Hence, option d is correct.

12. Ans: b

Explanation:

In India a new technique of monetary policy has been designed to secure larger resources from the banking system for financing public investment. This technique has been described as Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR).

According to this, in addition to cash reserved requirements banks in India are required to keep a minimum proportion of their total demand and time deposits in the form of specified liquid assets. The most important specified liquid asset for this purpose is the investment in Government and other securities, which in turn will boost public investment.

Hence, option b is correct.

13. Ans: a

Explanation:

The relationship between money supply and high-powered money is determined by the money multiplier. The money multiplier, which we denote by ***m***, is the ratio of total money supply (***M***) to the stock of high-powered money (***H***), that is, **$m = M/H$** .

Money Supply (M): By money supply we mean the **total stock of monetary media of exchange available to a society** for use in connection with the economic activity of the country. According to the standard concept of money supply, it is composed of the following two elements:

- **Currency with the public,**
- **Demand deposits with the public**

High-Powered Money (H): The high-powered money which we denote by **H** consists of the **currency (notes and coins) issued by the Government and the Reserve Bank of India.**

Hence, option a is correct.

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14. Ans: d

Explanation:

Demand-pull inflation generally occurs **when the economy is already working at a full-employment** level of resources or what is now generally called **when there is a natural rate of unemployment**. This is because if aggregate demand increases beyond the full-employment level of output, the output of goods cannot be increased adequately without much increase in cost.

In developing countries such as India, there are difficulties of measuring employment, unemployment and full employment. Therefore, in the Indian context, instead of a full-employment level of output, we use the **full-capacity output of the economy** beyond which the supply of output cannot be generally increased.

Hence, option d is correct.

15. Ans: a

Explanation:

Public debt is classified into internal and external debt.

Internal debt consists of marketable debt and non-marketable debt.

Marketable debt comprises of Government dated securities and Treasury Bills, issued through auctions.

Non-marketable debt comprises of Intermediate Treasury Bills (14 days ITBs) issued to State Governments/UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Puducherry as well as select Central Banks, special securities issued against small savings, **special securities issued to public sector banks/EXIM Bank, securities issued to international financial institutions**, and compensation and other bonds. Other liabilities include liabilities on account of State Provident Funds, Reserve Funds and Deposits, Other Accounts, etc.

External debt is financed by multilateral institutions and bilateral sources.

External debt is financed by multilateral institutions (69.7 per cent of total external debt), while bilateral sources account for the remaining 30.3 per cent. Loans from multilateral institutions are long-term and largely on concessional terms, further lowering the risk from external borrowings of the Central Government.

Hence, option a is correct.

16. Ans: c

Explanation:

Government bodies regulating FDI

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FDI in India are subject to regulation and oversight by various government bodies, such as

- **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)**- DPIIT formulates and implements policies to promote and regulate foreign investment in India across sectors.
- **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**- RBI manages the monetary aspects of foreign investments in India.
- **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)**- SEBI regulates FDI in the capital market.

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) organisation is an attached office of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and is headed by the Director General of Foreign Trade. Right from its inception till 1991, when liberalisation in the economic policies of the Government took place, this organisation has been essentially involved in the regulation and promotion of foreign trade through regulation. Keeping in line with liberalisation and globalisation and the overall objective of increasing exports, DGFT has since been assigned the role of "facilitator".

Hence, option c is correct.

17. Ans: a

Explanation:

American Depository Receipt (ADRs):

- **An American Depository Receipt (ADR) is a negotiable receipt** which represents one or more depository shares held by a US custodian bank, which in turn represent underlying shares of non-US issuer held by a custodian in the home country.

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

ADR is an attractive investment to US investors willing to invest in securities of non-US issuers for the following reasons:

- **ADRs provide a means to US investors to trade the non-US company's shares in US dollars.**
- ADR is a negotiable receipt (which represents the non-US share) issued in the US capital market and is traded in dollars.
- The trading in ADR effectively means trading in underlying shares.
- ADRs facilitate share transfers. ADRs are negotiable and can be easily transferred among the investors like any other negotiable instrument. The transfer of ADRs automatically transfers the underlying share.
- The transfer of ADRs does not involve any stamp duty and hence, the transfer of underlying shares does not require any stamp duty.
- **The dividends are paid to the holders of ADRs in U.S. dollars.**

A non-U.S. issuer has to work with its US investment bankers, US depository bank, US and non-US legal counsel and independent accountant to prepare the registration documents and offering materials.

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The listing of such an issue is done on the NYSE or AMEX to enable trading. Quotations on NASDAQ can also be used for trading purposes. Any requirement with respect to Blue Sky Law, if not exempted, has to be fulfilled.

Hence, statement 2 is incorrect & statement 3 is correct.

18. Ans: a

Explanation:

Interest Rate Swaps

A swap is a contractual agreement between two parties to exchange, or "swap," future payment streams based on differences in the returns to different securities or changes in the price of some underlying item.

Interest rate swaps constitute the most common type of swap agreement.

In an interest rate swap, the parties to the agreement, termed the swap counterparties, agree to exchange payments indexed to two different interest rates.

Total payments are determined by the specified notional principal amount of the swap, which is never actually exchanged.

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

Financial intermediaries, such as banks, pension funds, and insurance companies, as well as non-financial firms use interest rate swaps to effectively change the maturity of outstanding debt or that of an interest-bearing asset.

Swaps grew out of parallel loan agreements in which firms exchanged loans denominated in different currencies. The first widely publicised swap took place in 1981 when IBM and the World Bank agreed to exchange interest payments on debt denominated in different currencies, an arrangement known as a currency swap.

Hence, statement 1 is correct & statement 2 explains statement 1.

19. Ans: c

Explanation:

Representation of Balance of Payments

Current account

- Merchandise
- **Invisibles**

Capital Account

- Foreign Investment
- **External assistance, net**
- **Commercial borrowings, net**
- Rupee debt service
- **NRI deposits, net**

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Hence, option c is correct.

20. Ans: a

Explanation:

Fiscal consolidation means raising more resources and reducing non-essential expenditure by the government so as to reduce fiscal deficit to a reasonable level.

Measures to reduce public expenditure

- A drastic **reduction in expenditure on major subsidies** such as food, fertilisers and petroleum products is required to curtail public expenditure.
- Another measure to cut public expenditure is to **reduce interest payments on past debt**. Funds raised through disinvestment in the public sector should be used to retire a part of old public debt rather than financing current expenditures.
- **Budgetary support to public sector enterprises other than infrastructure projects should be reduced.**
- **Austerity measures should be adopted to curtail non-plan expenditure** in all government departments.

Hence, option a is correct.

21. Ans: b

Explanation:

By the **42nd Constitution (Amendment) Act, secularism and socialism were brought in the Preamble of the Constitution** to realise that in a democracy unless all sections are provided facilities and opportunities to participate in political democracy irrespective of caste, religion and sex, political democracy would not last long.

The State in a free society, has to refrain from interfering with matters which are religious, that is, non-secular. However, State interference is justified on the grounds of public interest and the general good.

The Supreme Court has observed, **“The Constitution through its Preamble, Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles created a secular state based on the principle of equality and non-discrimination**, striking a balance between the rights of the individuals and the duty and commitment of the State to establish an egalitarian social order.

Hence, option b is correct.

22. Ans: d

Explanation:

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Intra-Fundamental Rights and Inter-Fundamental Rights conflicts between the parties

When there is a conflict between two parties in respect of the same fundamental right- for example, the right to a fair trial of an accused and the “paramount collective interest” of the victim/community- the balancing test is to **give primacy to public interest over individual interest.**

On the other hand, in the conflict between the petitioner and the State in respect of two different Fundamental Rights-for example, the right to privacy of the petitioner and the right to confidentiality of the State, the balancing test is either reasonableness of restrictions or proportionality.

Hence, option d is correct.

23. Ans: b

Explanation:

A writ of Certiorari can be issued to judicial or quasi-judicial bodies on the grounds of want of jurisdiction or excess of jurisdiction or failure to exercise jurisdiction, violation of procedure or disregard of the principles of natural justice and error of law apparent on the face of the record. It would be issued where a court or tribunal has exercised a power which either it does not possess or has exceeded or failed to exercise the jurisdiction which it does possess.

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

A writ of certiorari is also issued if there is a violation of the principles of natural justice. The concept of natural justice is a flexible one and its content depends upon the nature of the authority concerned.

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

24. Ans: b

Explanation:

Upon the recommendation of the Swaran Singh Committee, Part IV-A, dealing with Fundamental Duties was added to the Constitution by the 42nd Amendment in 1976. Article 51-A of the Constitution enumerates the Fundamental duties of the citizens of India.

Fundamental Duties are addressed to the citizen but without any legal sanctions for their violation. Fundamental Duties are extremely general and vague in scope and lay down what is normal human behaviour.

Hence, statement 1 is correct.

To sum up, though Fundamental duties are directed at the inclusion of normal civic behaviour, it would be erroneous to jump to the conclusion that they are correlative of Fundamental Rights under Part III. **However, to foster the principles of transformative constitutionalism and constitutional morality, their value is immense.**

Hence, statement 2 is correct, but statement 2 doesn't explain statement 1.

25. Ans: d

Explanation:

The word authority is derived from the old Roman notion of "Auctor" or "Auctoritas" which generally meant counsel or advice. The term authority is essential to indicate the people who are considered to have the right to make pronouncements or announce decisions.

Authority has a double implication. **It implies not only that someone with the capacity for reasoned elaboration has the right to issue regulations and make final pronouncements. It also implies that someone has the right to receive obedience.**

Hence, statements 1 & 2 are correct.

The view of Peters is that the concept of **authority is "incompatible with science and morality."** This is due to the fact that science proceeds by its own logic while morality depends on inner conviction. In both cases, authority is out of place.

Hence, statement 3 is correct.

26. Ans: b

Explanation:

State and Government

Rousseau made a distinction between the state and government. According to him, a state denotes the community as a whole created by the social contract and manifesting itself in the supreme general will, while a Government denotes merely the individual or group of individuals that is designated by the community to carry into effect the sovereign will.

The government is an intermediary between the sovereign state and the subjects. **It is a subordinate agency through which the sovereign people express their will and realise it.** No form of government is ideal. **An individual can resist the government but not the state.**

Hence, statements 1 & 3 are correct.

The social contract creates not the government but the state which is sovereign. The government is created by a decree of the sovereign to serve as a means of complying with

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the general will. It is an agent of the sovereign who can change it. **The government does not make laws but merely administers them.**

Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

27. Ans: b

Explanation:

FIFTH SCHEDULE- Provisions as to the Administration and Control of Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes.

The Governor of each State having Scheduled Areas therein shall annually, or whenever so required by the President, make a report to the President regarding the administration of the Scheduled Areas in that State and the executive power of the Union shall extend to the giving of directions to the State as to the administration of the said areas.

Hence, statement 1 is correct.

Tribes Advisory Council— There shall be established in each State having Scheduled Areas therein and, if the President so directs, also in any State having Scheduled Tribes but not Scheduled Areas therein, a Tribes Advisory Council consisting of not more than twenty members of whom, as nearly as may be, three-fourths shall be the representatives of the Scheduled Tribes in the Legislative Assembly of the State.

Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

The Governor may make rules prescribing or regulating, as the case may be,— (a) the number of members of the Council, the mode of their appointment and the appointment of the Chairman of the Council and of the officers and servants thereof

Hence, statement 3 is incorrect.

28. Ans: d

Explanation:

Fundamentally, the relationship between the Civil Service and the Parliament is through the agency of the Minister. **So far as the direct parliamentary control over the civil servants is concerned, there cannot be any; it is only through the Minister, who acts as a buffer between them.** Parliament does not interfere with the Executive in day-to-day matters. But, the omissions or commissions of civil servants have to be justified before the Parliament.

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

Parliament, which is concerned with the welfare and well-being of the people, also takes interest in the welfare of the civil servants as a whole. **The various terms and conditions**

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governing the method of recruitment and tenure of office in regard to civil servants have to be approved by Parliament.

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

29. Ans: b

Explanation:

Limitations on the Powers of the President

The Constitution has also placed the following limitations on the powers of the President by granting certain overriding functions to Parliament:

Parliament can confer by law functions on authorities other than the President.
[Article 53(3)(b)]

Hence, statement 1 is correct.

The President cannot return a Money Bill for reconsideration of the Houses. [Article 111]

The President cannot withhold his assent to a Constitution Amendment Bill or to a Bill earlier returned by him to the Houses with a message requesting them to reconsider the Bill, if the Bill is passed again by the Houses with or without amendment and presented to him for assent. [Article 368(2) and Article 111]

Parliament can by a law, determine the qualifications and manner of selection of members for appointment to the Finance Commission, which, under the Constitution, is constituted by the President. [Article 280(1) and (2)]

Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

Subject to the provisions of any law made by Parliament, the President may by order declare any State not to be a “foreign State” for such purposes as may be specified in the order. [Article 367(3)]

Hence, statement 3 is correct.

30. Ans: d

Explanation:

Article 246. Subject-matter of laws made by Parliament and by the Legislatures of States.—

(1) Parliament has exclusive power to make laws with respect to any of the matters enumerated in List I in the Seventh Schedule (in this Constitution referred to as the “**Union List**”).

(2) Notwithstanding anything in clause (3), Parliament, and subject to clause (1), the Legislature of any State also have power to make laws with respect to any of the matters

enumerated in List III in the Seventh Schedule (in this Constitution referred to as the **“Concurrent List”**).

(3) Subject to clauses (1) and (2), the Legislature of any State has exclusive power to make laws for such State or any part thereof with respect to any of the matters enumerated in List II in the Seventh Schedule (in this Constitution referred to as the **“State List”**).

Audit of the accounts of the Union and of the States is under the Union List, the remaining are under the State List.

Hence, option d is correct.

31. Ans: c

Explanation:

The Star Formation

The distribution of matter and energy was not even in the early universe. These initial density differences gave rise to differences in gravitational forces and it caused the matter to get drawn together. **These formed the bases for the development of galaxies.** A galaxy contains a large number of stars. Galaxies spread over vast distances that are measured in thousands of light-years. The diameters of individual galaxies range from 80,000-150,000 light years.

Hence, statement 1 is correct.

A galaxy starts to form by the accumulation of hydrogen gas in the form of a very large cloud called nebula. Eventually, the growing nebula develops localised clumps of gas. These clumps continue to grow into even denser gaseous bodies, giving rise to the formation of stars. The formation of stars is believed to have taken place some 5-6 billion years ago.

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

32. Ans: b

Explanation:

Volcanoes are classified on the basis of the nature of eruption and the form developed at the surface. Major types of volcanoes are as follows:

Shield Volcanoes: The shield volcanoes are the largest of all the volcanoes on the earth. The Hawaiian volcanoes are the most famous examples. These volcanoes are mostly made up of basalt, a type of lava that is very fluid when erupted. For this reason, these volcanoes are not steep. They become explosive if water somehow gets into the vent; otherwise, they are characterised by low-explosivity. The upcoming lava moves in the form of a fountain and throws out the cone at the top of the vent and develops into cinder cone.

Composite Volcanoes: These volcanoes are characterised by eruptions of cooler and more viscous lavas than basalt. These volcanoes often result in explosive eruptions. Along with lava, large quantities of pyroclastic material and ashes find their way to the ground. This material accumulates in the vicinity of the vent openings leading to the formation of layers, and this makes the mounts appear as composite volcanoes.

Caldera: These are the most explosive of the earth's volcanoes. They are usually so explosive that when they erupt they tend to collapse on themselves rather than building any tall structure. The collapsed depressions are called calderas. Their explosiveness indicates that the magma chamber supplying the lava is not only huge but is also in close vicinity.

Flood Basalt Provinces: These volcanoes outpour highly fluid lava that flows for long distances. Some parts of the world are covered by thousands of sq. km of thick basalt lava flows. There can be a series of flows with some flows attaining a thickness of more than 50 m. Individual flows may extend for hundreds of km. The Deccan Traps from India, presently covering most of the Maharashtra plateau, are a much larger flood basalt province. It is believed that initially the trap formations covered a much larger area than the present.

Mid-Ocean Ridge Volcanoes: These volcanoes occur in the oceanic areas. There is a system of mid-ocean ridges more than 70,000 km long that stretches through all the ocean basins. The central portion of this ridge experiences frequent eruptions.

Hence, option b is correct.

33. Ans: b

Explanation:

<u>Passes</u>	<u>States</u>
1. Shipki La	: Himachal Pradesh
2. Lipu Lekh	: Uttarakhand
3. Dihang	: Arunachal Pradesh

Shipki La: It is located at the Indo-China and provides a road connection between **Himachal Pradesh** and Tibet. River Satluj enters India near this pass.

Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.

Lipu Lekh: Situated near the trijunction of **Uttarakhand**, Tibet and Nepal borders, it provides a link between Uttarakhand and Tibet.

Hence, pair 2 is incorrectly matched.

Dihang Pass: Provides a passage between **Arunachal Pradesh** and Myanmar.

Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.

34. Ans: b

Explanation:

The Aravali Range

One of the major physiographic elements of Peninsular India is the Aravali Range running in a north-east to south-west direction for 800 km between **Delhi and Palanpur (near Ahmedabad) in Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana and Delhi.**

Guru Shikhar, the highest peak, is situated in Mt. Abu. Barr, Pipli Ghat, Dewair and Desuri passes allow movement by road and rail.

Hence, statement 1 is correct & statement 2 is incorrect.

The Satpura Range

‘Sat’ in Sanskrit means seven and ‘pura’ means mountains. Therefore, the Satpura Range is a series of seven mountains. It runs in an east-west direction south of the Vindhyas and in between the Narmada and the Tapi, roughly parallel to these rivers. Commencing from the Rajpipla Hills in the west, through Mahadev Hills to the Maikala Range, it stretches for a distance of about 900 km.

Dhupghar near Pachmarhi on Mahadev Hills is the highest peak. The other peaks are the Astamba, Dongar and Amarkanatak.

Hence, statement 3 is correct.

35. Ans: a

Explanation:

Waterfalls

Rivers

- | | | |
|------------------|---|---------|
| 1. Yenna | : | Narmada |
| 2. Shivasamudram | : | Kaveri |
| 3. Dhuandhar | : | Narmada |

The Indian Peninsula is traversed by a large number of rivers which have existed for a much longer period than the Himalayan rivers.

There are instances of superimposed and rejuvenated drainage represented by waterfalls.

The Jog on the Shravati, **Yenna of Mahabaleshwar on Narmada, Shivasamudram on the Cauveri, Gokak on the Gokak, Kapildhara and Dhuandhar on the Narmada are the major waterfalls in the Peninsular India.**

Hence, option a is correct.

36. Ans: b

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Explanation:

Easterly Jet Stream

The reversal in upper air circulation takes place in summer due to the apparent shift of the sun's vertical rays in the northern hemisphere. The westerly jet stream is replaced by the **easterly jet stream which owes its origin to the heating of the Tibetan plateau. This leads to the development of an easterly cold jet stream centred around 15° N latitude and blowing over peninsular India. This helps in the sudden onset of the south-west monsoons.**

Hence, option b is correct.

37. Ans: d

Explanation:

Tropical Thorn Forests

In areas of low rainfall (less than 75 cm), low humidity (less than 50 per cent) and high temperature (25°-30°C), there is not much scope for thick forests and only tropical thorn forests are found. **The trees are low (6 to 10 metres maximum) and widely scattered.** Acacias are very prominent, widely and pretty evenly spaced. **Euphorbias are also conspicuous. The Indian wild date is common,** especially in damper depressions. Some grasses also grow in the rainy season.

These forests are found in the north-western parts of the country including Rajasthan, south-western Punjab, western Haryana, Kachchh and neighbouring parts of Saurashtra. Here, they degenerate into desert type in the Thar desert. Such forests also grow on the leeward side of the Western Ghats covering large areas of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. The important species are khair, reunjha, neem, babul, thor, cactii, khejra, kanju, palas, ak, nirmali, dhaman, etc.

Hence, option d is correct.

38. Ans a

Explanation:

The fact that land surfaces require one-third of energy to raise the temperature of a given volume of land as compared to an equal volume of water, **accounts for the warmer summers, colder winters, and a greater range of temperature of continental interiors as compared with maritime districts.**

Hence, statement 1 is correct.

Land surfaces are heated more quickly than water surfaces, because of the higher specific heat of water. In other words, it requires only **one-third as much energy to raise the temperature of a given volume of land by 1°F, as it does for an equal volume of water.**

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

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39. Ans: c

Explanation:

Igneous Rocks

Igneous rocks are formed by the cooling and solidification of Molten rock (magma) from beneath the earth's crust. They are normally crystalline in structure. They do not occur in strata (layers) nor do they contain fossils.

Most Igneous rocks are extremely hard and resistant. For this reason, they are quarried for road-making and polished as monuments and gravestones.

Mechanically formed Sedimentary rock

These rocks have been formed from the accumulation of materials derived from other rocks which have been cemented together. For example: Sandstones are probably the most familiar sedimentary rocks. They are made from sand grains, often quartz fragments derived from granite.

Chemically formed sedimentary rocks

Such rocks are precipitated chemically from solutions of one kind or another. For example: Rock salts are derived from strata that once formed the beds of seas or lakes.

Metamorphic rocks

All rocks whether igneous or sedimentary may become metamorphic or changed rocks under great heat and pressure. For example: Clay may be metamorphosed into slate, limestone into marble, sandstone into quartzite, granite into gneiss, shale into schist, and coal into graphite.

Hence, option c is correct.

40. Ans: d

Explanation:

Four Indian states, namely Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, and Arunachal Pradesh, and one Union Territory of Ladakh touch the Indian boundary with China.

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

The 2,152 km long sector of the Sino-Indian border **separates the Union Territory of Ladakh of India from the Sinkiang province of China.** The Sinkiang province (now known as Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region) is located in the northwest of China. Zhejiang, a province in eastern China, encompasses a rural interior and urban centres along the East China Sea.

Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

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41. Ans: b

Explanation:

Since the fall of Bashar al-Assad's regime in Syria, opposition fighters who have taken control of Damascus have uncovered large stashes of **Captagon, a narcotic substance that has long been mass-produced in the country.**

Since the late 2010s, Assad's regime has been involved in the production and trafficking of Captagon, an amphetamine-type stimulant. Since the late 2010s, Assad's regime has been involved in the production and trafficking of **Captagon, an amphetamine-type stimulant.**

Hence, option b is correct.

42. Ans: a

Explanation:

The word quantum refers to the way matter absorbs or releases energy — in discrete packets.

Quantum computing is a multidisciplinary field comprising aspects of computer science, physics, and mathematics that utilises quantum mechanics to solve complex problems faster than on classical computers. The field of quantum computing includes hardware research and application development.

Quantum computers are able to solve certain types of problems faster than classical computers by taking advantage of quantum mechanical effects, such as superposition and quantum interference. Some applications where quantum computers can provide such a speed boost include machine learning, optimisation, and simulation of physical systems.

Hence, statement 1 is correct.

Recognising the importance of quantum science and the need for wider awareness of its past and future impact, dozens of national scientific societies gathered together to support marking 100 years of quantum mechanics with a U.N.-declared international year.

On June 7, 2024, the United Nations proclaimed 2025 as the International Year of Quantum Science and Technology (IYQ).

Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

43. Ans: c

Explanation:

Tens of thousands of DNA variants are associated with human diseases. On their own, the vast majority of these variants have small effects. But taken together, the result can be

substantial. **The effects of modifying multiple variants at once are known as polygenic genome editing.**

Polygenic genome editing in human embryos could substantially reduce the likelihood of certain diseases including Alzheimer's disease, schizophrenia, type 2 diabetes, coronary artery disease and major depressive disorder (MDD), but it raises concerns.

Limitations

- **Polygenic editing is unlikely to benefit the wider population in any realistic timeframe, because the technology is available only through in vitro fertilisation.**
- Many diseases are also caused by non-genetic factors, which are harder to model.
- **A gene variant that is a risk factor for one disease could offer protection against another.**
- There's the risk that these technologies will widen inequality and social divisions, because the costs will probably be substantial.

Hence, both statements 1 & 2 are correct.

44. Ans: c

Explanation:

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2024

Proteins are essential to life, and understanding their structure can facilitate a mechanistic understanding of their function.

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2024 is about proteins, life's ingenious chemical tools. David Baker has succeeded with the almost impossible feat of building entirely new kinds of proteins. Demis Hassabis and John Jumper have developed an AI model to solve a 50-year-old problem: predicting proteins' complex structures. These discoveries hold enormous potential.

Proteins generally consist of 20 different amino acids, which can be described as life's building blocks. In 2003, David Baker succeeded in using these blocks to design a new protein that was unlike any other protein.

In 2020, Demis Hassabis and John Jumper presented an AI model called AlphaFold2. With its help, they have been able to predict the structure of virtually all the 200 million proteins that researchers have identified. Since their breakthrough, AlphaFold2 has been used by more than two million people from 190 countries.

AlphaFold is an AI system developed by Google DeepMind that predicts a protein's 3D structure from its amino acid sequence.

Application areas of AF2 in the fields of biology and medicine.

AF2 can be applied in many areas of biology and medicine, including structural biology, drug discovery, protein design, protein-protein interaction, target prediction, protein function prediction, biological mechanism of action, and others (such as protein evolution, rare disease treatment studies, effects of mutation on treatment, vaccine design and so on)

Hence, option c is correct.

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45. Ans: c

Explanation:

Polyethylene terephthalate (PET), a clear plastic that is used to make clothing fibres and drink bottles.

PET is a material made up of long string-like molecules. These are assembled from smaller molecules strung together into chains. The chemical bonds in PET chains are strong, so it is long-lasting – exactly what you do not want in a single-use plastic.

In 2016, researchers led by microbiologist Kohei Oda of the Kyoto Institute of Technology in Japan reported a new strain of bacterium, called *Ideonella sakaiensis* 201-F6. This microbe could grow on pieces of PET.

***Ideonella sakaiensis* 201-F6 produces two unique enzymes.** The first is a PETase that breaks the long PET molecules down into smaller molecules called MHET. A second enzyme called MHETase then goes to work, producing ethylene glycol and terephthalic acid. These two chemicals are the building blocks of PET, so *Ideonella sakaiensis* 201-F6 can completely reverse the manufacturing process that made PET.

Hence, option c is correct.

46. Ans: b

Explanation:

Polyphenols are a group of phytonutrients (though the terms are often and erroneously used interchangeably), **naturally occurring chemicals in plants** that help to protect them in nature from threats such as insects and UV light, and, as it turns out, also help to protect us when we eat them.

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

They are found in high concentrations in fruits and vegetables with deep or vivid colours, such as beetroot, blackberries, black olives, very red tomatoes and dark, leafy greens. There is evidence that the consumption of polyphenols can increase blood flow to the brain as well as reduce inflammation in the body, which is why they're thought to **have the potential to combat neurodegenerative diseases.**

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

Gut microbes turn polyphenols into “smaller, more absorbable metabolites” that help to support the body.

Hence, statement 3 is correct.

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47. Ans: d

Explanation:

Fungi are eukaryotic organisms; i.e., their cells contain membrane-bound organelles and clearly defined nuclei. Historically, fungi were included in the plant kingdom. However, because fungi lack chlorophyll and are distinguished by unique structural and physiological features (i.e., components of the cell wall and cell membrane), they have been separated from plants.

The group includes molds, yeasts, mushrooms, polypores, plant parasitic rusts and smuts.

Hence, option d is correct.

48. Ans: c

Explanation:

AKASH is a Short Range Surface to Air Missile system to protect vulnerable areas and vulnerable points from air attacks. AKASH Weapon System can simultaneously engage Multiple Targets in Group Mode or Autonomous Mode. It has built-in Electronic Counter-Counter Measures (ECCM) features. The entire weapon system has been configured on mobile platforms. AKASH Weapon Systems has been inducted and is operational with the Indian Air Force (IAF) as well as the Indian Army (IA).

Hence, statement 1 is correct.

Astra Beyond-Visual-Range Air to Air Missile is capable of engaging and destroying highly manoeuvring and supersonic speed air targets up to range of 100 km. It has a solid fuel propulsion system, Inertial Guidance, Midcourse Update using Data Link, ECCM (Electronic Counter Counter Measures) used to tackle jamming by hostile aircraft and active radar terminal guidance. Astra has been Integrated and tested on Su30ure (ECCM).

Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

The maiden flight test of Agni-V, India's longest-range ballistic missile with a "range of more than 5000 km", was conducted in April 2012 and has since been tested multiple times. It has also been canistered, which improves ease of handling and operation. Agni-V uses a three-stage solid-fuelled engine and is capable of striking targets at ranges of over 5,000 Kms and can reach most parts of China.

Hence, statement 3 is correct.

49. Ans: d

Explanation:

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Dr. Homi Jehangir Bhabha, the founder of Atomic energy programme in India, drew the road map of the nuclear power programme which brought the country in the elite club of nations possessing advanced nuclear technology.

The Indian nuclear programme was conceived based on, unique sequential three-stages and associated technologies essentially to aim at optimum utilisation of the indigenous nuclear resource profile of modest Uranium and abundant Thorium resources. This sequential three-stage program is based on a closed fuel cycle, where the spent fuel of one stage is reprocessed to produce fuel for the next stage. The closed fuel cycle thus multiplies manifold the energy potential of the fuel and greatly reduces the quantity of waste generated.

The first stage comprises Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors fuelled by natural uranium. Natural uranium contains only 0.7% of Uranium²³⁵, which undergoes fission to release energy (200MeV/atom). The remaining 99.3% comprises Uranium²³⁸, which is not fissile however it is converted in the nuclear reactor, to fissile element Pu²³⁹. In the fission process, among other fission products, a small quantity of Plutonium²³⁹ is formed by the transmutation of Uranium²³⁸.

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

The second stage, comprising of Fast Breeder Reactors (FBRs) is fuelled by mixed oxide of Uranium²³⁸ and Plutonium²³⁹, recovered by reprocessing of the first stage spent fuel. In FBRs, Plutonium²³⁹ undergoes fission producing energy, and producing Plutonium²³⁹ by transmutation of Uranium²³⁸. Thus the FBRs produce energy and fuel, hence termed Breeders. FBRs produce more fuel than they consume. Over a period of time, Plutonium inventory can be built up by feeding Uranium²³⁸.

A Stage III reactor or an Advanced nuclear power system involves a self-sustaining series of thorium-232-uranium-233 fuelled reactors. This would be a thermal breeder reactor, which in principle, can be refuelled – after its initial fuel charge – using only naturally occurring thorium.

Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

50. Ans: a

Explanation:

Black holes are among the most mysterious cosmic objects, much studied but not fully understood. These objects aren't really holes. **They're huge concentrations of matter packed into very tiny spaces. A black hole is so dense that gravity just beneath its surface, the event horizon, is strong enough that nothing – not even light – can escape.** The event horizon isn't a surface like Earth's or even the Sun's. It's a boundary that contains all the matter that makes up the black hole.

Essential Black Hole Facts

1. CLOSEST

The nearest known black hole, called Gaia BH1, is about 1,500 light-years away.

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2. FARTHEST

The most distant black hole detected, at the center of a galaxy called QSO J0313-1806, is around 13 billion light-years away.

3. BIGGEST

The most massive black hole observed, TON 618, tips the scales at 66 billion times the Sun's mass.

4. SMALLEST

The lightest-known black hole is only 3.8 times the Sun's mass. It's paired up with a star.

5. SPAGHETTIFICATION.

A real term that describes what happens when matter gets too close to a black hole. It's squeezed horizontally and stretched vertically, resembling a noodle.

An exoplanet is any planet beyond our solar system. Most of them orbit other stars, but some free-floating exoplanets, called rogue planets, are untethered to any star. We've confirmed more than 5,800 exoplanets out of the billions that we believe exist.

Hence, option a is correct.

51. Ans: d

Explanation:

Around 99% of the global population breathes air that exceeds the World Health Organization's air quality limits, with people in low and middle-income countries being most exposed to pollution, according to the WHO's latest database.

Hence, statements 1 & 2 are correct.

The levels of nitrogen dioxide in low-and middle-income countries were about 1.5 times higher than in high-income countries.

PM10 is particulate matter 10 micrometres or less in diameter, PM2.5 is particulate matter 2.5 micrometres or less in diameter.

PM2.5 is more likely to travel into and deposit on the surface of the deeper parts of the lung, while **PM10 is more likely to deposit on the surfaces of the larger airways of the upper region of the lung.**

Hence, statement 3 is correct.

52. Ans: a

Explanation:

Global nickel reserves

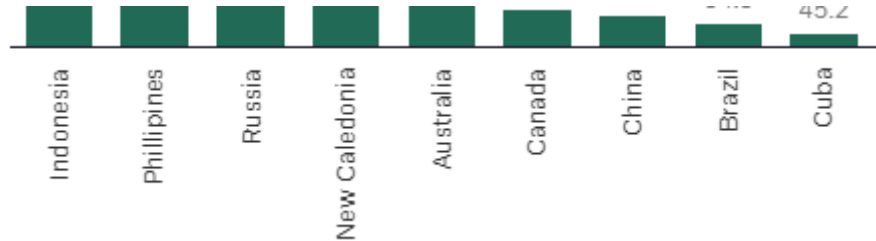
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The majority of these reserves are found in Indonesia and Australia, which accounted for 20.6% of the global total each, followed by Brazil (15.7%), Russia (7.3%), and New Caledonia (7%). The Philippines and Canada collectively held 6.9% of the global total.

Top 5 largest nickel-producing countries



Indonesia produced nearly four times the amount of nickel in recent years compared to a decade earlier—following the global push for a low-carbon revolution that drives the mining for the mineral essential for electric vehicles, renewable energy technologies, and stainless-steel production.

Hence, option a is correct.

53. Ans: a

Explanation:

Tropical rainforest is the most productive of the Earth's biomes, with a rate of primary production- that is, the total amount of photosynthesis per area for a defined length of time- that can exceed 800g of carbon fixed per square meter per year.

Such exceptional productivity results from the coincidence of high solar radiation received throughout the year and regular, abundant and reliable rainfall. The production is achieved high in the dense forest canopy of evergreen foliage. It is dark at ground level except where fallen trees create gaps. **A characteristic of this biome is that often many tree seedlings and saplings remain in a suppressed state from year to year.**

Indeed, almost all action in a rainforest (not just photosynthesis but also flowering, fruiting, predation and herbivory) happens high in the canopy. Apart from the trees, the vegetation is largely composed of plant forms that reach up into the canopy vicariously, by climbing the trees (vines and lianas, including many species of fig) or growing as epiphytes, which are plants that grow on other plants, rooted on the damp upper branches.

Hence, option a is correct.

54. Ans: b

Explanation:

The Nile River is the longest river in the world at 4,132 miles (6,650 km). It Flows from central Africa northward through northeastern Africa to the Mediterranean Sea and has three principal streams: the Blue Nile, the Atbara, and the White Nile.

Amazon is the world's second longest river but largest river in terms of watershed area and water flow.

Hence, statement 1 is correct.

The Amazon basin covers an immense area that extends from the Andes Mountains in Peru to the northeastern coast of Brazil, where the river empties into the Atlantic Ocean. It includes **parts of the countries of Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela.**

Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

Black squirrel monkeys are endemic to the Amazon rain forest. These animals live only in northern Brazil in a small section of Amazonian floodplain at the convergence of the Amazon and Japura rivers.

Hence, statement 3 is correct.

55. Ans: d

Explanation:

Lemurs are found only in Madagascar. The ancestors of the lemurs would have arrived from Africa to Madagascar by natural floating rafts 65 million years ago. Then they evolved and adapted in the different types of existing ecosystems. The lemurs thus diversified and today, they occupy very specific places where they are endemic.

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

What do lemurs eat?

Different lemur species eat different things, from fruits, leaves, and tree sap to insects and even chameleons. **Some lemurs, such as the black lemur, are frugivores, meaning their diet consists mainly of fruit.**

Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

56. Ans: d

Explanation:

Parasites:

- **Consume only part of each prey item, usually called their host;**
- **Do not usually kill their prey,** especially in the short term;
- **Attack one or very few prey items in the course of their life,** with which they, therefore, often form a relatively intimate association.

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Parasites, therefore include some obvious examples: animal parasites and pathogens such as tapeworms and the tuberculosis bacterium, plant pathogens like tobacco mosaic virus, parasitic plants like mistletoes, and the tiny wasps that form 'galls' on oak leaves. But aphids that extract sap from one or a very few plants with which they enter into an intimate association, and even caterpillars that spend their whole life on one host plant, are also, in effect, parasites.

Hence, statements 1, 2 & 3 are correct.

57. Ans: a

Explanation:

IPCC was created in 1988 by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The objective of the IPCC is to provide governments at all levels with scientific information that they can use to develop climate policies.

IPCC reports are also a key input into international climate change negotiations.

The IPCC is an organisation of governments that are members of the United Nations or WMO. The IPCC currently has 195 members.

Hence, statement 1 is correct.

The Emission Gap Report is published annually by UNEP.

Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

58. Ans: c

Explanation:

Dengue

Dengue is a viral infection transmitted to humans through the bite of infected mosquitoes. About half of the world's population is now at risk of dengue with an estimated 100–400 million infections occurring each year. **Dengue is found in tropical and sub-tropical climates worldwide,** mostly in urban and semi-urban areas.

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect & statement 2 is correct.

While many dengue infections are asymptomatic or produce only mild illness, the virus can occasionally cause more severe cases, and even death. Prevention and control of dengue depend on vector control. **There is no specific treatment for dengue/severe dengue, and early detection and access to proper medical care greatly lower fatality rates of severe dengue.**

Hence, statement 3 is incorrect.

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59. Ans: a

Explanation:

The principle of Common But Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR) establishes the common governmental responsibility for anthropogenic climate change and the environmental destruction associated with it. The principle acknowledges that responsibility among countries is unequally distributed due to their differing contributions to the causes of climate change and their varying economic capacities.

In doing so, CBDR takes into consideration the greater historical responsibility of industrialised countries in comparison to most countries of the Global South, which have made lower contributions.

The principle was established in 1992 at the first Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, where the countries declared: “In view of the different contributions to global environmental degradation, states have common but differentiated responsibilities.

The developed countries acknowledge the responsibility that they bear in the international pursuit of sustainable development in view of the pressures their societies place on the global environment and of the technologies and financial resources they command.”

Consequently, CBDR is enshrined as a basic principle in Article 3(1) of the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Hence, option a is correct.

60. Ans: b

Explanation:

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) – a critical element of the historic Paris Agreement - is the world’s largest climate fund, mandated to support developing countries raise and realise their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) ambitions towards low-emissions, climate-resilient pathways.

GCF was established under the Cancún Agreements in 2010 as a dedicated financing vehicle for developing countries within the global climate architecture, serving the Financial Mechanism of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement. Since the approval of the first project funding in 2015, GCF has made rapid strides in building a portfolio of more than 100 projects.

A core GCF principle is to follow a country-driven approach, which means that developing countries lead GCF programming and implementation. Country ownership of GCF financing decisions enables developing countries to turn NDC ambitions into climate action.

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect & statement 2 is correct.

61. Ans: a

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Explanation:

Venezuela- Formerly one of the wealthiest countries in South America, a sharp decline in oil prices in the early 2010s plunged oil-dependent Venezuela into a downward spiral, **engulfing the country in a deep political and economic crisis that persists today.**

Following the death of socialist leader Hugo Chavez's death in 2013, his hand-picked predecessor, Nicolás Maduro, attempted to curb Venezuela's economic collapse by printing money, pushing the country into years-long hyperinflation.

Skyrocketing prices led to severe shortages of necessities, such as medicine and food, inciting country-wide protests and riots and forcing millions of Venezuelans to flee the country.

Hence, option a is correct.

62. Ans: c

Explanation:

Caspian littoral states: Republic of Azerbaijan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Kazakhstan, Russian Federation, and Turkmenistan.

The Caspian Sea is a unique natural reservoir on our planet. It is a landlocked water body located between two major parts of the Eurasian continent. The Caspian Sea is the world's largest landlocked reservoir.

The Caspian region is rich in biological resources and serves as the world's largest spawning ground for sturgeon.

The Caspian Seal, the only marine mammal living in the Sea, is also endemic to this region. Economic activities in the Caspian Sea include oil production, fishing, and shipping. Both industry and agriculture are well developed around the Caspian Sea basin with the western coast of the Caspian Sea being more developed than the eastern one.

Baku is the largest port on the Caspian Sea.

Other major cities near the sea include Rasht (Iran), Makhachkala and Astrakhan (Russia),

Hence, option c is correct.

63. Ans: d

Explanation:

Atlantic Charter- A New NATO Deal for America

NATO nations face three converging challenges that together require renewed European resource commitments to defence:

- 1) extreme Russian military aggressiveness and revanchism as displayed in Ukraine, and which if unchecked, could extend beyond Ukraine,
- 2) rising Chinese military power and China's 'no limits' partnership with Russia, and
- 3) the need to rapidly rebalance and redistribute NATO defence responsibilities in light of America's growing global defence commitments.

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Faced with this alarming situation, the Alphen Group recommend the adoption of a new Atlantic Charter 2025.

If implemented properly, the recommendations in this Charter would significantly strengthen European defence capabilities and reduce worldwide pressures on American forces.

In August 1941, Prime Minister Winston Churchill and President Franklin Delano Roosevelt issued the Atlantic Charter, which established a politico-military relationship which in time became the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and endures to this day.

Hence, option d is correct.

64. Ans: a

Explanation:

The Camp David Accords, signed by President Jimmy Carter, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin in September 1978, established a framework for a historic peace treaty concluded **between Israel and Egypt** in March 1979.

President Carter and the U.S. Government played leading roles in creating the opportunity for this agreement to occur. From the start of his administration, Carter and his Secretary of State, Cyrus Vance, pursued intensive negotiations with Arab and Israeli leaders, hoping to reconvene the Geneva Conference, which had been established in December 1973, to seek an end to the Arab-Israeli dispute.

Hence, option a is correct.

65. Ans: b

Explanation:

Lake Superior is located in North America on the border between the United States and Canada. Lake Superior is the world's largest freshwater lake by surface area (82100 km²).

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

Lake Baikal

Located in Russia in the southern region of Siberia, Lake Baikal is the world's largest freshwater lake by both volume (22995 km³) and depth (1741m). **Lake Baikal contains 20% of the world's fresh surface water.**

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

66. Ans: c

Explanation:

The National Agriculture Insurance Scheme (NAIS) was introduced by the Government of India to provide comprehensive insurance coverage and financial support to farmers against crop losses due to natural calamities, pests, and diseases. **The scheme promotes the stability of farm incomes and encourages farmers to adopt modern agricultural practices.**

Hence, statement 3 is correct.

Key Features

- 1. Coverage for food crops, oilseeds, and selected commercial/horticultural crops.**
2. Protection against crop loss due to natural calamities such as drought, flood, hailstorm, cyclone, pests, and diseases.
3. Coverage for different stages of the crop life cycle:
 - Sowing/planting risk.
 - **Standing crop losses.**
 - **Post-harvest losses (due to specified perils).**
 - Losses due to localised risks like hailstorms and landslides.
4. Subsidised premiums for small and marginal farmers.
5. Availability of the scheme across notified areas and seasons.

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect & statement 2 is correct.

67. Ans: c

Explanation:

The **Empire of Ashoka** was not only vast in extent but was closely knit together as an administrative unit. One imperial writ ran from Peshawar to Bengal and from Kashmir to Mysore. This never happened again in ancient India and was rarely witnessed before the middle of the 19th century A.D. Ashoka's inscriptions further prove that there was one common language for the whole empire, and the same script was current except in a small region in the extreme north-west. Ashokan Empire thus brought about **political and cultural unity**, which is the dream of modern India, symbolised by her emblem of the capital of an Ashokan pillar.

Hence, statement 1 is correct.

At **Dholavira, a fortified acropolis covering an area of 300*300 m, with gateways in the center of its four walls, was discovered.** Remains of limestone pillar bases and pillar fragments with highly polished surfaces were found in the eastern gateway. This discovery has extended the **history of monuments and stone structures in the subcontinent from the 4th century to the 3rd millennium BCE [Indus Valley civilisation era].**

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

The Ashokan inscriptions are divided into various categories. The two main categories are the 14 major rock edicts and the 6 pillar edicts. The rock and pillar edicts are a set of

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inscriptions that occur, with minor variations, in different places. There are also several minor rock edicts, minor pillar edicts, and cave inscriptions. **The minor rock edicts are considered among the earliest inscriptions, the major rock edicts later than them, and the pillar edicts still later.**

Hence, statement 3 is incorrect.

68. Ans: c

Explanation:

The procedure for summoning Lok Sabha for an emergency session is **generally the same as for a regular session.**

Hence, statement 1 is correct.

If the session is summoned at short notice and there is no time to issue the regular summons, **members may be informed through Press and Electronic Media.**

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

69. Ans: b

Explanation:

In summer, when the sun is overhead, its rays fall almost vertically on the Earth, concentrating its heat on a small area. Therefore, the temperature rises and summers are always warm.

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

In winter the oblique rays of the sun come through the atmosphere less directly and have much of their heat absorbed by atmospheric impurities and water vapour. The sun's rays fall faintly and spread over a great area.

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

70. Ans: c

Explanation:

Females are larger than males.

The gestation period is 9-11 months and a female gives birth to only one calf, once in 2-3 years.

Hence, statements 1 & 2 are correct.

71. Ans: d

Explanation:

Krishnadeva Raya marked “the dawn of a new era in the literary history of South India. Himself a scholar, a musician and poet, he loved to gather around him poets, philosophers and religious teachers whom he honoured with gifts of land and money.” **He himself wrote a book in Telugu called Amuktamalyada.**

Hence, option d is correct.

72. Ans: a

Explanation:

An Act of Parliament in 1858 transferred the power to govern from the East India Company to the British Crown. While Authority over India had previously been wielded by the directors of the Company and the Board of Control, now this power was to be exercised by a Secretary of State for India, aided by a Council.

Under the Act, government was to be carried on as before by the Governor-General, who was also given the title of Viceroy or Crown’s personal representative.

In India, the Act of 1858 provided that the Governor-General would have an Executive Council whose members were to act as heads of different departments.

Hence, option a is correct.

73. Ans: c

Explanation:

Non-cooperation movement

The Rowlatt Act, the Jallianwala Bagh massacre and martial law in Punjab had belied all the generous wartime promises of the British.

The Montague-Chelmsford Reforms announced towards the end of 1919, with their ill-considered scheme of dyarchy satisfied few.

Congress was becoming sceptical of any possibility of political advance through constitutional means. It was disgusted with the Hunter Committee Report.

The movement was launched formally on 1 August 1920.

The programme of non-cooperation included within its ambit the surrender of titles and honours, boycott of government-affiliated schools and colleges, law courts, foreign cloth, and could be extended to include resignation from government service and mass civil disobedience including the non-payment of taxes.

National schools and colleges were to be set up, panchayats were to be established for settling disputes, hand-spinning and weaving were to be encouraged and people were asked to maintain Hindu- Muslim unity, give up untouchability and observe strict non-violence.

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The most successful item of the programme was the boycott of foreign clothes.

Hence, statement 3 is correct.

The goal of the Congress was changed from the attainment of self-government by constitutional and legal means to the **attainment of Swaraj** by peaceful and legitimate means.

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

Many groups of revolutionary terrorists, especially in Bengal, also pledged support to the movement.

The Congress was to use Hindi as far as possible.

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

74. Ans: a

Explanation:

Santhal Rebellion (1855-56)

The Santhals considered the dikus and government servants morally corrupt being given to beggary, stealing, lying and drunkenness.

The tribal leaders called an assembly of nearly 6000 Santhals, representing 400 villages, at Bhaganidihi on 30 June 1855. It was decided to raise the banner of revolt, get rid of the outsiders and their colonial masters once and for all, the usher in Salyug, 'The Reign of Truth,' and 'True Justice.'

The Santhals believed that their actions had the blessings of God.

Sido and Kanhu, the principal rebel leaders, claimed that Thakur (God) had communicated with them and told them to take up arms and fight for independence.

The most militant and widespread of the peasant movements was the **Indigo Revolt of 1859-60.**

The **rebellion (ulgulan) of the Munda** tribesmen, led by Birsa Munda, occurred during **1899-1900.**

Hence, option a is correct.

75. Ans: b

Explanation:

The formal proclamation of the Swadeshi Movement was, made on 7 August 1905

The day partition took effect — 16 October 1905.

The Indian National Congress took up the Swadeshi call and the Banaras Session, 1905, presided over by G.K. Gokhale, supported the Swadeshi and Boycott Movement for Bengal

The Swadeshi period also saw the creative use of traditional popular festivals and melas as a means of reaching out to the masses.

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Another important aspect of the Swadeshi Movement was the great emphasis given to self-reliance or 'Atmasakti'.

Among the several forms of struggle thrown up by the movement, it was the boycott of foreign goods which met with the greatest visible success.

The movement also innovated with considerable success different forms of mass mobilisation.

In sum, the Swadeshi Movement with its multi-faceted programme and activity was able to draw for the first time large sections of society into active participation in modern nationalist into the ambit of modern political ideas.

Hence, statement 1 is correct.

The main drawback of the Swadeshi Movement was that it was not able to gain the support of the mass of Muslims.

Some of the forms of mobilisation adopted by the Swadeshi Movement had certain unintended negative consequences. **The use of traditional popular customs, festivals and institutions for mobilising the masses—a technique used widely in most parts of the world to generate mass movements, especially in the initial stages —was misinterpreted and distorted by communalists backed by the state.**

Hence, statement 2 is correct, but statement 2 doesn't explain statement 1.

76. Ans: a

Explanation:

The Sikh community came into prominence in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. These were periods of religious revival in the history of India. The founder of the Sikhs as a religious community was Guru Nanak. The next four gurus -Angad, Amardas, Ramdas, and Arjan Mal - were religious preachers and did not interfere in politics. **The fifth guru Arjan Mal [1581-1606] compiled the Adi Granth or "The First Sacred Book"**

Hence, statement 1 is correct.

Guru Govind Singh was the tenth guru and was one of the most remarkable personalities in Indian history. He brought about the transformation of the Sikh community. In his **autobiography Bichitra Natak**, he declared his purpose of "spreading the faith, saving the saints and entriparting all tyrants" He converted his disciples into a community of warriors called Khalsa.

Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

Later the Sikhs founded a leader in **Kapur Singh**, who began organising what was later developed as the **Dal Khalsa** or the army of the theocracy of the Singhs.

Hence, statement 3 is incorrect.

77. Ans: b

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Explanation:

Devaluation or depreciation makes the imports from abroad expensive in terms of domestic currency and therefore, the imports tend to fall. With exports increasing and imports declining, it is expected that devaluation (depreciation) will reduce a country's trade deficit. However, it may be noted that **the effect of devaluation or depreciation on the balance of trade is ambiguous and uncertain because a good deal depends on the price elasticity of exports and imports of a country.**

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

Due to higher prices of imported goods, people of a country tend to substitute domestically produced goods for the more expensive imports. As a result, **the aggregate demand or expenditure on domestically produced goods and services will increase causing either expansion in the output of goods or a rise in their prices or both.**

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

78. Ans: a

Explanation:

Merits of Fixed Exchange Rate System

- **Exchange rate stability**
- Promotes capital movements
- **Prevents capital outflow**
- Prevents speculation in the foreign exchange market
- **Serves as an anchor against inflation**
- Promotes economic integration of the world
- Promotes growth of internal money and capital markets

Hence, option a is correct.

79. Ans: a

Explanation:

David Ricardo coined the term comparative advantage. According to the principle of comparative advantage, the gains from trade follow from allowing an economy to specialise. If a country is relatively better at making wine than wool, it makes sense to put more resources into wine, and to export some of the wine to pay for imports of wool.

The term is one of the most misunderstood ideas in economics, and is often wrongly assumed to mean an absolute advantage compared with other countries.

The World Trade Organization (WTO) supports the idea that countries can prosper through trade.

Dunkel Act, on which WTO has been founded is wedded to the liberalisation of trade based on comparative costs.

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Hence, option a is correct.

80. Ans: d

Explanation:

The **IMF welcomed the Principality of Liechtenstein as its 191st member.**

Cuba, Monaco and North Korea are non-member states of IMF.

Hence, option d is correct.

81. Ans: a

Explanation:

MSP Includes all paid-out costs such as those incurred on account of **hired human labour, bullock labour/machine labour, rent paid for leased land**, expenses incurred on use of **material inputs like seeds, fertilisers, manures**, irrigation charges, **depreciation on implements and farm buildings**, interest on working capital, diesel/electricity for operation of pump sets etc, miscellaneous expenses & **imputed value of family labour.**

Hence, option a is correct.

82. Ans: d

Explanation:

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION – FOODGRAINS

(Lakh tonnes)

Year	Cereals			Total (2 to 4)	Pulses	Total Foodgrains (5+6)
	Rice	Wheat	Coarse Cereals			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2008-09	991.8	806.8	400.4	2199.0	145.7	2345.0
2009-10	890.9	808.0	335.5	2035.0	146.6	2181.0
2010-11	959.8	868.7	434.0	2263.0	182.4	2445.0
2011-12	1053.0	948.8	420.1	2422.0	170.9	2593.0
2012-13	1052.4	935.1	400.4	2388.0	183.4	2571.0
2013-14	1066.5	958.5	432.9	2458.0	192.5	2650.0
2014-15	1054.8	865.3	428.6	2349.0	171.5	2520.0
2015-16	1044.1	922.9	385.2	2352.0	163.2	2515.0
2016-17	1097.0	985.1	437.7	2520.0	231.3	2751.0
2017-18	1127.6	998.7	469.7	2596.0	254.2	2850.0
2018-19	1164.8	1036.0	430.6	2631.0	220.8	2852.0
2019-20	1188.7	1078.6	477.5	2745.0	230.3	2975.0
2020-21	1243.7	1095.9	513.2	2853.0	254.6	3107.0
2021-22	1294.7	1077.4	511.0	2883.1	273.0	3156.2
2022-23	1357.6	1105.5	573.2	3036.3	260.6	3296.9
2023-24	1367.0	1129.3	547.3	3043.6	244.9	3288.5

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AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION – FOODGRAINS

Year	Cereals					Pulses	Total Foodgrains (5+6)
	Rice	Wheat	Coarse Cereals	Total (2 to 4)			
	1	2	3	4	5		
2000-01	849.8	696.8	310.8	1857.4	110.7	1968.1	
2001-02	933.4	727.7	333.7	1994.8	133.7	2128.5	
2002-03	718.2	657.6	260.7	1636.5	111.3	1747.8	
2003-04	885.3	721.6	376.0	1982.8	149.1	2131.9	
2004-05	831.3	686.4	334.6	1852.3	131.3	1983.6	
2005-06	917.9	693.5	340.7	1952.2	133.8	2086.0	
2006-07	933.6	758.1	339.2	2030.8	142.0	2172.8	
2007-08	966.9	785.7	407.5	2160.1	147.6	2307.8	
2008-09	991.8	806.8	400.4	2199.0	145.7	2344.7	
2009-10	890.9	808.0	335.5	2034.5	146.6	2181.1	
2010-11	959.8	868.7	434.0	2262.5	182.4	2444.9	
2011-12	1053.0	948.8	420.1	2422.0	170.9	2592.9	
2012-13	1052.4	935.1	400.4	2387.9	183.4	2571.3	
2013-14	1066.5	958.5	432.9	2457.9	192.5	2650.4	
2014-15	1054.8	865.3	428.6	2348.7	171.5	2520.2	
2015-16	1044.1	922.9	385.2	2352.2	163.5	2515.7	
2016-17	1097.0	985.1	437.7	2519.8	231.3	2751.1	
2017-18	1127.6	998.7	469.7	2596.0	254.2	2850.1	
2018-19	1164.8	1036.0	430.6	2631.4	220.8	2852.1	
2019-20	1184.3	1075.9	474.8	2735.0	231.5	2966.5	

Hence, option d is correct.

83. Ans: a

Explanation:

Bills seeking to amend the Constitution

A Bill seeking to amend the Constitution may be brought forward by a Minister or private member.

It is a well-settled convention that Bills seeking to amend the Constitution brought forward by Ministers are introduced in the Lok Sabha.

Hence, statement 1 is correct.

There is no separate constituent body for the purposes of amendment of the Constitution, constituent power also being vested in Parliament. Except that Parliament cannot alter the basic structure or framework of the Constitution, there is no other limitation placed upon the amending power.

The role of the States in regard to the amendment of the Constitution is limited. States are associated with the process of constitutional amendment by the ratification procedure laid down in the Constitution.

Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

84. Ans: a

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Explanation:

Article 100- The Chairman or Speaker, or person acting as such, shall not vote in the first instance, but shall have and **exercise a casting vote in the case of an equality of votes.**

Hence, statement 1 is correct.

The Speaker does not take any part in the deliberations of the House except in the discharge of his duties as the Presiding Officer.

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

No appeal lies to the Speaker against a ruling given by the Deputy Speaker or any other person presiding over a sitting of the House in the absence of the Speaker.

Hence, statement 3 is incorrect.

85. Ans: b

Explanation:

Article 122. Courts not to inquire into proceedings of Parliament.—

(1) The validity of any proceedings in Parliament shall not be called in question on the ground of any alleged irregularity of procedure.

The Courts have no jurisdiction to issue a writ, direction or order relating to a matter in respect of what is done in the House or which affects the internal affairs of the House.

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

Article 121- Restriction on discussion in Parliament.—

No discussion shall take place in Parliament with respect to the conduct of any Judge of the Supreme Court or of a High Court in the discharge of his duties except upon a motion for presenting an address to the President praying for the removal of the Judge as hereinafter provided.

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

86. Ans: c

Explanation:

While appointing a Judge of the Supreme Court, the choice of the President is limited to

- **Judges of High Courts who have held that office for at least five years, or**
- **Advocates of a High Court with at least ten years' standing or**
- **Who in the President's opinion, are distinguished jurists**

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

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There is no ban on the re-employment of retired Judges of the Supreme Court or a High Court. [Article 128 & 224-A]

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

The number of Judges of the Supreme Court, other than the Chief Justice has been limited under the Constitution to 'not more than seven', power has been given to Parliament to prescribe a larger number.

Hence, statement 3 is correct.

87. Ans: a

Explanation:

Termination of a session of the House by an order made by the President under article 85(2) is called 'prorogation'.

The end of the life of Lok Sabha either by an order made by the President under article 85(2)(b) or on the expiration of the period of five years from the date appointed for its first meeting is termed as '**dissolution of the House.**'

The word 'Adjourn' applies to the action of a deliberative body, etc., in concluding a sitting with the **intention of resuming** on the next working day or a **specified** later date.

In Lok Sabha, the Speaker determines when the sitting of a House is to adjourn sine die to a particular day or to an hour or part of the same day.

Adjournment sine die- Termination of a sitting of the House **without any definite date being fixed for the next sitting.**

Hence, option a is correct.

88. Ans: a

Explanation:

Article 1. Name and territory of the Union

(1) **India, that is Bharat, shall be a Union of States.**

(2) The States and the territories thereof shall be as specified in the First Schedule.

(3) The territory of India shall comprise—

- (a) the territories of the States;
- (b) the Union territories specified in the First Schedule;
- (c) such other territories as may be acquired.

Hence, statement 1 is correct.

The constitution of India establishes a dual policy in the country, consisting of the union government and the state governments. **The states are the**

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regional administrative units into which the country has been divided and thus India has been characterised as a union of states [Article 1(1)]

Hence, statement 2 is correct & statement 2 correctly explains statement 1.

89. Ans: c

Explanation:

CHILIKA LAKE It is considered to be the largest lagoon in India.

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

Chilika Lake is a brackish water lake and a shallow lagoon with estuarine character **spread across three districts of Puri, Khurda, and Ganjam in the state of Odisha** in eastern India.

Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

A number of islands are present in the lagoon with habitation and without habitation, prominent among which are Krushnaprasad, Nalaban, Kalijai, Somolo, Honeymoon, Breakfast, and Birds Island. **The Nalaban Island within the lake is notified as a Bird Sanctuary under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.**

It is the largest wintering ground for migratory waterfowl on the Indian subcontinent. The fauna at Chilika includes a number of rare, threatened, and endangered species, including the Barakudia limbless skink. On account of its rich bio-diversity and ecological significance, Chilika was designated as the 1st "Ramsar Site" of India.

Hence, statement 3 is correct.

90. Ans c

Explanation:

The Mahua tree is native to India but not endemic to India. Because it is also found in other countries like Nepal, Myanmar, Sri Lanka etc. Mahua is one of the important tree species in central India, as it produces abundant delicious and nutritive flowers. This is used for edible purposes either fresh or dried and stored for an indefinite period.

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

It is fast growing at 20 m height, an evergreen tree cultivated in warm regions for its oleaginous seeds. **Its oil is used by tribal as vegetable butter in addition, it is used in skincare products, soaps, detergents, etc. It serves as an important fuel oil, hence a good source of biodiesel.** The seed cake is used as manure. The flowers are used to produce an alcoholic drink in several parts of India.

Hence, statements 2 & 3 are correct.

91. Ans: c

Explanation:

The **Tapi (also known as the Tapti)** is the second largest west-flowing river of Peninsular India and is known as ' the twin' or 'the handmaid ' of the Narmada. **It originates from the sacred tank of Multai on the Satpura Plateau in the Betul district of Madhya Pradesh.**

Hence, option c is correct.

92. Ans: b

Explanation:

The countries surrounding the Mediterranean and its marginal seas in clockwise order are- Spain, France, Monaco, Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, **Albania**, Greece, Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Palestine, Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, **Algeria**, and Morocco; Malta and **Cyprus** are island countries in the sea.

Hence, option b is correct.

93. Ans: d

Explanation:

Dasht-e-Margo : **Afghanistan**

Dasht-e-kavir : **Iran**

Tanami desert : **Australia**

Hence, option d is correct.

94. Ans: b

Explanation:

KANCHENJUNGA

Kanchenjunga is situated in the northern Indian State of Sikkim, Kanchenjunga National Park (KNP). **The mountain is part of the Great Himalayan Range.** It has Numerous lakes and glaciers, including the 26 km-long Zemu Glacier.

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

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It contains the widest and most extensive zone of krummholz (stunted forest) in the Himalayan region. A remarkable six cat species have been confirmed (Leopard, Clouded Leopard, Snow Leopard, Jungle Cat, Golden Cat, Leopard Cat) within the park. Flagship species include the Snow Leopard the largest Himalayan predator, Jackal, Tibetan Wolf, large Indian Civet, Red Panda, Goral, Blue Sheep, Himalayan Tahr, Mainland Serow, two species of Musk Deer, two primates, four species of pika and several rodent species, including the parti-coloured Flying Squirrel.

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

95. Ans: b

Explanation:

Methane (CH₄) is a powerful greenhouse gas and is the second-largest contributor to climate warming after carbon dioxide (CO₂). A molecule of methane traps more heat than a molecule of CO₂, but methane has a relatively short lifespan of 7 to 12 years in the atmosphere, while CO₂ can persist for hundreds of years or more.

Methane comes from both natural sources and human activities. An estimated 60% of today's methane emissions are the result of human activities.

The largest sources of methane are agriculture, fossil fuels and the decomposition of landfill waste.

Natural processes account for 40% of methane emissions, with wetlands being the largest natural source.

Hence, option b is correct.

96. Ans: b

Explanation:

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STATUS OF MANGROVES IN INDIA

Name of the Species	Distribution	Status
<i>Acanthus volubilis</i> Wall.	Only in one population in Sundarban.	Rare due to loss of habitat
<i>Aegialitis rotundifolia</i> Roxb.	Restricted only in East Coast up to Krishna Delta.	Threatened due to over utilization.
<i>Brownlowia tersa</i> (L.) Kosterm	Restricted in Sundarbans, Orissa and Andaman.	Threatened due to over exploitation.
<i>Bruguiera sexangula</i> (Lour.) Poir.	Restricted only in Sundarbans, Orissa and Goa.	Rare due to lack of ecological condition.
<i>Cryptocoryne ciliata</i> (Roxb.) Schott.	Restricted in Sundarbans and Orissa.	Rare due to over-exploitation.
<i>Cynometra iripa</i> Kostel	Only one or two plants are localized in Sundarbans, Orissa and Andaman.	Rare due to over exploitation.
<i>Dolichandrone spathacea</i> (L. f.) K. Schum.	Restricted in Orissa and Andaman	Rare due to over exploitation.
<i>Finlaysonia obovata</i> Wall.	Monotypic, only in Sundarbans, Orissa and Andaman	Rare due to loss of habitat.
<i>Heritiera fomes</i> Buch.-Ham.	Restricted only in Sundarbans and Orissa.	Threatened due to changed habitat conditions and over exploitation.
<i>Heritiera kanikensis</i> Mj. et Ban.	Restricted only in Orissa (New Species).	Threatened due to over exploitation.
<i>Intsia bijuga</i> (Colebr.) O. Kunt.	Restricted only in Orissa and Andaman. Previously reported from Sundarbans.	Rare due to loss of habitat.
<i>Lumnitzera littorea</i> (Jack.) Voigt.	Restricted only in Andaman.	Rare due to loss of ecological condition
<i>Kandelia candel</i>	East and West coast	Has become very rare.

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Name of the Species	Distribution	Status
<i>Merope angulata</i> (Willd.) Swingle	Though recorded from Sundarbans but collected only from Orissa.	Threatened due to over exploitation
<i>Mucuna gigantia</i> (Willd.) DC.	Reported only in Orissa and Kerala.	Rare due to loss of habitat.
<i>Nypa fruticans</i> (Thunb.) Wurm.	Restricted only in Sundarban and Andaman & Nicobar Is.	Threatened due to changed ecological condition and over utilization.
<i>Phoenix paludosa</i> Roxb.	Restricted only in Sundarban, Orissa and Andaman.	Threatened due to excessive demographic pressure for over utilization
<i>Rhizophora stylosa</i> Griff.	Only recorded from Orissa and Andaman.	Rare due to loss of habitat.
<i>Sarcobolus carinatus</i> Wall.	West Bengal, Orissa, Godavari delta and Andaman.	Rare due to over exploitation.
<i>Scyphiphora hydrophyllacea</i> Gaertn. f.	Restricted only in Godavari mouth and Andaman.	Rare due to over exploitation.
<i>Sonneratia alba</i> J. Smith	Restricted only in the West coast and one population in Orissa.	Threatened due to over exploitation.
<i>Thespesia populneoides</i> (Roxb.) Kostel	Restricted only in Sundarbans and Orissa.	Rare due to lack of special ecological condition.
<i>Tylophora tenuis</i> Bl.	Only found in Orissa, though reported from Sundarbans but not collected.	Very rare due to changed ecological condition.
<i>Xylocarpus granatum</i> Koenig	Restricted in Sundarbans, Orissa and up to Godavari Delta and Andaman.	Threatened due to over utilization.
<i>Xylocarpus mekongensis</i> Pierre	Restricted only in Sundarbans, Orissa and Andaman	Threatened due to over utilization

Hence, option b is correct.

97. Ans: c

Explanation:

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Khijadia Wildlife Sanctuary is a freshwater wetland near the coast of the Gulf of Kutch in Gujarat. It was formed following the creation of a bund (dike) in 1920 to protect farmland from saltwater ingress. As one of the important waterbird habitats in North-West India, the Site provides breeding, feeding and roosting grounds for a wide range of resident aquatic and also land-based birds.

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

Tampara Lake -The use of explosives during a battle in the Ganjam district between the British East India Company and French colonists in 1766 created a large depression which later became Tampara Lake. **The lake is now connected to the Rushikulya river** and helps in flood control during the monsoon season.

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

Nanda Lake in Goa comprises intermittent freshwater marshes that lie adjacent to one of the major tributaries of the Zuari River.

Hence, statement 3 is correct.

98. Ans: b

Explanation:

Desert: The Thar Desert or the Great Indian Desert is a large, arid region in the north-western part of the Indian subcontinent, it is the world's 17th largest desert and the world's 9th largest subtropical desert.

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

About 85% of the Thar Desert is in India, and the remaining part is in Pakistan. In India, it covers about 320,000 km², of which 60% is in **Rajasthan and extends into the states of Gujarat, Punjab, and Haryana.**

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

99. Ans: c

Explanation:

Recent Tiger Reserves

Dholpur – Karauli Tiger Reserve - Rajasthan (2023)

Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve-Madhya Pradesh (2024)

Guru Ghasidas – Tamor Pingla Tiger Reserve- Chattisgarh(2024)

Ratapani Tiger Reserve- Madhya Pradesh (2024)

Hence, option c is correct.

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100. Ans: c

Explanation:

No human activity is permitted inside the national park except for the ones permitted by the Chief Wildlife Warden of the state under the conditions given in CHAPTER IV, WPA 1972.

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

No person shall destroy, exploit or remove any Wild Life including forest produce from a National Park, provided that where the forest produce is removed from a National Park, the same may be used for meeting the personal bona fide needs of the people living in and around the National Park and shall not be used for any commercial purpose.

Hence, statement 2 is correct.

Hunting, killing or capturing of fauna, or deprivation of any wild animal of its habitat, or destruction and collection of flora and weapons are all prohibited.

No grazing of any live-stock shall be permitted in a National Park and no live-stock shall be allowed to enter therein except where such live-stock is used as a vehicle by a person authorised to enter such National Park.

Hence, statement 3 is incorrect.



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