

INSIGHTS ON INDIA PRELIMS-2014 BONUS TEST

INSIGHTS ON INDIA MOCK PRELIMINARY EXAM - 2014

INSIGHTS ON INDIA MOCK TEST – BONUS TEST GENERAL STUDIES PAPER-I

Time Allowed: 2 Hours

Maximum Marks: 200

INSTRUCTIONS

1. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE EXAMINATION, YOU SHOULD CHECK THAT THIS TEST BOOKLET *DOES NOT* HAVE ANY UNPRINTED OR TORN OR MISSING PAGES OR ITEMS, ETC. IF SO, GET IT REPLACED BY A COMPLETE TEST BOOKLET.
2. You have to enter your Roll Number on the Test I Booklet in the Box provided alongside. *DO NOT* write *anything* else on the Test Booklet.

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4. This Test Booklet contains 200 items (questions). Each item is printed only in English. Each item comprises four responses (answers). You will select the response which you want to mark on the Answer Sheet. In case you feel that there is more than one correct response, mark the response which you consider the best. In any case, choose *ONLY ONE* response for each item.
5. You have to mark all your responses *ONLY* on the separate Answer Sheet provided. See directions in the Answer Sheet.
6. All items carry equal marks.
7. Before you proceed to mark in the Answer Sheet the response to various items in the Test Booklet, you have to fill in some particulars in the Answer Sheet as per instructions sent to you with your Admission Certificate.
8. After you have completed filling in all your responses on the Answer Sheet and the examination has concluded, you should hand over to the Invigilator *only the Answer Sheet*. You are permitted to take away with you the Test Booklet.
9. Sheets for rough work are appended in the Test Booklet at the end.
10. Penalty for wrong answers :
THERE WILL BE PENALTY FOR WRONG ANSWERS MARKED BY A CANDIDATE IN THE OBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTION PAPERS.
 - (i) There are four alternatives for the answer to every question. For each question for which a wrong answer has been given by the candidate, one-third of the marks assigned to that question will be deducted as penalty.
 - (ii) If a candidate gives more than one answer, it will be treated as a wrong answer even if one of the given answers happens to be correct and there will be same penalty as above to that question.
 - (iii) If a question is left blank, i.e., no answer is given by the candidate, there will be no penalty for that question.

<http://insightsonindia.com>

INSIGHTS ON INDIA MOCK TEST SERIES FOR CIVIL SERVICES PRELIMINARY EXAM 2014

1. In the context of practices related to the environment, what is 'Green Washing'?
 - a) It is a social movement by international NGOs in India to coordinate all-India effort for afforestation.
 - b) It is a practice by the Forest Survey of India to count green buildings - which are also green colored - as part of the total forest cover.
 - c) It is a form of spin in which green marketing is deceptively used to promote the perception that an organization's products, aims or policies are environmentally friendly.
 - d) None of the above

Solution: c)

Greenwashing is a form of spin in which green PR or green marketing is deceptively used to promote the perception that an organization's products, aims or policies are environmentally friendly. Evidence that an organization is greenwashing often comes from pointing out the spending differences: when significantly more money or time has been spent advertising being "green" (that is, operating with consideration for the environment), than is actually spent on environmentally sound practices.

Greenwashing efforts can range from changing the name or label of a product to evoke the natural environment on a product that contains harmful chemicals to multimillion dollar advertising campaigns portraying highly polluting energy companies as eco-friendly.

While the practice is not new, it has increased significantly in these years.

2. As per the Forest Survey of India, which of the following statements stand true while calculating the 'Forest Cover'?
 1. The forest cover reported includes both natural and man-made forests (plantations).
 2. It encompasses all types of forest land irrespective of their ownership or legal status.

3. It includes vast swathes of 'scrubs'.

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Solution: a)

The forest cover includes lands with a tree canopy density of 10% or more. Scrubs do not fit in the definition. It does include plantations. And, in fact, the increase in tree cover reported since 2011 is mainly because of increase in plantation cover.

3. Ebola Virus outbreak is becoming widespread in West Africa. It also had the potential to spread across nations. Which of the following statements about this virus is/are correct?
- 1. Ebola can be fatal to humans.
 - 2. Several cases of Ebola outbreak have been reported recently in India too.
 - 3. The virus is transmitted to people from wild animals and spreads in the human population through human-to-human transmission.

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Solution: c)

Refer to <http://www.downtoearth.org.in/content/all-about-ebola>

4. Jatakas and Avadanas are Buddhist literatures. Which of the following underscores the fundamental difference between Jatakas and Avadanas?
- While Jatakas and Avadanas both are life stories of previous births of the Buddha, in the former Bodhisattva is always the main character.
 - While Jatakas and Avadanas both are life stories of previous births of the Buddha, in the latter Bodhisattva is always the main character.
 - While Jatakas are a collection of life stories of Buddha, Avadanas are a compilation of Buddha's teachings to his close disciples.
 - While Jatakas are a collection of life stories of Buddha, Avadanas are a compilation of Buddha's teachings to the nuns in the viharas.

Solution: a)

The Jatakas is a voluminous body of literature that belongs to India concerning the previous births (jati) of the Buddha. The Jātakamālā is also called Bodhisattva Avadānamālā, for Bodhisattva Avadāna is synonymous with Jātaka. The Jātakas are consequently nothing but Avadānas having the Bodhisattva for their hero. Consequently works like the Sūtrālamkāra and the Jātakamālā have much in common with the texts of the Avadāna literature. On the other hand numerous Jātakas are to be found in the collections of Avadānas.

5. Consider the following statements about the recent National Youth policy 2014:
- The National youth policy 2014 defines youth to be in the age group of 15-29.
 - The National youth policy 2014 considers the youth to be a homogenous group who have similar needs and aspirations.
 - It envisages sports as a way of life.

Which of these statements is/are true?

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

Solution: c)

From the National Youth Policy document – *“United Nations defines ‘youth’ as persons between 15 and 24 years of age. In the National Youth Policy-2003, ‘youth’ was defined a person of age between 13-35 years, but in the current Policy Document, the youth age-group is defined as 15-29 years with a view to have a more focused approach, as far as various policy interventions are concerned. However, it needs to be recognised that all young persons within this age-group are unlikely to be a homogeneous group. Different segments of the Youth would have different needs and concerns, which need to be addressed. It divides youth in separate groups with diverse needs and aspirations.”*

6. Several committees had been setup by the government mainly concerning the estimation of poverty – Rangarajan committee on the Estimation of Poverty being one of them. How is/are the recommendations of this panel different from that its predecessor – Tendulkar Committee?
- 1. Tendulkar committee did not incorporate private health and education expenditures in the estimation of poverty line; the Rangarajan committee incorporated the same.
 - 2. Rangarajan committee treats rural and urban ‘consumption baskets’ to be different; the Tendulkar committee treated rural and urban baskets to be the same.

Which of these is/are true?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both

d) None of the above

Solution: b)

The Tendulkar Committee recommended four major changes from earlier approaches: (i) a shift away from calorie consumption based poverty estimation; (ii) a uniform poverty line basket (PLB) across rural and urban India; (iii) a change in the price adjustment procedure to correct spatial and temporal issues with price adjustment; and (iv) incorporation of private expenditure on health and education while estimating poverty.

And, the following are excerpts from an interview given by Mr. Rangarajan –

“We differed from the Tendulkar committee in two or three ways. One, we included not only calories, but also fat and proteins. Second, we had a minimum basket separately for rural and urban areas. The Tendulkar committee had only one basket and the difference between rural and urban areas came only because of the price differences. Thirdly, I think for the first time, certain normative requirements with respect to non-food consumption expenditures were introduced. It is, of course, very difficult, but we felt that at least for the four categories that I have mentioned earlier (adequate nourishment, clothing, house rent, conveyance and education), we should impose certain minimum expenditures or norms which should be followed. So all this resulted in our poverty line being higher than the poverty line which was indicated by the Tendulkar committee.”

7. The two truths doctrine is a central concept in the Vajrayana path of practice and is the philosophical basis for its methods. What are these two truths respectively?
- a) Common-sense/consensus reality and Nirvana
 - b) Suffering and Nirvana
 - c) Suffering and illusion
 - d) Common-sense/consensus reality and Illusion

Solution: a)

Vajrayana is firmly grounded in Mahayana-philosophy, especially Madhyamaka.

Vajrayana subscribes to the two truths doctrine of conventional and ultimate truths, which is present in all Buddhist tenet systems. The two truths doctrine is a central

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concept in the Vajrayana path of practice and is the philosophical basis for its methods. The two truths identifies conventional a.k.a. relative, and absolute a.k.a. nirvana. Conventional truth is the truth of consensus reality, common-sense notions of what does and does not exist. Ultimate truth is reality as viewed by an awakened, or enlightened mind.

8. The consumers enjoy certain rights in India to protect them from exploitation. Which of the following can be considered as the cases of “unfair trade practices” against which the consumer has the Right to Seek Redressal under the consumer courts?
1. The goods or services purchased by a person or agreed to be purchased by a person has one or more defects or deficiencies in any respect.
 2. If price charged for the product/service is more than what is legally provided for or what was agreed upon.
 3. If the product described is not of the same quality or grade as promised by the seller.

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Solution: d)

Please refer to <http://www.consumerrights.org.in/rights.htm>

9. Miners still use canaries (birds) to detect the presence of a deadly gas in underground coal mines. Which gas is this?
- a) Methane
 - b) Carbon Monoxide

- c) Cyanogen
- d) Firedamp

Solution: b)

Some miners still use canaries to detect the presence of deadly carbon monoxide in underground mines. Miners collapse and often die even if small quantities of the highly poisonous CO are present in the air. When lowered into mines with CO presence, the birds show distress symptoms such as ruffling of feathers, pronounced chirping and loss of life. These reactions occur even if 0.15 per cent of CO is present in the air. If the content is 0.3 per cent the bird shows immediate distress and falls off its perch in two to three minutes. A cage of birds is a good indicator in air containing more than 0.15 per cent CO.

10. Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas (PURA) is a Central Sector scheme for rural development. Consider the following statements about it:
1. It envisages the uses of Public Private Partnerships (PPP) for rural development.
 2. The local executive bodies like the Gram Panchayat can undertake and execute projects under the scheme.
 3. The development of rural markets and village linked tourism can be taken up under the scheme.

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Solution: d)

The objectives of PURA are proposed to be achieved under the framework of Public Private Partnership between Gram Panchayats and private sector partner with active

state government support. Core funding shall be sourced from the Central Sector scheme of PURA and complemented by additional support through convergence of different Central Government schemes. The private sector shall also bring into the project its share of investment besides operational expertise. The scheme would be implemented and managed by the private sector on considerations of economic viability but designed in a manner whereby it is fully aligned with the overall objective of rural development.

11. The National Judicial Appointments Commission Bill has been passed by both the houses of the Parliament. The Bill replaces the collegiums system with a commission for the appointment of judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts. Who among the following will be the members of this commission?
1. Prime Minister
 2. Leader of opposition of Lok Sabha
 3. Chief Justice of India
 4. Two senior judges of the Supreme Court
 5. Union Law Minister

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Solution: d)

The Bill proposes that the Chief Justice of India will head a six-member National Judicial Appointments Commission, other members of which would be the law minister, two senior Supreme Court judges and two eminent people.

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A collegium comprising the Prime Minister, the Chief Justice of India and the leader of the single largest party in the Lok Sabha will select the two eminent people.

One eminent person will be nominated from among the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, OBCs, minorities or women.

12. Mahaparinibban refers to the :
- a) Death of Lord Buddha
 - b) Birth of Lord Buddha
 - c) Enlightenment of Lord Buddha
 - d) First sermon of Lord Buddha

Solution: a)

It refers to the death of Lord Buddha. First sermon by Buddha is called Dhammachakrapravartan. The enlightenment of the Buddha is yearly celebrated in many Buddhist countries. Bodhi (Enlightenment) Day is observed in many mainstream Mahayana traditions including the traditional Zen and Pureland Buddhist schools of China, Korea, Japan, and Vietnam. In Japanese Zen, it is also known as *Rohatsu*.

13. Pictorial mosaic work using semi-precious stones found on walls, cenotaphs and marble *jalis* in the Taj Mahal is known as:
- a) Peitra-dura
 - b) Naqqar
 - c) Mausoleums
 - d) Intarsia

Solution: a)

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Naqqar khana was a drum house from where ceremonial music was played over the gate in Mughal complexes. Intarsia is an Italian art form related to Peitra-dura.

14. In which of the following renewable energy sources is the highest capacity installed in India?
- a) Wind energy
 - b) Solar energy
 - c) Small-hydro power
 - d) Biomass power

Solution: a)

Here is the breakup till May 2014:

Source	Total Installed Capacity (MW)
Wind Power	21,262.23
Solar Power (SPV)	2,647.00
Small Hydro Power	3,803.65
Biomass Power	1,365.20
Bagasse Cogeneration	2,512.88
Waste to Power	106.58
Total	31,833.01

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Source	Total Installed Capacity (MW)

15. Which of the following marks out the difference between strategic sale and minority sale of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs)?
- Public Ownership is necessarily preserved in both, but in minority sale less than 51% of shares are sold unlike in strategic sale.
 - Public Ownership may not be preserved in Minority sale unlike strategic sale as more than 51% shares may be sold by the government.
 - Public Ownership is not preserved in Strategic sale, unlike minority sale, as more than 51% shares may be sold by the government.
 - Public Ownership is necessarily preserved in both, but in strategic sale less than 51% of shares are sold unlike in minority sale.

Solution: c)

Strategic Sale refers to the sale of 51% or more stake of a PSU to the private sector who bids the highest. The ownership of PSU is handed over to the private sector.

Minority Sale refers to the sale of less than 49% stake of a PSU to the private sector. The ownership of PSU still remains with the government as it holds 51% of stakes.

16. Consider the following statements about marine upwelling zones:
- Upwelling usually occurs in the open ocean and along coastlines.
 - It results in the sinking of nutrients from the surface to deeper waters.

3. Coral reefs population is high in these regions because of nutrient rich bottom waters.

Choose the correct statements from the codes below:

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

Solution: a)

Winds blowing across the ocean surface push water away. Water then rises up from beneath the surface to replace the water that was pushed away. This process is known as “upwelling.”

Upwelling occurs in the open ocean and along coastlines. The reverse process, called “downwelling,” also occurs when wind causes surface water to build up along a coastline and the surface water eventually sinks toward the bottom.

Water that rises to the surface as a result of upwelling is typically colder and is rich in nutrients. These nutrients “fertilize” surface waters, meaning that these surface waters often have high biological productivity i.e. more phtoplanktons etc.. Therefore, good fishing grounds typically are found where upwelling is common.

The three main drivers that work together to cause upwelling are wind, Coriolis effects, and Ekman transport (Ekman Transport is the net motion of fluid as the result of a balance between Coriolis and turbulent drag forces).

17. Public spending across different sectors in Education in India as a percentage of GDP is highest in which of the following?
- a) Total spending highest in elementary education; per capita spending highest in tertiary education
 - b) Total spending highest in tertiary education; per capita spending highest in elementary education

- c) Total spending highest in tertiary education; per capita spending highest in tertiary education
- d) Total spending highest in elementary education; per capita spending highest in secondary education

Solution: a)

Total spending is the highest in elementary education and the per capita spending is highest in tertiary education i.e. higher and technical education sector.

To give an idea of only Central government spending (not total public expenditure); spending on education was 3.3% of GDP in 2013-14. Out of this, more than 50% was spent on the elementary education sector.

18. What is 'golden revolution' related to?
- a) High production of fruits and vegetables
 - b) High production of genetically modified golden rice variety
 - c) High production of jute
 - d) High production of oil seeds

Solution: a)

List of All Revolutions:

- Black Revolution – Petroleum Production
- Blue Revolution – Fish Production
- Brown Revolution – Leather/non-conventional(India)/Cocoa production
- Golden Fibre Revolution – Jute Production
- Golden Revolution – Fruits/Overall Horticulture development/Honey Production
- Green Revolution – Food grains
- Grey Revolution – Fertilizer
- Pink Revolution – Meat Production – some also refer it to prawns/onion/pharmaceuticals production
- Round Revolution – Potato
- Silver Fiber Revolution – Cotton
- Silver Revolution – Egg/Poultry Production

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- White Revolution (In India: Operation Flood) – Milk/Dairy production
- Yellow Revolution – Oil Seeds production

19. The Union government is presently examining proposals to amend some labour laws. Labour laws mediate the relationship between workers, employers, trade unions and the government. Which of the following is/are considered to be labour laws in India?
1. Apprentices Act, 1961
 2. Industrial Disputes Act, 1947
 3. The Employment Exchanges (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act, 1959

Choose the correct statements from the codes below:

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

Solution: d)

UPSC keeps asking questions related to laws concerning contemporary issues.

Here is the list of some important labour laws in India:

- a) Apprentices Act, 1961 29
- b) Employees State Insurance Act, 1948 36
- c) Employees Provident Fund And Misc. Provisions Act, 1952 51
- d) The Employment Exchanges (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act, 1959
- e) Factories Act, 1948 58
- f) Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 74
- g) Labour Laws (Exemption From Furnishing Returns & Maintaining Registers By Certain Establishments) Act, 1988

- h) Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 83
- i) Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972 87
- j) Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923

20. Ultra-violet radiation will inhibit the growth of
1. Phytoplanktons
 2. Zooplanktons
 3. Coral reefs

Choose the correct statements from the codes below:

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

Solution: d)

Refer to <http://www.sciencealert.com.au/news/20122607-23613.html>

21. Concerning air and water pollution, which of the following genre of activities are undertaken by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)?
1. Research
 2. Regulation
 3. Awareness generation

Choose the correct statements from the codes below:

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

- d) All of the above

Solution: d)

In order to address two major environmental concerns in India, viz. water and air pollution, the government set up the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in 1974. This was followed by states establishing their own state level boards to address all the environmental concerns.

They investigate, collect and disseminate information relating to water, air and land pollution, lay down standards for sewage/trade effluent and emissions. These boards provide technical assistance to governments in promoting cleanliness of streams and wells by prevention, control and abatement of water pollution, and improve the quality of air and to prevent, control or abate air pollution in the country.

These boards also carry out and sponsor investigation and research relating to problems of water and air pollution and for their prevention, control or abatement. They also organise, through mass media, a comprehensive mass awareness programme for the same. The PCBs prepare manuals, codes and guidelines relating to treatment and disposal of sewage and trade effluents.

They assess the air quality through regulation of industries. In fact, state boards, through their district level officials, periodically inspect every industry under their jurisdiction to assess the adequacy of treatment measures provided to treat the effluent and gaseous emissions. It also provides background air quality data needed for industrial siting and town planning.

22. Breakfast cereals put in milk tend to clump together or cling to the sides of a bowl of milk. What causes it?
- a) Surface tension in the liquid.
 - b) High temperature of liquid.
 - c) Adhesive forces between the breakfast cereals are stronger than the cohesive forces of the liquid.
 - d) Cohesive forces between the breakfast cereals are stronger than the adhesive forces of the liquid.

Solution: a)

Dubbed the Cheerios Effect by scientists, this clumping phenomenon applies to anything that floats, including fizzy soda bubbles and hair particles in water after a morning shave.

Surface tension makes the milk's surface cave in slightly in the middle of the bowl. Because water molecules in the milk are attracted to glass, the milk's surface curves upward around the bowl's edge. For this reason, pieces of the cereal near the edge float upward along this curve, appearing as if they're clinging to the edge.

Also because of surface tension, cereal floating in the middle of your bowl dents the milk's surface, creating a dip in it. When two pieces of cereal touch, their two dents become one, and, resting in it, they stick together.

23. Sometimes under very cold conditions when ice freezes/forms rapidly, spikes can be seen on its surface. Which of the following is the most appropriate explanation for this phenomenon?

- a) The gases stored inside the ice crystal tend to come out due to rapid cooling and distort the ice structure thus forming hollow spikes.
- b) Different points on the surface of the ice freeze at different times thus distorting the ice structure and forming a hollow spike
- c) Small holes may be left in rapidly freezing ice. As freezing continues, the expanding ice under the surface forces the remaining water up through the hole and it freezes around the edge forming a hollow spike.
- d) Because of the high pressure and very low temperatures different points on the surface of the ice freeze non-uniformly giving rise to spikes.

Solution: c)

The short explanation is this: as the ice freezes fast under supercooled conditions, the surface can get covered except for a small hole. Water expands when it freezes. As

freezing continues, the expanding ice under the surface forces the remaining water up through the hole and it freezes around the edge forming a hollow spike. Eventually, the whole thing freezes and the spike is left.

A slightly longer explanation: the form of the ice crystals depends on the cooling rate and hence on the degree of supercooling. Large supercooling favors sheets which rapidly cover the surface, with some sheets hanging down into the water like curtains. These crystallites tend to join at 60 degrees and leave triangular holes in the surface. Hence, spikes often have a triangular base. The sides of the spike are sometimes a continuation of pre-existing subsurface crystallites, and can extend from the surface at steep angles.

24. Consider the following statements about the conversion in the states of water:
1. Hot water may freeze faster than cold water under similar conditions.
 2. Water at high pressure freezes faster than water at low pressure.
 3. In vacuum, liquid water will start boiling regardless of what the temperature is.

Which of these is/are true?

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

Solution: c)

Faster freezing of hot water seems counter-intuitive. But this phenomenon was first observed by Aristotle. It is explained based on several principles but a correct explanation has been elusive till date.

Air pressure certainly affects the freezing temperature. The higher the pressure, the lower the freezing temperature. Since it will take water longer to reach the lower temperature, it would freeze more slowly.

There are two ways that the higher pressure lowers the freezing temperature.

One is direct. Ice occupies more volume than liquid water, so squeezing harder favors the liquid over the ice state.

The second is less direct. At higher pressure, more air (nitrogen and oxygen molecules) goes into solution. The more molecules dissolved in the water, the lower the freezing point. That's discussed more in other answers here on the freezing of saltwater.

There are two other points to worry about here. One is that at higher pressures, the air will have a higher heat capacity per unit volume than at lower pressures, and so flowing high-pressure cold air past the water can freeze the water faster. If the high-pressure air does not flow (that is, if you pressurize a closed container) then this should have almost no effect.

Placing water in a vacuum: Liquid water will boil if its vapor pressure is greater than the ambient air pressure. In a vacuum, liquid water will start to boil regardless of what the temperature is. Turning water from a liquid to a vapor takes 540 calories per gram, and this heat is taken from the liquid water, cooling it off. In a vacuum, the water will continue to boil until so much heat has been removed that the remaining water will freeze. This is a very quick way to freeze water.

If you put the water in a sealed container with a vacuum, then the water will only boil for a very short time until the container is full of water vapor (no vacuum any more). If you want to freeze the water by boiling it, you have to constantly pump away the water vapor with a vacuum pump.

25. A 'Green building' is a building which
- a) uses less water
 - b) optimizes energy efficiency
 - c) generates less waste as compared to conventional buildings
 - d) does all of the above mentioned

Solution: d)

A green building is one which uses less water, optimises energy efficiency, conserves natural resources, generates less waste and provides healthier spaces for occupants, as compared to a conventional building.

Indian Green Building Council, formed by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in the year 2001, is continuously striving towards wider adoption of eco-friendly / green building concepts in the Indian Industry.

The Indian Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) had launched the Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC). The code is set for energy efficiency standards for design and construction with any building of minimum conditioned area of 1000 Sq mts and a connected demand of power of 500 KW or 600 KVA.

26. What is carrying capacity in terms of ecology?
- a) The largest size of a density-dependent population for which the population growth is zero.
 - b) The smallest size of a density-dependent population for which the population growth is zero.
 - c) The largest size of a density-dependent population for which the population growth is highest.
 - d) The smallest size of a density-dependent population for which the population growth is zero.

Solution: a)

It is the measure of habitat to indefinitely sustain a population at a particular density. A more technical definition for carrying capacity is the largest size of a density-dependent population for which the population growth rate is zero. Hence, below carrying capacity, populations will tend to increase, while they will decrease above carrying capacity.

27. Various items enter in the current account of the balance of payments, some of which are not visible goods. These are called invisibles. Which among the following are invisibles?
1. Remittances
 2. Trade in services
 3. Government grants and interests, profits and dividends on investment abroad

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Solution: d)

28. Consider the following statements about Special Economic Zones (SEZs):
1. It is a geographical region that has economic laws different from a country's typical economic laws.
 2. It is usually located within the host country's territorial boundaries.
 3. Attracting foreign direct investment is one of the objectives behind establishing SEZs.

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Solution: d)

Special Economic Zone (SEZ) : It is a geographical region that has economic laws different from a country's typical economic laws. Usually the goal is to increase foreign investment. Special Economic Zones have been established in several

countries, including the People's Republic of China, India, Jordan, Poland, Kazakhstan, the Philippines and Russia.

Broadly, SEZs are located within a country's national borders. The aims of the zones include: increased trade, increased investment, job creation and effective administration. To encourage businesses to set up in the zone liberal policies are introduced. These policies typically regard investing, taxation, trading, quotas, customs and labour regulations. Additionally, companies may be offered tax holidays.

The creation of special economic zones by the host country may be motivated by the desire to attract foreign direct investment (FDI). The benefits a company gains by being in a Special Economic Zone may mean it can produce and trade goods at a globally competitive price. The operating definition of an economic zone is determined individually by each country.

29. Consider the following statements about Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) in connection with internet:
1. It controls content on the internet.
 2. It is an autonomous agency of the federal government of the United States of America.
 3. It helps co-ordinate how Internet Protocol (IP) addresses are supplied to avoid repetition or clashes.

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Solution: d)

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Refer to <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/what-2012-02-25-en>

30. Consider the following statements about Geographical Indication (GI):
1. It is a sign used on certain goods that have a certain geographical origin with certain unique traits essentially attributed to the place of their origin.
 2. It is covered under the Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS).
 3. In India, there is a legal provision for granting and safeguarding GI.

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Solution: d)

A GI tag ensures that no one other than the registered users (or at least those residing inside the geographic territory) are allowed to use the popular product name. Darjeeling tea became the first GI tagged product in India in 2004-05. India enacted the GI of goods (registration and protection) Act, 1999 which is in force from 2003.

31. How are second-generation bio-fuels ((SGBF) different from first generation bio-fuels (FGBF)?
- a) FGBF is made from edible sources whereas SGBF can be made from a wide variety of biomass which is mainly non-edible.

- b) FGBF is made from non-edible sources whereas SGBF is made from edible sources.
- c) FGBF is made from algae whereas SGBF can be made from a wide variety of biomass which is mainly non-edible.
- d) FGBF is made from edible sources whereas SGBF can be made from a wide variety of algae and phytoplanktons.

Solution: a)

<http://energyfromwasteandwood.weebly.com/generations-of-biofuels.html>

32. Which of the following connotes 'Gross capital formation'?
- a) Investment in infrastructure
 - b) Investment in sovereign bond markets
 - c) Augmentation of foreign exchange reserves
 - d) Augmentation of public exchequer

Solution: a)

A term used to describe net capital accumulation during an accounting period. Capital formation refers to net additions of capital stock such as equipment, buildings and other intermediate goods. A nation uses capital stock in combination with labour to provide services and produce goods; an increase in this capital stock is known as capital formation.

33. Consider the following matches as far as money supply in the Indian economy is concerned:
- 1. Aggregate Monetary resources (M3) – Broad money (M4) without deposits held in post office savings organization
 - 2. Narrow money (M1) – Currency notes, coins and demand deposits held by public in commercial banks

3. Broad Money (M4) – Narrow Money (M1) with time deposits held by public in commercial banks and total deposits with post office savings organization

Which are correct matches?

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

Solution: d)

Self-explanatory.

34. In macroeconomics, there is usually an annual trade off between
- a) Consumption goods and capital goods
 - b) Capital goods and intermediate goods
 - c) Intermediate goods and consumption goods
 - d) Consumer durables and intermediate goods

Solution: a)

Total production of final goods can thus be either in the form of consumption or investment. This implies that there is a trade-off. If an economy, produces more of consumer goods, it is producing less of capital goods and vice-versa.

Of the total output of final goods of an economy, if a larger share goes for production of capital goods, a smaller share is available for production of consumer goods.

For a detailed explanation refer to the chapter – National Income accounting 12th NCERT Macroeconomics.

35. GDP deflator is

- a) GDP Nominal divided by GDP real
- b) GDP Nominal divided by GDP (PPP)
- c) GDP (PPP) divided by GDP real
- d) GDP Real divided by GDP Nominal

Solution: a)

GDP deflator is used to calculate overall rise in prices alongwith the total production in the economy in an year. It does not capture the true rise in the GDP as it includes inflation too. GDP real calculates the GDP growth at constant prices.

36. Consider the following statements:

Assertion (A): Legally speaking, checques can be refused as a mode of payment but currency generally can not be.

Reason (R): Demand deposits are not legal tenders unlike currency.

In the context of the statements above, which is true?

- (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not a correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true, but R is false
- (d) A is false, but R is true

Solution; a)

The fiat money or currency that we carry has the legal backing of the RBI. Note that the note itself has no intrinsic value. It is the legal tender that the RBI has with you is of value.

The value of the currency notes and coins is derived from the guarantee provided by the issuing authority of these items. Every currency note bears on its face a promise from the Governor of RBI that if someone produces the note to RBI, or any other commercial bank, RBI will be responsible for giving the person purchasing power equal to the value printed on the note. The same is also true of coins. Currency notes and coins are therefore called fiat money. They do not have intrinsic value like a gold or silver coin. They are also called legal tenders as they cannot be refused by any citizen of the country for settlement of any kind of transaction. Cheques drawn on savings or current accounts, however, can be refused by anyone as a mode of payment. Hence, demand deposits are not legal tenders.

37. Which of the following forces the commercial banks in India to maintain a high reserve deposit ratio (RDR)?
1. High Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)
 2. High Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)
 3. High Bank Rate

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Solution: d)

High CRR and high SLR force the banks legally to maintain a high reserve deposit ratio.

Bank rate is the rate at which the commercial banks borrow money from RBI in times of liquidity crunch. If the bank rate is high banks will be de-incentivized to borrow from RBI. Hence, they will maintain high RDR.

38. The increment in total money supply exceeds the amount of high powered money initially injected by RBI into the economy. This effect is known as
- Money multiplier effect
 - High powered money effect
 - Sterilization effect
 - Liquidity trap

Solution: a)

Please refer to page 41-43 of 12th NCERT Macroeconomics to gain a detailed understanding of money multiplier.

In short, by successive cycles of borrowing, spending and depositing, banks and individuals create much more credit than the RBI initially injects in the economy.

39. Consider the following statements:
- Fiscal deficit is always inflationary.
 - Fiscal deficit may increase in economic recession without a change in fiscal policy.

Which of these is/are true?

- Only 1
- Only 2
- Both
- None of the above

Solution: b)

Fiscal deficit usually injects money in the economy leading to enhanced demand. If this demand is not met with adequate supply, it will result in inflation. Otherwise, it will not be inflationary if kept in limits.

In a recession, there is a fall in production of goods and services in the economy. The earnings of the government therefore reduce due to a reduction in tax (corporate

tax, excise duty) and non-tax revenue (from PSUs etc.). However, the expenditure side remains more or less the same. And, in fact the government may have to inject more money in form of a fiscal stimulus. This leads to widening of fiscal deficit.

40. If two currencies are at purchasing power parity, it means between them the
- a) Real exchange rate is equal to one.
 - b) Nominal exchange rate is equal to one.
 - c) Nominal effective exchange rate (NEER) is equal to one.
 - d) Real effective exchange rate (REER) is equal to one.

Solution: a)

REER and NEER measure the exchange rate in a basket of currencies. So they do not apply to two currencies individually.

Nominal exchange rate is what we usually know as the dollar-rupee, yen-rupee exchange rate.

Real exchange rate is different and takes into account the price levels in the two countries.

Explanation from NCERT: *“If one wants to plan a trip to London, she needs to know how expensive British goods are relative to goods at home. The measure that captures this is the real exchange rate – the ratio of foreign to domestic prices, measured in the same currency. It is defined as*

$$\text{Real exchange rate} = eP_f/P$$

where P and P_f are the price levels here and abroad, respectively, and e is the rupee price of foreign exchange (the nominal exchange rate). The numerator expresses prices abroad measured in rupees, the denominator gives the domestic price level measured in rupees, so the real exchange rate measures prices abroad relative to those at home. If the real exchange rate is equal to one, currencies are at purchasing power parity. This means that goods cost the same in two countries when measured in the same currency.

41. India economy has been suffering with twin deficits. Which of the following are known as 'twin deficits'?
- Fiscal deficit and Capital account deficit
 - Capital account deficit and Current Account deficit
 - Fiscal deficit and Current Account deficit
 - Revenue deficit and budgetary deficit

Solution: c)

42. Which of the following may potentially affect nominal currency exchange rate between two economies?
- Higher Inflation in the economy as compared to the other economy
 - Higher Interest rates in the economy as compared to other economies

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

- Only 1
- Only 2
- Both
- None of the above

Solution: c)

High inflation makes domestic products less competitive and thus causes a decline in exports. Besides, high inflation discourages foreign investment. These two combinedly widen the fiscal deficit and make its financing difficult. This leads to depreciation in the currency.

High interest rates, on the other hand, encourage foreign investors as they get high returns on their deposits. This helps finance CAD and thus in the appreciation of the currency.

43. India follows
- a) Flexible exchange rate system
 - b) Managed floating exchange rate system
 - c) Fixed exchange rate system
 - d) Pegged exchange rate system

Solution: b)

Without any formal international agreement, the world has moved on to what can be best described as a managed floating exchange rate system. It is a mixture of a flexible exchange rate system (the float part) and a fixed rate system (the managed part). Under this system, also called dirty floating, central banks intervene to buy and sell foreign currencies in an attempt to moderate exchange rate movements whenever they feel that such actions are appropriate. Official reserve transactions are, therefore, not equal to zero. India also follows this system.

44. For a developing and externally independent (i.e. imports, exports and trade with global economy are negligible) economy, which of the following would give the best picture of economic strength?
- a) Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at Purchasing Power Parity (PPP)
 - b) Nominal GDP
 - c) Real GDP
 - d) Real Gross National Product (GNP)

Solution: a)

Consider this: Suppose Tanzania and US produce the same quantity of the same goods and services. Because of the high prices in the US, its GDP will be naturally more than Tanzania even though the total production is same. This would give a false picture of the economic strength of Tanzania.

Read the following. It will be clearer.

Market exchange rates are determined by the daily demand and supply of currencies in the international market, in turn determined mainly by things that are globally

tradable, while many goods and services are never traded internationally.

Also, developing countries have relatively lower prices of these non-tradable goods and services. Hence, conversion of GDP into dollars at the market exchange price would give a lower value to the GDP of a developing country like India than is warranted. Hence, to make an apples to apples comparison, PPP exchange rates are calculated by comparing the prices of a similar basket of goods and services in different countries.

These rates are then used to determine the GDPs of different countries in PPP dollars. To see how much of a difference using PPP rates can make, consider this: In nominal dollars, China has only just overtaken Japan as the second largest economy in the world and is only a little more than one-third the size of US economy. India is ranked 12th and is just 10% of the US economy.

In PPP terms, China is more than double the size of Japan and about two-thirds the size of the US. India is ranked fourth just a little behind Japan and about one-fourth as big as the US economy.

45. The Triffin dilemma is a
- Conflict of economic interests that arises between short-term domestic and long-term international objectives when a national currency also serves as a world reserve currency.
 - Conflict of economic interests that arises between maintaining a competitive domestic economy and complying to WTO trade norms.
 - Conflict of economic interests that arises between giving primacy to domestic investment and simultaneously foreign investment requiring national treatment.
 - Conflict of interests that arises between maintaining a healthy fiscal balance under austerity measures; and boosting economic growth in times of recession.

Solution: a)

The Triffin dilemma or paradox is the conflict of economic interests that arises between short-term domestic and long-term international objectives when a national currency also serves as a world reserve currency. The dilemma of choosing between these objectives was first identified in the 1960s by Belgian-American economist Robert Triffin. He pointed out that the country whose currency, being the global reserve currency, foreign nations wish to hold, must be willing to supply the world with an extra supply of its currency to fulfill world demand for these foreign exchange reserves, and thus cause a trade deficit.

The use of a national currency, e.g., the U.S. dollar, as global reserve currency leads to tension between its national and global monetary policy. This is reflected in fundamental imbalances in the balance of payments, specifically the current account: some goals require an overall flow of dollars out of the United States, while others require an overall flow of dollars into the United States.

Specifically, the Triffin dilemma is usually cited to articulate the problems with the role of the U.S. dollar as the reserve currency under the Bretton Woods system.

46. Net National Product (NNP) at factor cost does NOT include which of the following?
1. Indirect taxes
 2. Subsidies
 3. Inflation rates since the base year

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Solution: a)

NNP at factor cost = GDP - depreciation - (Indirect taxes - subsidies)

It takes inflation into account and hence is not called national income.

NNP at factor cost at constant prices = GDP at constant prices – depreciation – (Indirect taxes – subsidies)

It takes inflation into account and hence is called national income.

47. In microeconomics, certain goods and service are described as 'relatively inelastic services'. Which of the following consumed in India may come in this category?

1. Salt
2. Movie tickets
3. Petrol

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Solution: c)

An elastic good is a good where if the price goes up, people will stop buying or greatly reduce demand of a particular product; and if the price goes down, people will greatly increase of increase demand of a particular good. An inelastic good is a good where if the price goes up, people will only slightly reduce demand of a particular product; and if the price goes down, people will only slightly increase demand of a particular good.

Elastic goods are generally non-necessities or luxuries like movie tickets, cars, dinner in restaurants etc. Inelastic goods are generally necessary goods like salt, water, petrol etc.

48. In 2013, the Department of Agriculture, Government of India released “Policy and process guidelines for Farmer Produce organizations (FPOs)”. It identifies FPOs based on certain principles. Which are those among the following?

1. Voluntary and open membership (for farmers)
2. Democratic farmer-member control
3. State control and ownership of FPOs

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Solution: a)

FPOs are self-help organizations of farmers owned and administered by the farmer-members. Every annual budget from the past few years is making certain concessions to these FPOs. They are usually registered as a company under the Companies Act or as a society under the Societies Registration Act. Please refer to the following document to understand the background and guidelines for FPOs <http://nhm.nic.in/Archive/FPO-Policy&Process-GuidelinesDAC2013.pdf>

Just scan through the initial 8-10 pages.

And this too http://www.business-standard.com/article/budget/farmer-producer-organisations-may-get-tax-exemptions-in-2013-budget-113022300355_1.html

49. Which of the following acts separated for the first time, the legislative and executive functions of the Governor-general’s council?

- a) Charter Act 1853
- b) Charter Act 1833
- c) Indian councils Act 1861
- d) Indian councils Act 1892

Solution: a)

This legislative council so established came to be known as Central legislative council.

50. Which of the following features of the constitution are borrowed from the Government of India Act, 1935?

1. Public Service Commissions
2. Office of Governor
3. Procedure established by law

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Solution: a)

Other features borrowed are federal scheme; judiciary, emergency provisions and other administrative details.

51. Which of the following most appropriately characterizes the socialist nature of the Indian state?

- a) Fundamental Rights
- b) Fundamental Duties
- c) Directive Principles of State Policy
- d) Constitutional Rights

Solution: c)

Rights and duties clarify the political architecture of the Indian state, to some extent social too. But the socialist essence of the state is characterized best by DPSP.

52. For reorganization of a state, which of the following is the correct order of the legislative procedure as per the Article 3 of the constitution?
1. President recommends the bill to the Parliament for reorganization of state(s)
 2. President refers the reorganization bill to concerned state(s)
 3. Parliament considers the bill for reorganization of state(s)
 4. President gives assent to the reorganization bill passed by the Parliament

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Solution: b)

Prior Presidential recommendation is required before taking up this bill in Parliament. And before recommending the bill, the President refers the bill to the concerned state legislature.

53. Constitutional amendments regarding which of the following would come outside the purview of Article 368?
1. Abolition or creation of legislative councils in states
 2. Conferment of more jurisdiction on the Supreme Court
 3. Citizenship – acquisition and termination

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Solution: d)

All these require a simple majority in the Parliament and thus are not considered an amendment under Article 368 of the constitution.

54. Elections for which of the following are conducted by the Election Commission of India?
1. Lok Sabha
 2. Rajya Sabha
 3. Speaker of Lok Sabha
 4. State legislative assembly
 5. State Legislative Council
 6. District level local bodies

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

- a) All except 6
- b) All except 3 and 6
- c) All except 3, 5 and 6
- d) All except 2, 3 and 5

Solution: b)

In addition to these, ECI also conducts elections of President, Vice-President etc.

55. The constitution of India or any Parliamentary Act as made under its provisions (for appointment) does NOT prescribe qualifications (legal, educational, administrative or judicial) for which of the following constitutional posts?
1. Chairman, National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)
 2. Chief Election Commissioner (CEC)
 3. Members of Finance Commission (FC)

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

- a) All of the above
- b) None of the above
- c) Only 2

d) 1 and 2

Solution: c)

There are no qualifications mentioned by the constitution for the election commissioners. NHRCF chairman should be a serving or retired judge of the Supreme Court. Members of the FC should be experts in finance, economics, administration etc.

56. Which of the following offices established under the constitution/statutes subscribe to oath before assuming office?

1. Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG)
2. Chairman, National Commission for SCs
3. Chief Information Commissioner
4. Chairman, UPSC
5. Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC)

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

- a) All of the above
- b) None of the above
- c) 1, 3 and 5
- d) 1, 3 and 4

Solution: c)

Other offices which take oath are: President, Vice-President, PM, judges of SC and HC, Union and State Ministers, MPs, Governor, MLAs, MLCs.

57. Consider the following statements:

1. Apart from the Parliament, the state legislatures can also make provision with respect to several matters relating to elections to the state legislature.
2. Parliament can establish a tribunal for the adjudication of election disputes from which no appeal lies to any court in India.

Which of these is/are INCORRECT?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both
- d) None of the above

Solution: b)

Appeal will lie to both the HC and SC. State legislatures can make laws on all matters related to elections to state legislatures but it should not contravene Parliamentary laws on the same.

58. Which one of the following statements is INCORRECT?

- a) The word 'Minority' is nowhere defined in the constitution.
- b) Religious Minorities are defined nationally.
- c) Linguistic minorities are defined state wise.
- d) None of the above

Solution: d)

Self-explanatory. For e.g. Jains were recently recognized as a national religious minority group.

59. Which of the following statements is/are correct?
- a) The constitution does not specify the official language of different states.
 - b) Official language of the state can only be among the languages enumerated in the Eighth schedule of the constitution.
 - c) A grievance redressal representation (in a language used in the state) from an aggrieved person can be rejected on the grounds that it is not in the official language of the state.
 - d) None of the above

Solution: a)

The choice of official language of the state is not restricted to 8th schedule.

It is up to the state to decide their official language. The constitution does not prescribe it for the state.

60. Which of the following statements about the Central Information Commissioner (CIC) is INCORRECT?
- a) The CIC has suo-moto powers of inquiry on reasonable grounds.
 - b) The constitution mentions certain qualifications for the post of CIC.
 - c) It is not a constitutional body.
 - d) Appeals regarding the matters concerning states from the State Information Commission lies to the CIC.

Solution: d)

Appeal from SIC lies to the High court. The CIC handles only cases related to the Central government and its agencies.

61. Parliament consists of
- a) President, Vice-President, Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha
 - b) President, Vice-President, Attorney-general, Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha
 - c) President, Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha
 - d) Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha only

Solution: c)

62. Parliament can NOT legislate in subjects mentioned in the state list in which of the following cases?
- a) Rajya Sabha has passed a resolution allowing Parliament to legislate in a subject in the state list
 - b) The Central government wants to implement an International treaty which concerns a subject in the state list
 - c) The Governors of a majority of the states request the Parliament to legislate on a subject the state list.
 - d) During a National emergency

Solution: c)

The approval of the concerned state legislatures is required, not the Governor's.

63. Consider the following matches - National Parks with the states they are situated in.

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1. Bannerghatta National Park – Karnataka
2. Great Himalayan National Park – Uttarakhand
3. Keoladeo National Park – Rajasthan

Which of these is/are correctly matched?

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

Solution: c)

Great Himalayan National Park is located in Himachal Pradesh.

64. Which of the following would negatively affect ocean as a carbon sink?
1. Severe Ozone layer depletion
 2. Ocean acidification
 3. Global warming

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Solution: d)

Severe ozone level depletion will lead to severe penetration of UV rays which would inhibit the growth and even kill phytoplankton populations in the ocean. These are major carbon sinks.

Coral reefs are important in determining the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. The zooxanthellae algae, through photosynthesis, remove carbon

dioxide from the air and make carbohydrates available as food for both the zooxanthellae and the coral polyps. Eventually, much of the carbon removed from the air will reside on the ocean bottom in the form of limestone produced by coral polyps.

Ocean acidification and global warming would negatively affect coral reefs, even bleaching them completely. This would result in corals that are much less effective in absorbing carbon from the atmosphere.

65. As per the Ramsar Convention, 1971, which of the following would come under the definition of 'wetlands'?

1. Lakes
2. Coastal lagoons
3. Mangrove swamps

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Solution: d)

Five major wetland types are generally recognized:

- marine (coastal wetlands including coastal lagoons, rocky shores, and coral reefs);
- estuarine (including deltas, tidal marshes, and mangrove swamps);
- lacustrine (wetlands associated with lakes);
- riverine (wetlands along rivers and streams); and
- palustrine (meaning "marshy" - marshes, swamps and bogs).

In addition, there are human-made wetlands such as fish and shrimp ponds, farm ponds, irrigated agricultural land, salt pans, reservoirs, gravel pits, sewage farms and canals. The Ramsar Convention has adopted a Ramsar Classification of Wetland Type which includes 42 types, grouped into three categories: Marine and Coastal

Wetlands, Inland Wetlands, and Human-made Wetlands.

66. Which of the following species are considered critically endangered in India?

1. Great Indian bustard
2. Indian vulture
3. Lesser florican
4. Sarus Crane

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Solution: a)

All Gyps species of vultures (Critically Endangered), Forest Owlet (Critically Endangered), Lesser Florican (Endangered), Narcondam Hornbill (Endangered), Sarus Crane (Vulnerable), Yellow-throated Bulbul (Vulnerable), Lesser Flamingo (Near Threatened) and Painted Stork (Near Threatened).

67. Consider the following statements about Jatropha:

1. It can be used to make bio-fuel.
2. Jatropha plantations do not exist in India.
3. It can be planted in hot and arid regions.

Choose the correct answer using the codes below:

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

Solution: c)

68. Consider the following:

1. Bacteria and spores.
2. Sea-salt.
3. Pollen grains.

Which of these are naturally found aerosols?

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

Solution: d)

Aerosols are fine particles suspended in the atmosphere. Others are volcano ash, water vapour and dust.

69. What is no-till with regard to the practices of Conservation tillage?

- a) It involves planting crops directly into residue that either hasn't been tilled at all or has been tilled only in narrow strips with the rest of the field left untilled.
- b) It is a reduced tillage system that leaves at least one third of the soil surface covered with crop residue.
- c) It involves planting row crops on permanent ridges adjacent to each other.
- d) None of the above

Solution: a)

Conservation tillage is any method of soil cultivation that leaves the previous year's crop residue (such as corn stalks or wheat stubble) on fields before and after planting the next crop, to reduce soil erosion and runoff.

Conservation tillage methods include no-till, strip-till, ridge-till and mulch-till. Each method requires different types of specialized or modified equipment and adaptations in management.

No-till and strip-till involve planting crops directly into residue that either hasn't been tilled at all (no-till) or has been tilled only in narrow strips with the rest of the field left untilled (strip-till).

Ridge-till involves planting row crops on permanent ridges about 4-6 inches high. The previous crop's residue is cleared off ridge-tops into adjacent furrows to make way for the new crop being planted on ridges. Maintaining the ridges is essential and requires modified or specialized equipment.

Mulch-till is any other reduced tillage system that leaves at least one third of the soil surface covered with crop residue.

70. While cutting Onions, there is a burning sensation in the eyes. A certain gas reacts with tears in the eyes to produce a compound 'X' which gives this burning sensation? What is X?
- a) Sulphuric Acid
 - b) Nitric Acid
 - c) Hydrochloric acid
 - d) Carbonic acid

Solution: a)

When you cut an onion, you break cells, releasing their contents. Amino acid sulfoxides form sulfenic acids. Enzymes that were kept separate now are free to mix with the sulfenic acids to produce propanethiol S-oxide, a volatile sulfur compound that wafts upward toward your eyes. This gas reacts with the water in your tears to form sulfuric acid. The sulfuric acid burns, stimulating your eyes to release more tears to wash the irritant away.

71. With reference to the Sulaiman and Kirthar hills, consider the following statements

1. These hills contain areas where earliest evidence of wheat and barley cultivation is found
2. Sulaiman Range is located in Iran whereas Kirthar hills are located in Afghanistan and Pakistan border

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) Both
- d) None of the above

Solution: a)

Kirthar Mountains are a Mountain Range located in Balochistan and Sindh provinces of Pakistan.

The Sulaiman are a major geological feature of eastern and southeastern Afghanistan (Zabul, most of Loya Paktiaand northeastern Kandahar), and South Waziristan, most of northern Balochistan Province and some of southwestern Punjab Province of Pakistan.

72. Consider the following statements

1. The average height of Shiwalik ranges is 2000 to 3500 metres
2. Shiwalik mountain range is the youngest of the Himalayan Ranges

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) Both
- d) None of the above

Solution: b)

Though only 10 miles (16 km) wide in places, the Shiwalik range has an average elevation of 3,000 to 4,000 feet (900 to 1,200 metres). It rises abruptly from the plain of the Indus and Ganges (Ganga) rivers (south) and parallels the main range of the Himalayas(north), from which it is separated by valleys.

The Sivalik hills are the southernmost and geologically youngest east-west mountain chain of the Himalayas.

73. Sandstone which was used as building material in ancient times, is a
- Metamorphic Rock
 - Sedimentary Rock
 - Igneous Rock
 - None of the above

Solution: b)

Sandstone is a sedimentary rock composed mainly of sand-sized minerals or rock grains. Sandstone has been used for domestic construction and housewares since prehistoric times, and continues to be used.

Sandstone was a popular building material from ancient times. It is relatively soft, making it easy to carve. It has been widely used around the world in constructing temples, homes, and other buildings. It has also been used for artistic purposes to create ornamental fountains and statues.

74. Which of the following sites in India belongs to Neolithic Culture?
- Daojali Hading
 - Chirand
 - Hallur

Choose the correct answer using codes below

- 1 and 2 Only
- 2 and 3 Only
- 1 and 3 Only
- All

Solution: d)

The excavations at Hallur have revealed two periods of occupation, Period I: Neolithic-Chalcolithic and Period II: An overlapping period between Neolithic-Chalcolithic and early Iron Age.

Chirand is a stratified Neolithic, Chalcolithic, and Iron Age settlement in the eastern Ganges Valley of Bihar in northern India.

Daojali Hading is in Assam and is also a Neolithic site.

75. With reference to Brahmaputra river, consider the following statements

1. The river is prone to catastrophic flooding in spring when the Himalayan snows melt.
2. The river has its origin in glaciers
3. It is known as Padma in Bangladesh

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All

Solution: a)

Brahmaputra is a trans-boundary river and one of the major rivers of Asia. With its origin in the Angsi Glacier, located on the northern side of the Himalayas in Burang County of Tibet as the Yarlung Tsangpo River,^[3] it flows across southern Tibet to break through the Himalayas in great gorges (including the Yarlung Tsangpo Grand Canyon) and into Arunachal Pradesh (India) where it is known as Dihang or Siang.^[4] It flows southwest through the Assam Valley as Brahmaputra and south through Bangladesh as the Jamuna (not to be mistaken with Yamuna of India). In the vast Ganges Delta it merges with the Padma, the main distributary of the Ganges, then the Meghna, before emptying into the Bay of Bengal.

76. Which of the following statements is true about Gravity dams

- a) The weight of the dam alone is able to resist the horizontal pressure of water pushing against it
- b) The dam is either made of concrete or stone masonry
- c) Bhakra Dam across the Sutlej River is a concrete gravity dam
- d) All the above are correct

Solution; d)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gravity_dam

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bhakra_Dam

77. Pressure flaking was one of the techniques used by ancient humans to make stone tools. Which of the following sentences describes pressure flaking aptly?

- a) Using a strong stone to strike off flakes from a pebble to give a shape
- b) Using strong pointed bones to strike hard edges of stones
- c) Using bones, antlers or wood tools with stones to remove flakes by prying
- d) None of the above

Solution: c)

Stone tools were probably made using two different techniques:

1. The first is called stone on stone. Here, the pebble from which the tool was to be made (also called the core) was held in one hand. Another stone, which was used as a hammer was held in the other hand. The second stone was used to strike off flakes from the first, till the required shape was obtained.

2. Pressure flaking: Here the core was placed on a firm surface. The hammer stone was used on a piece of bone or stone that was placed on the core, to remove flakes that could be shaped into tools.

<http://www.cavemanchemistry.com/oldcave/projects/stone/press.html>

78. With reference to Annie Besant and her contribution to India's struggle for Independence, consider the following statements

- 1. Though she was closely associated with the Indian National Congress (INC), she was never made the President of INC
- 2. She was American by nationality
- 3. The aim of the Home Rule League which she started was to get India complete independence from the British

Which of the above statements is/are INCORRECT?

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

d) All

Solution: d)

She was British. She was made the president of the India National Congress in late 1917.

The All India Home Rule League was a national political organization founded in 1916 to lead the national demand for self-government, termed *Home Rule*, and to obtain the status of a Dominion within the British Empire as enjoyed by Australia, Canada, South Africa, New Zealand and Newfoundland at the time.

79. Conservation of Asiatic Lions in Gir National Park is part of

- a) Ex-situ conservation technique
- b) In - situ conservation technique
- c) Translocation technique
- d) None of the above

Solution: b)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gir_Forest_National_Park#The_lion_breeding_programme_and_lion-counting

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/In-situ_conservation#Reserves

80. The protestors at the Jallianwala Bagh were gathered to protest against

- a) The imposition of salt tax
- b) The arrest of two freedom fighters - Satya Pal and Saifuddin Kitchlew
- c) The Government of India act 1919
- d) None of the above

Solution: b)

The demonstration was to demand the release of two popular leaders of the Indian Independence Movement, Satya Pal and Saifuddin Kitchlew, who had been earlier arrested by the government and moved to a secret location.

Along with these protestors, there were also other people who had gathered to celebrate the festival of Baisakhi at Jallianwala Bagh.

81. With reference to tropical cyclones, consider the following sentences

1. The pressure is low at the centre of the cyclone
2. The winds in the cyclone are driven by this low-pressure core and by the rotation of Earth
3. Tropical cyclones rotate in a clockwise direction in the Northern Hemisphere

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All

Solution: a)

Tropical cyclones are compact, circular storms, generally some 320 km (200 miles) in diameter, whose winds swirl around a central region of low atmospheric pressure. The winds are driven by this low-pressure core and by the rotation of Earth, which deflects the path of the wind through a phenomenon known as the Coriolis force. As a result, tropical cyclones rotate in a counterclockwise (or cyclonic) direction in the Northern Hemisphere and in a clockwise (or anticyclonic) direction in the Southern Hemisphere.

82. In the troposphere

- a) The temperature increases with height
- b) The temperature remains same till tropopause
- c) The temperature decreases with height
- d) None of the above

Solution: c)

Troposphere is the lowest region of the atmosphere, bounded by the Earth beneath and the stratosphere above, with its upper boundary being the tropopause, about 10–18 km (6–11 miles) above the Earth's surface. The troposphere is characterized by decreasing temperature with height and is distinguished from the overlying stratosphere by a region of nearly constant temperature in the lower stratosphere. Most of the clouds and weather systems are contained within the troposphere.

83. With reference to mixed farming, consider the following statements

1. Variety of crops – both cash and non-cash crops are produced together in mixed farming
2. Mixed farming is dominant in the European countries

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) Both
- d) None of the above

Solution: b)

Mixed farming is an agrarian system that mixes arable farming with the raising of livestock. When on a farm along-with crop production, some other agriculture based practice like poultry, dairy farming or bee keeping etc. is adopted, then this system of farming is known as mixed farming. It is the dominant system in Europe and now in parts of India, where most farms have a mixture of fields and pastures. It was first mainly used for self-consumption, but now in Advanced countries like USA, Japan ,etc., this is done for a commercial purpose.

84. Which of the following is NOT considered as a cereal

1. Green Peas
2. Buckwheat
3. Sorghum
4. Barley
5. Rice

Choose the correct answer using the codes below

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

Solution: a)

Except groundnut, all are cereals.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cereal_crop#Production

85. Cabbelling, which is an ocean related phenomena, is

- a) The mixing process of two separate water parcels such as warm and cold waters
- b) The upwelling of cold waters
- c) The upwelling of warm waters
- d) None of the above

Solution: a)

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cabbeling>

86. Consider the following statements

- 1. The Indian Independence Act 1947 was as an Act of the provisional Parliament of the India
- 2. The main provision of the Indian Independence Act 1947 was the division of British India into the two new and fully sovereign dominions of India and Pakistan, with effect from 15 August 1947

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) Both
- d) None of the above

Solution: b)

The Indian Independence Act 1947 was as an Act of the Parliament of the United Kingdom that partitioned British India into the two new independent dominions of India and Pakistan. The Act received the royal assent on 18 July 1947, and Pakistan came into being on August 14, and India on August 15, as two new countries.

87. With reference to Pahari painting, consider the following statements

1. It is a style of miniature painting
2. Basohli and Kangra school of arts both follow the Pahari style
3. The life of Krishna is the dominant theme in these paintings

Which of the above statements is/are INCORRECT?

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

Solution: d)

<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/438323/Pahari-painting>

88. Consider the following statements

1. The Bengal which was partitioned in 1905 was never reunited later
2. In 1947, Bengal was partitioned solely on language grounds

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) Both
- d) None of the above

Solution: d)

In 1911, Bengal was reunited.

In 1947, Bengal was partitioned for the second time, solely on religious grounds, as part of the Partition of India following the formation of the nations India and Pakistan.

89. Consider the following statements

1. The oldest Veda is Rigveda
2. The Rigveda contains thousands of hymns praising gods and goddesses

Which of the above is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

The oldest Veda is the Rigveda, composed about 3500 years ago. The Rigveda includes more than a thousand hymns, called sukta or “well-said”. These hymns are in praise of various gods and goddesses. Three gods are especially important: Agni, the god of fire; Indra, a warrior god; and Soma, a plant from which a special drink was prepared.

90. Consider the following statements

1. Nilgiri Langur is endemic to India
2. Endemics can easily become threatened or extinct if new species are introduced to their regions

Which of the above statements is/are correct/

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

Solution: c)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nilgiri_Langur

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Endemism>

91. With reference to Tsunamis, consider the following statements

1. They are caused both by earthquakes and volcanoes
2. Tsunami waves are caused by the sudden subduction of tectonic plates during earthquakes

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 Only

- b) 2 Only
- c) Both
- d) None

Solution: c)

<http://www.australiangeographic.com.au/topics/science-environment/2011/03/tsunamis-how-they-form/>

92. With reference to The Nehru Report in August 1928, consider the following statements
1. It was a memorandum outlining a proposed new dominion status constitution for India.
 2. It was prepared by a committee headed by Motilal Nehru
 3. Jawaharlal Nehru was not part of this committee

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 Only
- b) 2 and 3 Only
- c) 1 and 3 Only
- d) All

Solution: a)

The Nehru Report in August 1928 was a memorandum outlining a proposed new dominion status constitution for India. It was prepared by a committee of the All Parties Conference chaired by Motilal Nehru with his son Jawaharlal acting as secretary. There were nine other members in this committee, including two Muslims. However, the final report was signed by only eight persons: Motilal Nehru, Ali Imam, Tej Bahadur Sapru, M.-S. Aney, Mangal Singh, Shuaib Qureshi, Subhas Chandra Bose, and G. R. Pradhan. Shuaaib Qureshi disagreeing with some of the recommendations.

93. In India, Lahnda language is spoken in some parts of
- a) Malwa Plateau
 - b) Thar Desert
 - c) Deccan Plateau
 - d) Vindhyan region

Solution: b)

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The prevailing languages are Sindhi in the southwest, Lahnda in the northwest, and Rajasthani languages – especially Marwari – in central and eastern portions of the Thar

Lahnda language, also called Lahndi or Western Punjabi, group of Indo-Aryan dialects spoken in and around the western districts of Punjab province in Pakistan.

94. With reference to Aravali ranges, consider the following statements

1. They are oldest block mountains in India
2. Just like Himalayas, these ranges are also growing thanks to plate movements

Which of the above statements is/are INCORRECT?

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) Both
- d) None of the above

Solution: c)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aravalli_Range

95. Consider the following statements

1. Sufism spread prominently during the reign of Delhi Sultanate
2. The spread of Islam in India during medieval period is mainly attributed to the sufi influence on people

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sufism_in_India#Impact_of_Sufism

96. The yellow colour of red soils is due to the presence of
- Presence of iron oxide in the hydrous ferric oxide form
 - Presence of iron oxide in the hydrate form as limonite
 - Presence of excess aluminium
 - None of the above

Solution: b)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Red_soil#Content

97. In Southern Asia, the north-eastern monsoons take place from December to early March when
- The surface high pressure is weakest
 - The surface high pressure is strongest
 - The surface temperature is high
 - None of the above

Solution: b)

While travelling towards the Indian Ocean, the dry cold wind picks up some moisture from the Bay of Bengal and pours it over peninsular India and parts of Sri Lanka. Cities like Chennai, which get less rain from the Southwest Monsoon, receives rain from this Monsoon. About 50% to 60% of the rain received by the state of Tamil Nadu is from the Northeast Monsoon. In Southern Asia, the northeastern monsoons take place from December to early March when the surface high-pressure system is strongest.^[29] The jet stream in this region splits into the southern subtropical jet and the polar jet. The subtropical flow directs northeasterly winds to blow across southern Asia, creating dry air streams which produce clear skies over India. Meanwhile, a low pressure system develops over South-East Asia and Australasia and winds are directed toward Australia known as a monsoon trough.

98. The South Asian river dolphin is found
- Only in the Ganges river
 - Only in Ganges and Brahmaputra rivers
 - Both in Ganges and Indus rivers
 - Only in Indus river

Solution: c)

The South Asian river dolphin (*Platanista gangetica*) is a freshwater or river dolphin found in India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Pakistan which is split into two subspecies, the Ganges river dolphin (*P. g. gangetica*) and Indus river dolphin (*P. g. minor*).^[2] The Ganges river dolphin is primarily found in the Ganges and Brahmaputra Rivers and their tributaries in Bangladesh, India and Nepal, while the Indus river dolphin is found in the Indus River in Pakistan and its Beas and Sutlej tributaries.

99. Consider the following statements

1. *Satyagraha* forbids any tactic suggesting the use of secrecy to one's advantage
2. Civil disobedience is equivalent to *Satyagraha*
3. For Gandhiji, along with Jain principles, the inspiration for launching *Satyagraha* also came from holy Koran

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

satyagraha, (Hindi: "insistence on truth" or "zeal for truth") concept introduced in the early 20th century by Mahatma Gandhi to designate a determined but nonviolent resistance to evil. Gandhi's *satyagraha* became a major tool in the Indian struggle against British imperialism and has since been adopted by protest groups in other countries.

According to this philosophy, *satyagrahis* – practitioners of *satyagraha* – achieve correct insight into the real nature of an evil situation by observing a nonviolence of the mind, by seeking truth in a spirit of peace and love, and by undergoing a rigorous process of self-scrutiny. In so doing, the *satyagrahi* encounters truth in the absolute. By his refusal to submit to the wrong or to cooperate with it in any way, the *satyagrahi* asserts this truth. Throughout his confrontation with the evil, he must adhere to nonviolence, for to employ violence would be to lose correct insight. A *satyagrahi* always warns his opponents of his intentions; *satyagraha* forbids any tactic suggesting the use of secrecy to one's advantage. *Satyagraha* includes more than civil disobedience; its full range of application extends from the details of correct daily living to the construction of alternative political and economic

institutions. *Satyagraha* seeks to conquer through conversion; in the end, there is neither defeat nor victory but rather a new harmony.

Satyagraha draws from the ancient Indian ideal of *ahimsa* ("noninjury"), which is pursued with particular rigour by Jains. In developing *ahimsa* into a modern concept with broad political consequences, as *satyagraha*, Gandhi also drew from the writings of Leo Tolstoy and Henry David Thoreau, from the Bible, and from the *Bhagavadgita*, the great Sanskrit epic. Gandhi first conceived *satyagraha* in 1906 in response to a law discriminating against Asians that was passed by the British colonial government of the Transvaal in South Africa. In 1917 the first *satyagraha* campaign in India was mounted in the indigo-growing district of Champaran. During the following years, fasting and economic boycotts were employed as methods of *satyagraha*, until the British left India in 1947.

<http://www.mkgandhi.org/nonviolence/phil1.htm>

100. The Chambal River is a tributary of
- a) The Yamuna river
 - b) The Ganga River
 - c) The Son River
 - d) The Vindhya river

Solution: a)

The Chambal is a tributary of the Yamuna River in central India, and forms part of the greater Gangetic drainage system. The river flows north-northeast through Madhya Pradesh, running for a time through Rajasthan, then forming the boundary between Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh before turning southeast to join the Yamuna in Uttar Pradesh state.

