



INSIGHTSIAS

SIMPLIFYING IAS EXAM PREPARATION

STATIC QUIZ

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Table of Contents

1. POLITY	2
2. ECONOMY	1
3. ENVIRONMENT	1
4. GEOGRAPHY	1
5. ART & CULTURE	1
6. HISTORY	1

INSIGHTS IAS



1. POLITY

1. Which of the following statement about State Human Rights Commission is correct?

- The chairperson and members of State Human Rights Commission are appointed by the President.
- If any case is already being inquired by the National Human Rights Commission then the State Human Rights Commission does not inquire into that case, whereas if the case is being inquired by any other statutory commission then the State Human Rights Commission can inquire into that case.
- State Human Rights Commission is a constitutional body
- To review the constitutional and other legal safeguards for the protection of human rights.

Solution: d)

- State Human Rights Commission is a Non-constitutional body.
- If any such case is already being inquired into by the National Human Rights Commission or any other Statutory Commission, then the State Human Rights Commission does not inquire into that case.
- The commission can review the constitutional and other legal safeguards for the protection of human rights.
- Although the chairperson and members of a State Human Rights Commission are appointed by the governor, they can be removed only by the President (and not by the governor).

2. Consider the following statements

- Gram Sabha is a body consisting of persons registered in the electoral rolls of a village comprised within the area of Panchayat at the village level.
- There is no uniformity in the organisation of state legislatures in India.
- A person must be not less than 25 years of age to be chosen as a member of the legislative council.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2, 3
- 1, 2, 3
- 1, 2

Solution: d)

- A person must be not less than 30 years of age to be chosen as a member of the legislative council.

3. Consider the following statements.

- Parliament may, by law, regulate any matter relating to or connected with the election of a President or a Vice-President.
- All doubts and disputes arising out of the election of a President or Vice-President shall be inquired into and decided by the Election Commission of India whose decision shall be final.

Which of the above statements is/are *incorrect*?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both
- None

Solution: b)

- Article 71 of the Constitution provides that disputes arising out of the election of the President or Vice-President shall be decided by the Supreme Court. The same article provides that matters relating to their election shall be regulated by a parliamentary law.

4. Consider the following statements regarding the President of India.

- The President does not exercise his/her discretion on the advice given by the Council of Ministers.
- All members of the Parliament of India and the Legislative assemblies of the States of India and the Union territories of Delhi and Puducherry take part in electing the President.
- The President's ordinance making power is not a discretionary power.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1, 2
- 3 only
- 1, 3
- 2, 3



Solution: b)

- The President can send back the advice given by the Council of Ministers and ask the Council to reconsider the decision. In doing this, the President acts on his (or her) own discretion. When the President thinks that the advice has certain flaws or legal lacunae, or that it is not in the best interests of the country, the President can ask the Council to reconsider the decision. Although, the Council can still send back the same advice and the President would then be bound by that advice, such a request by the President to reconsider the decision, would naturally carry a lot of weight. So, this is one way in which the president can act in his own discretion.
- The President is indirectly elected by means of an electoral college consisting of the elected members of the Parliament of India and the Legislative assemblies of the States of India and the Union territories of Delhi and Puducherry.

5. Consider the following statements regarding State emergency.

1. It can be revoked any time by the President, without the approval of Parliament.
2. President rule was imposed on all the states in India except Telangana.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

- Chhattisgarh and Telangana are the only states where the president's rule has not been imposed so far.

6. What purposes does the constitution of a nation necessarily serve?

1. It may allow better coordination in the nation amongst individuals.
2. Specify who has the power to make decisions in a society.
3. Set some limits on what a government can impose on its citizens.
4. It allows people to ban autocracy and adopt democracy.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: c)

The function of a constitution is to

1. provide a set of basic rules that allow for minimal coordination amongst members of a society.
2. specify who has the power to make decisions in a society. It decides how the government will be constituted.
3. set some limits on what a government can impose on its citizens. These limits are fundamental in the sense that government may never trespass them.
4. enable the government to fulfil the aspirations of a society and create conditions for a just society.
5. ensure that a dominant group does not use its power against other less powerful people or groups.

Every society is prone to this tyranny of the majority. The Constitution usually contains rules that ensure that minorities are not excluded from anything that is routinely available to the majority

A constitution does not always specify for a democracy. Syrian constitution is an example.

7. Consider the following statements regarding the Legislative Powers of the President.

1. He can send messages to the Houses of Parliament with respect to a bill pending in the Parliament.
2. He decides on questions as to disqualifications of members of the Parliament, in consultation with the Prime Minister.
3. In the case of Puducherry, the President can legislate by making regulations but only when the assembly is suspended or dissolved.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)



The President is an integral part of the Parliament of India, and enjoys the following legislative powers.

- He can send messages to the Houses of Parliament, whether with respect to a bill pending in the Parliament or otherwise.
- He decides on questions as to disqualifications of members of the Parliament, in consultation with the Election Commission.
- He can make regulations for the peace, progress and good government of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu. In the case of Puducherry also, the President can legislate by making regulations but only when the assembly is suspended or dissolved.

8. Consider the following statements.

1. No demand for a grant can be made except on the recommendation of the President.
2. The President has the veto power over the bills passed by the Parliament.
3. The President does not have veto power with respect to state legislation.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

- The President has the veto power over the bills passed by the Parliament, that is, he can withhold his assent to the bills.
- The President has veto power with respect to state legislation also. A bill passed by a state legislature can become an act only if it receives the assent of the governor or the President (in case the bill is reserved for the consideration of the President).

9. Consider the following about Secretary of the panchayat

1. Secretary of the panchayat is elected by the Gram Panchayat from amongst its members.
2. Secretary of the panchayat is responsible for calling the meeting of the Gram Sabha and Gram Panchayat and keeping a record of the proceedings.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

- Gram panchayat has a Secretary who is also the secretary of the Gram Sabah. This person is not an elected person but is appointed by the state government, to oversee panchayat activities.
- He is responsible for calling the meetings of the Gram Sabha and Gram Panchayat and keep a record of the proceedings.

10. Consider the following statements

1. All high courts in India have a territorial jurisdiction confined to a single state.
2. District Court assume the name of Sessions Courts when they deal with matters concerning criminal cases.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

- All High courts in India have a territorial jurisdiction not confined to a single state. Union territories jurisdiction would come under different state's high court.

11. Consider the following statements regarding Fundamental Rights.

1. Fundamental Rights protect citizens against the arbitrary and absolute exercise of power by the State.
2. The Constitution guarantees the rights of the individual against the State but not against Other individuals.
3. Posting on social media is a fundamental right applicable to all citizens.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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



Solution: c)

- The Constitution of India guarantees the rights of the individual against the State as well as against other individuals.
- In a landmark order, the High Court of Tripura ordered the police to refrain from prosecuting a man who was earlier arrested over a social media post. The Chief Justice in his order broadly remarked that posting on social media was tantamount to a “fundamental right” applicable to all citizens, including government employees.

Source:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/social-media-posting-is-a-fundamental-right-rules-tripura-high-court/article30551332.ece>

12. Which of the following are the compulsory provisions of the 73rd Constitutional amendment act?

1. Reservation of one-third seats for women in panchayats at all the three levels.
2. Granting powers and authority to the panchayats to enable them to function as institutions of self-government.
3. Granting financial powers to the panchayats to levy, collect and appropriate taxes, duties, tolls and fees.
4. Fixing tenure of 5 years for panchayats at all levels and holding fresh elections within six months in the event of suppression of any panchayat.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: d)

- Statements 1 and 4 are compulsory provisions and statements 2 and 3 are voluntary provisions.

13. A parliamentary committee means a committee that:

1. Is appointed or elected by the House
2. Works under the direction of the Speaker / Chairman
3. Presents its report to the President
4. Has a secretariat provided by the Cabinet secretary

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

A parliamentary committee means a committee that:

- Is appointed or elected by the House or nominated by the Speaker / Chairman
- Works under the direction of the Speaker / Chairman
- Presents its report to the House or to the Speaker / Chairman
- Has a secretariat provided by the Lok Sabha / Rajya Sabha

14. With reference to the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities, consider the following statements:

1. Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities has been inserted to the constitution by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act.
2. It would be the duty of the Special Officer to investigate all matters relating to the safeguards provided for linguistic minorities under the Constitution.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

- Originally, the Constitution of India did not make any provision with respect to the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities. Later, the States Reorganization Commission (1953-55) made a recommendation in this regard.
- Accordingly, the 7th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1956 inserted a new Article 350-B in Part XVII of the Constitution. This article contains the following provisions:
 1. There should be a Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities. He is to be appointed by the President of India.
 2. It would be the duty of the Special Officer to investigate all matters relating to the safeguards provided for linguistic minorities under the Constitution. He would report to the President upon those



matters at such intervals as the President may direct. The President should place all such reports before each House of Parliament and send to the governments of the states concerned.

15. Consider the following statements

1. The process of removal of a State Election Commissioner is similar to the removal of a Judge of a State High Court.
2. A council of ministers must always exist to advise the governor, even after the dissolution of the state legislative assembly.
3. Article 356 can be invoked only on the written recommendation of the cabinet

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

- Article 356 can be invoked without written recommendation of the cabinet.

16. Consider the following statements.

1. The Constitution of India empowers the Parliament to enact a law to provide for matters relating to citizenship.
2. In India only a citizen by birth is eligible for the office of President.
3. The Constitution confers the Cultural and educational rights only to the citizens of India and denies the same to aliens.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

- The Constitution deals with the citizenship from Articles 5 to 11 under Part II. It empowers the Parliament to enact a law to provide for such matters and any other matter relating to citizenship.

The Constitution confers the following rights and privileges on the citizens of India (and denies the same to aliens):

1. Right against discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth (Article 15).
2. Right to equality of opportunity in the matter of public employment (Article 16).
3. Right to freedom of speech and expression, assembly, association, movement, residence and profession (Article 19).
4. Cultural and educational rights (Articles 29 and 30).
5. Right to vote in elections to the Lok Sabha and state legislative assembly.
6. Right to contest for the membership of the Parliament and the state legislature.

- Eligibility to hold certain public offices, that is, President of India, Vice-President of India, judges of the Supreme Court and the high courts, governor of states, attorney general of India and advocate general of states.
- In India both a citizen by birth as well as a naturalised citizen are eligible for the office of President while in USA, only a citizen by birth and not a naturalised citizen is eligible for the office of President.

17. Consider the following statements.

1. The children of foreign diplomats posted in India can acquire Indian citizenship by birth.
2. A person shall be deemed to be of Indian origin if he, or either of his parents, was born in undivided India or in such other territory which became part of India only after 26th January, 1950.
3. All persons acquiring citizenship of India must take an oath of allegiance before they are registered as citizens of India.

Which of the above statements is/are **incorrect**?

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

Solution: a)

- The children of foreign diplomats posted in India and enemy aliens cannot acquire Indian citizenship by birth.



- A person shall be deemed to be of Indian origin if he, or either of his parents, was born in undivided India or in such other territory which became part of India after the 15th August, 1947.
- All categories of persons acquiring citizenship of India must take an oath of allegiance before they are registered as citizens of India.

18. The Central Government may, on an application, grant a certificate of naturalisation to a person if he possesses which of the following qualifications

1. He is of good character.
2. He has an adequate knowledge of a language specified in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution.
3. He has rendered distinguished service to the science, philosophy, art, literature, world peace or human progress.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: d)

The Central Government may, on an application, grant a certificate of naturalisation to any person (not being an illegal migrant) if he possesses the following qualifications:

- (a) that he is not a subject or citizen of any country where citizens of India are prevented from becoming subjects or citizens of that country by naturalisation;
- (b) that, if he is a citizen of any country, he undertakes to renounce the citizenship of that country in the event of his application for Indian citizenship being accepted;
- (c) that he has either resided in India or been in the service of a Government in India or partly the one and partly the other, throughout the period of twelve months immediately preceding the date of the application;
- (d) that during the fourteen years immediately preceding the said period of twelve months, he has either resided in India or been in the service of a Government in India, or partly the one and partly the other, for periods amounting in the aggregate to not less than eleven years;
- (e) that he is of good character;

- (f) that he has an adequate knowledge of a language specified in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution, and
- (g) that in the event of a certificate of naturalisation being granted to him, he intends to reside in India, or to enter into or continue in, service under a Government in India or under an international organisation of which India is a member or under a society, company or body of persons established in India.

However, the Government of India may waive all or any of the above conditions for naturalisation in the case of a person who has rendered distinguished service to the science, philosophy, art, literature, world peace or human progress. Every naturalised citizen must take an oath of allegiance to the Constitution of India.

19. Which of the following is/are **not** the federal features of the Indian Constitution?

1. The Constitution is written and not easily amendable.
2. Equal representation of all states in Rajya Sabha
3. State governments derive authority from the Centre.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: b)

- The division of powers established by the Constitution as well as the supremacy of the Constitution can be maintained only if the method of its amendment is rigid. Hence, the Constitution is rigid to the extent that those provisions which are concerned with the federal structure.
- State governments derive their authority from the constitution, not the Centre.
- The states are given representation in the Rajya Sabha on the basis of population. Hence, the membership varies from 1 to 31.

20. Consider the following statements regarding the manner of election to state legislative Council.

1. 2/3 are elected by the members of local bodies in the state like municipalities, district boards, etc



2. 2/3 are elected by the members of the legislative assembly of the state from amongst persons who are not members of the assembly
3. 1/12 are elected by graduates of three years standing and residing within the state

Which of the above statements is/are **incorrect**?

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

Solution: a)

- 1/3 are elected by the members of local bodies in the state like municipalities, district boards, etc
- 1/3 are elected by the members of the legislative assembly of the state from amongst persons who are not members of the assembly.
- 1/12 are elected by graduates of three years standing and residing within the state.



2. ECONOMY

1. Consider the following statements regarding Dividend Distribution Tax.

1. Dividend Distribution Tax (DDT) is the tax imposed by the Government on domestic companies which pay dividends to their investors.
2. DDT is part of and included in the income tax liability of a Company.
3. Dividend distribution tax is not applicable on mutual funds.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

- Dividend distribution tax is the tax imposed by the Indian Government on Indian companies according to the dividend paid to a company's investors.
- Dividend distribution tax is also applicable on mutual funds.
- DDT is payable separately, over and above the income tax liability of a Company.

2. Consider the following statements regarding New Development Bank.

1. The New Development Bank (NDB) is a multilateral development bank established by the BRICS states.
2. The state governments in India can seek loan assistance from NDB.
3. India is the second largest shareholder of the NDB.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

- The New Development Bank (NDB), formerly referred to as the BRICS Development Bank, is a multilateral development bank established by the BRICS states (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa).
- "The Bank shall support public or private projects through loans, guarantees, equity participation and other financial instruments." Moreover, the NDB "shall cooperate with international organizations and other financial entities, and provide technical assistance for projects to be supported by the Bank."
- The authorized capital for NDB is \$100 Billion while initial subscribed capital is \$50 billion. Initial subscribed capital was equally distributed among the founding members {\$10 billion each}. Voting power of each member is equal to the number of its subscribed shares in capital stock.

3. Consider the following statements about Wholesale Price Index (WPI) and the Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation.

1. The weight of food in CPI is far higher than in WPI.
2. Both capture price changes of services.
3. Both are released by Central Statistical Organisation (CSO).

Which of the above statements is/are *incorrect*?

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

Solution: c)

- The WPI and the CPI baskets are different, both at the weightage assigned to food, fuel and manufactured items as well as at the broken-down level of these segments. The weight of food in CPI is higher than in WPI.
- The WPI inflation does not capture price changes of services but the CPI does.
- WPI inflation is released by Office of the Economic Adviser (OEA), Department for



Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).

- CPI for Industrial workers (CPI(IW)), CPI for Rural Labourers (RL) and CPI for Agricultural Labourers (CPI(AL)) are compiled by Labour Bureau.
- CPI(Urban), CPI(Rural) and CPI Combined are compiled by Central Statistical Organisation (CSO).

4. Consider the following statements regarding Five Year Plans in India.

1. The duration of plan holiday was from 1966 to 1969.
2. "Garibi Hatao" slogan was given during Fourth Five Year Plan.
3. Third Five Year Plan was based on the P.C. Mahalanobis Model.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

- Third Five Year Plan was based on Gadgil Yojna.

5. Consider the following statements regarding External debt of India.

1. The debtors can be the Union government, state governments, corporations or citizens of India.
2. Short-term borrowings dominate India's external debt.
3. The largest share of India's external debt is held in Indian rupees.

Which of the above statements is/are **incorrect**?

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

Solution: c)

- The external debt of India is the total debt the country owes to foreign creditors. The debtors can be the Union government, state governments, corporations or citizens of India.

The debt includes money owed to private commercial banks, foreign governments, or international financial institutions such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank.

- Long-term borrowings (more than a year to maturity) dominate India's external debt.
- India's external debt is held in multiple currencies, the largest of which is the United States dollar. The rest of the debt is held in Indian rupees, special drawing rights, Japanese yen, Euros and other currencies.

6. Which of these is/are **not** the examples of fixed capital formation?

1. Energy infrastructure
2. Office equipment, such as computers
3. Accumulation of foreign exchange reserve

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: c)

- Currency is not considered as fixed capital, it is liquid capital. Fixed capital are the assets used in the productive process.
- Examples include Building or expanding existing factory, Purchase of transport equipment and all other machineries used in the productive process.
- Increasing an economy's capital stock also increases its capacity for production, which means an economy can produce more.

7. In economics, 'Externalities' refer to

- a) External commercial borrowings
- b) Income earned from external sources
- c) Positive or negative consequence of an economic activity
- d) Paying interest to the loans taken from International financial institutions

Solution: c)

- Externalities occur when producing or consuming a good cause an impact on third parties not directly related to the transaction.



- Externalities can either be positive or negative.

Positive Externality

- A farmer grows apple trees. An external benefit is that he provides nectar for a nearby beekeeper who gains increased honey as a result of the farmers' orchard. The beekeeper provides an external benefit to the apple grower because his bees help to fertilise the apple tree.

Negative Externality

- Making furniture by cutting down rainforests in the Amazon leads to negative externalities to other people. Firstly, it harms the indigenous people of the Amazon rainforest. It also leads to higher global warming as there are fewer trees to absorb carbon dioxide.

8. Consider the following statements:

- Stagflation is a situation in which the inflation rate is high and at the same time economic growth rate remains steadily high.
- Deflation refers to the decrease in the general price level of goods and services but inflation rate remains above zero.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Solution: d)

- Stagflation is a condition of slow economic growth and relatively high unemployment, or economic stagnation, accompanied by rising prices, or inflation.
- Deflation is the general decline in prices for goods and services occurring when the inflation rate falls below 0%.

9. Which of the following is generally **not** an activity carried out by shell companies?

- Diverting money or money laundering.
- Manufacturing products and rendering services
- Make financial transactions.
- None of the above are the activities of Shell companies.

Solution: b)

- Typically shell companies include multiple layers of companies that have been created for the purpose of diverting money or for money laundering. Most shell companies do not manufacture any product or deal in any product or render any service. They are mostly used to make financial transactions. Generally, these companies hold assets only on paper and not in reality. These companies conduct almost no economic activity.

10. Consider the following statements regarding Banks Board Bureau (BBB).

- Banks Board Bureau (BBB) is an autonomous body of the Government of India tasked to recommend selection of chiefs of government owned banks and financial institutions.
- The BBB works as step towards governance reforms in Public Sector Banks (PSBs) as recommended by P.J. Nayak Committee.
- It also aims to lessen the Government of India's burden of fiscal deficit and current account deficit.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

- 1, 3
- 2, 3
- 1, 2
- 1, 2, 3

Solution: c)

- Banks Board Bureau (BBB) is an autonomous body of the Government of India tasked to improve the governance of Public Sector Banks, recommend selection of chiefs of government owned banks and financial institutions and to help banks in developing strategies and capital raising plans.
- The BBB works as step towards governance reforms in Public Sector Banks (PSBs) as recommended by P.J. Nayak Committee.
- The BBB was the part of Indradhanush Plan of government.

11. A shortage of investible capital in an economy can result from

- Low savings
- Very high and erratic inflation
- Low borrowing costs



Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: c)

- High and erratic inflation deters investors from making investment decisions because real returns on investments are uncertain.
- Savings forms the base of the money that is borrowed for infrastructure building in the economy. Low savings and high demand of capital lead to high borrowing costs and deter investors.

12. Aggregate demand is an important economic indicator. It can be increased by

1. More investments
2. Higher Taxation
3. Increasing bank rate by RBI

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: a)

- Aggregate demand is the total demand for final goods and services in an economy at a given time.
- Investment creates infrastructure, generates demand for raw material, labor, provides employment and adds to the productive capacity of the economy. It is one of the most potent factors in increasing Aggregate demand (AD).
- The government has some ability to impact AD. It can give fiscal stimulus or increase taxes in order to influence how consumers spend or save. An expansionary fiscal policy (higher spending, lower taxes) causes AD to increase, while a contractionary monetary policy (e.g. high bank rates) causes AD to decrease.

13. 'Economic efficiency' as used by economists and policymakers is related to which of the following?

1. Equal allocation of goods and services to all consumers and corporations.
2. Resource efficient production

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: b)

- Economic efficiency is when goods and services are distributed according to consumer preferences and needs of corporations. It is when the maximum number of goods and services are produced with a given amount of inputs.

14. Consider the following statements about Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

1. It is the aggregate value of goods and services produced within the domestic territory of a country.
2. It includes the replacement investment of the depreciation of capital stock.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

- Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Aggregate value of goods and services produced within the domestic territory of a country. It includes the replacement investment of the depreciation of capital stock. (Glossary of class 12 – Macroeconomics)

15. Consider the statements regarding Systemically Important Financial Institutions (SIFIs)

1. The idea of SIFI has emerged from the Pittsburgh summit of World Bank.
2. Systemically Important Financial Institutions (SIFIs) are perceived as institutions that are Too Big to Fail (TBTF).

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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



Solution: b)

- Systemically Important Financial Institutions (SIFIs) as institutions “whose distress or disorderly failure, because of their size, complexity and systemic interconnectedness, would cause significant disruption to the wider financial system and economic activity”.
- At global level, based on the suggestion of G-20 Leaders in Pittsburgh summit in 2009, FSB spearheads the efforts of formulating a framework for assessing and regulating SIFIs.
- Systemically Important Financial Institutions (SIFIs) are perceived as institutions that are Too Big to Fail (TBTF).

16. Consider the following statements regarding Socialist society.

1. In a socialist society the government decides what goods are to be produced in accordance with the needs of society.
2. The desires of individual consumers are given much importance.
3. The goods produced are distributed among people on the basis of Purchasing Power.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Solution: c)

- In a capitalist society the goods produced are distributed among people not on the basis of what people need but on the basis of Purchasing Power—the ability to buy goods and services.
- In a socialist society the government decides what goods are to be produced in accordance with the needs of society. It is assumed that the government knows what is good for the people of the country and so the desires of individual consumers are not given much importance. The government decides how goods are to be produced and how they should be distributed. In principle, distribution under socialism is supposed to be based on what people need and not on what they can afford to purchase.

17. The primary motive of the colonial government behind the policy of systematically deindustrialising India was

1. To make India a mere exporter of important raw materials for the modern industries in Britain.
2. To turn India into a sprawling market for the finished products.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: c)

- The primary motive of the colonial government behind this policy of systematically deindustrialising India was two-fold. The intention was, first, to reduce India to the status of a mere exporter of important raw materials for the upcoming modern industries in Britain and, second, to turn India into a sprawling market for the finished products of those industries so that their continued expansion could be ensured to the maximum advantage of their home country — Britain.

18. Total Factor Productivity (TFP) in an economy can improve by

1. Technology growth and efficiency
2. Increasing taxation on the private sector
3. Efficient human capital and physical capital.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

- If a nation has the same stock of land, labour and capital, and yet it achieves high rates of GDP growth consistently. If inputs are same, how does output increase over time?
- Either the individual productivities of factors would have increased, or the total combined productivity of the economy has increased.



- This can happen either by better technology, better infrastructure etc that improve the total factor productivity of the economy. Suppose, now a factory requires 10 hours to produce a good. With better techniques of production, the same can be achieved in 2 hours.
- Technology growth and efficiency are regarded as two of the biggest sub-sections of Total Factor Productivity.

19. In the annual budget documents of the Government of India, 'Primary Deficit' refers to

- a) Difference between revenue deficit of the current year and grants for capital creation
- b) Difference between revenue deficit of the present financial year and grants to states and local bodies
- c) Difference between budgetary deficit and capital deficit of the present financial year
- d) Difference between fiscal deficit of the current year and interest payments on the previous borrowings

Solution: d)

- Primary Deficit: We must note that the borrowing requirement of the government includes interest obligations on accumulated debt. To obtain an estimate of borrowing on account of current expenditures exceeding revenues, we need to calculate what has been called the primary deficit. It is simply the fiscal deficit minus the interest payments
- Gross primary deficit = Gross fiscal deficit – net interest liabilities
- Net interest liabilities consist of interest payments minus interest receipts by the government on net domestic lending.

20. Consider the following statements regarding International Financial Service Centre (IFSC)

1. An IFSC caters to customers outside the jurisdiction of the domestic economy.
2. IFSC exclusively deals asset management and global portfolio diversification only.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

- An IFSC is thus a jurisdiction that provides world class financial services to non-residents and residents, to the extent permissible under the current regulations, in a currency other than the domestic currency (Indian rupee) of the location where the IFSC is located.

Products and Services at IFSCs:

1. Fund Raising for individuals, corporations and governments (sovereign and sub sovereign)
2. Asset Management and Global Portfolio Diversification
3. Personal Wealth Management (PWM) for high-net worth individuals (HNWIs).
4. Global Tax Management and Cross- border Tax Liability Optimisation

21. Consider the following statements.

1. The first Five Year Plan was based on the ideas of Mahalanobis, which laid down the basic ideas regarding goals of Indian planning.
2. The Second Five Year Plan tried to build the basis for a socialist pattern of society.
3. In the first seven five-year plans, trade was characterised by import substitution strategy.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

- Planning, in the real sense of the term, began with the Second Five Year Plan. The Second Plan, a landmark contribution to development planning in general, laid down the basic ideas regarding goals of Indian planning; this plan was based on the ideas of Mahalanobis. In that sense, he can be regarded as the architect of Indian planning.
- Industrial Policy Resolution 1956 (IPR 1956): In accordance with the goal of the state controlling the commanding heights of the economy, the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956 was adopted. This resolution formed the basis of the Second Five Year Plan, the plan which tried to build the basis for a socialist pattern of society.



- In the first seven plans, trade was characterised by what is commonly called an inward-looking trade strategy. Technically, this strategy is called import substitution. This policy aimed at replacing or substituting imports with domestic production.

22. Consider the following statements regarding stabilisation measures and structural reform measures.

1. Stabilisation measures are long-term measures, aimed at improving the efficiency of the economy and increasing its international competitiveness by removing the rigidities in various segments of the Indian economy.
2. Structural reform measures are short-term measures, intended to correct some of the weaknesses that have developed in the balance of payments and to bring inflation under control.

Which of the above statements is/are **incorrect**?

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

Solution: c)

- Stabilisation measures are short-term measures, intended to correct some of the weaknesses that have developed in the balance of payments and to bring inflation under control. In simple words, this means that there was a need to maintain sufficient foreign exchange reserves and keep the rising prices under control.
- On the other hand, structural reform policies are long-term measures, aimed at improving the efficiency of the economy and increasing its international competitiveness by removing the rigidities in various segments of the Indian economy.

23. Which of the following are the main functions of RBI.

1. RBI decides the amount of money that the banks can keep with themselves.
2. Manages the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999.
3. Introduces efficient modes of payment systems in the country to meet the requirements of the public at large.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d)

- The RBI decides the amount of money that the banks can keep with themselves, fixes interest rates, nature of lending to various sectors, etc.

Main Functions

Monetary Authority:

- Formulates, implements and monitors the monetary policy.

Objective: maintaining price stability while keeping in mind the objective of growth.

Regulator and supervisor of the financial system:

- Prescribes broad parameters of banking operations within which the country's banking and financial system functions.

Objective: maintain public confidence in the system, protect depositors' interest and provide cost-effective banking services to the public.

Manager of Foreign Exchange

- Manages the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999.

Objective: to facilitate external trade and payment and promote orderly development and maintenance of foreign exchange market in India.

Issuer of currency:

- Issues and exchanges or destroys currency and coins not fit for circulation.

Objective: to give the public adequate quantity of supplies of currency notes and coins and in good quality.

Developmental role

- Performs a wide range of promotional functions to support national objectives.

Regulator and Supervisor of Payment and Settlement Systems:

- Introduces and upgrades safe and efficient modes of payment systems in the country to meet the requirements of the public at large.

Objective: maintain public confidence in payment and settlement system



Related Functions

- Banker to the Government: performs merchant banking function for the central and the state governments; also acts as their banker.

Banker to banks: maintains banking accounts of all scheduled banks.

24. Which of the following action/actions can be taken by the Government to reduce the deficit budget?

1. Reducing revenue expenditure
2. Introducing new welfare schemes
3. Rationalizing subsidies
4. Reducing import duty

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: c)

Statement 1: Unnecessary revenue expenditure bloats the fiscal deficit, and since it forms the majority of government spending, its reduction has a very large effect on the fiscal deficit.

Statement 2: It will further increase the fiscal deficit.

Statement 3: Subsidies are a major component of government spending, and its reduction will cut down fiscal deficit.

Statement 4: It reduces tax revenue and thus increases fiscal deficit.

25. Which of the following statement best describes 'transfer pricing'?

- a) The tax that both resident and non-resident Indians need to pay while transferring the shares of a company they own in some other nation to that in India.
- b) It is a tax that is levied on retrospective deals made in the transfer of a company from one nation to the other.
- c) Transfer pricing is the setting of the price for goods and services sold between controlled legal entities within an enterprise.
- d) None of the statements (a), (b), (c) are correct.

Solution: c)

- Transfer pricing is the setting of the price for goods and services sold between controlled (or related) legal entities within an enterprise. For example, if a subsidiary company sells goods to a parent company, the cost of those goods is the transfer price.



3. ENVIRONMENT

1. Consider the following statements.

1. The energy required for the life within the biosphere comes only from the sun.
2. Ecotone is larger than a biome.
3. A well-developed ecotone may contain some unique organisms which might be absent in the adjacent ecosystems.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d)

- The energy required for the life within the biosphere usually comes from the sun. But, Chemosynthetic bacteria are organisms that use inorganic molecules as a source of energy and convert them into organic substances. They do not need sunlight for their survival.
- Chemosynthetic bacteria, unlike plants, obtain their energy from the oxidation of inorganic molecules, rather than photosynthesis. Chemosynthetic bacteria use inorganic molecules, such as ammonia, molecular hydrogen, sulfur, hydrogen sulfide and ferrous iron to produce the organic compounds needed for their subsistence.
- Most chemosynthetic bacteria live in environments where sunlight is unable to penetrate and which are considered inhospitable to most known organisms.
- Ecotone is a zone of junction between two or more diverse ecosystems. For e.g. the mangrove forests represent an ecotone between marine and terrestrial ecosystem. It may be very narrow or quite wide, but not larger than a biome which is a much larger entity. Well-developed ecotones contain some organisms which are entirely different from that of the adjoining communities.

2. Consider the following statements.

1. In the composition of living organisms, carbon constitutes the maximum share in the dry weight of organisms.
2. In the total quantity of global carbon, maximum percentage of carbon is found dissolved in oceans.

Which of the above statements is/are *incorrect*?

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

Solution: a)

- When you study the composition of living organisms, carbon constitutes 49 per cent of dry weight of organisms and is next only to water. If we look at the total quantity of global carbon, we find that 71 per cent carbon is found dissolved in oceans. This oceanic reservoir regulates the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

3. Which of the following activities releases carbon dioxide into the atmosphere?

1. Respiratory activities of the producers and consumers.
2. Processing of waste materials by Decomposers.
3. Forest Fire
4. Combustion of organic matter
5. Volcanic activity

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: d)

- A considerable amount of carbon returns to the atmosphere as CO₂ through respiratory activities of the producers and consumers. Decomposers also contribute substantially to CO₂ pool by their processing of waste materials



and dead organic matter of land or oceans. Some amount of the fixed carbon is lost to sediments and removed from circulation. Burning of wood, forest fire and combustion of organic matter, fossil fuel, volcanic activity are additional sources for releasing CO₂ in the atmosphere.

- Human activities have significantly influenced the carbon cycle. Rapid deforestation and massive burning of fossil fuel for energy and transport have significantly increased the rate of release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.
- When you study the composition of living organisms, carbon constitutes 49 per cent of dry weight of organisms and is next only to water. If we look at the total quantity of global carbon, we find that 71 per cent carbon is found dissolved in oceans. This oceanic reservoir regulates the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

4. Which among the following is the main constituents of Biogas?

- a) Methane and Carbon Dioxide
- b) Methane and Nitrogen
- c) Methane and Hydrogen
- d) Methane and Hydrogen Sulfide

Solution: a)

- Biogas comprises primarily methane (CH₄) and carbon dioxide (CO₂) and may have small amounts of Nitrogen, Hydrogen, hydrogen sulphide and oxygen.

5. Consider the following statements regarding "The Climate and Clean Air Coalition"

1. It is a voluntary partnership of governments and intergovernmental organizations, businesses, scientific institutions and civil society organizations.
2. India is a state partner of this coalition.
3. Coalition's initial focus is on pollutants like methane, black carbon and HFCs.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

- The Climate and Clean Air Coalition is a voluntary partnership of governments, intergovernmental organizations, businesses, scientific institutions and civil society organizations committed to improving air quality and protecting the climate through actions to reduce short-lived climate pollutants.
- Global network currently includes over 120 state and non-state partners, and hundreds of local actors carrying out activities across economic sectors.
- India is not a partner of it.
- It focuses on short lived pollutants like methane, black carbon, HFC's etc.

6. Consider the following statements with reference to Food chains.

1. The grazing food chain is found only in terrestrial ecosystem.
2. The grazing and detritus food chains are not interlinked.
3. The initial energy source for detritus food chain is dead organic matter.

Which of the above statements is/are **incorrect**?

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

Solution: c)

- A sequence of organisms that feed on one another, form a food chain. In nature, two main types of food chains have been found: Grazing food chain and Detritus food chain.
- The grazing food chain starts with producers or autotrophs as base, which is consumed by



heterotrophs. It is found in both Terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems.

- The Detritus food chain starts from dead organic 'matter of decaying animals and plant bodies to the microorganisms and then to detritus feeding organism called detritivores or decomposer and to other predators.
- The two food chains are linked as the initial energy source for detritus food chain is the waste materials and dead organic matter from the grazing food chain.

7. Which of the following is/are the characteristics that the pollutant should possess in order for bio magnification to occur?

1. A pollutant should be biologically active.
2. A pollutant should be long lived.
3. A pollutant should be soluble in fats.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: d)

- Bio magnification stands for Biological Magnification, which means the increase of contaminated substances or toxic chemicals that take place in the food chains. These substances often arise from intoxicated or contaminated environments.
- The contaminants include heavy metals namely mercury, arsenic, pesticides such as DDT, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) compounds which are then taken up by organisms because of the food they consume or the intoxication of their environment.
- Pollutant needs to satisfy characteristics like long life, biologically active, soluble in fat etc. to make bio magnification possible

8. Which of the following adds/add nitrogen to the soil?

1. Burning of coal by man
2. Death of vegetation
3. Excretion of urea by animals

Select the correct answer code.

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

Solution: c)

- Burning of coal by man is the main source of atmospheric carbon dioxide. It has nothing to do with adding nitrogen to the soil.
- Nitrogenous waste products of living organisms such as urea and dead remain of organisms are converted back into inorganic ammonia by the bacteria.

9. Consider the following statements regarding Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

1. It conducts its own research for assessing climate change.
2. It is a joint initiative of World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d)

- 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 organization of governments that are members of the United Nations or WMO. The IPCC currently has 195 members. Thousands of people from all over the world contribute to the work of the IPCC. The IPCC does not conduct its own research



10. Consider the following statements regarding Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act

1. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is the nodal agency for the implementation of the act.
2. It recognizes rights of the tribal on the forests if they have resided for at least three generations or 75 years before the cut-off date of December 13, 2005.
3. National parks and wildlife sanctuaries are excluded for the recognition of rights under the act.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

- Ministry of tribal affairs is the nodal agency for the implementation of the act. National parks and wildlife sanctuaries are included for the recognition of rights under the act.
- According to FRA, "forest land" means land of any description falling within any forest area and includes unclassified forests, undermarked forests, existing or deemed forests, protected forests, reserved forests, Sanctuaries and National Parks;

11. Consider the following statements.

1. Animals need large quantities of Phosphorus to make shells, bones and teeth.
2. The natural reservoir of phosphorus is rock.
3. Like carbon cycle, there is respiratory release of phosphorus into atmosphere.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

- Phosphorus is a major constituent of biological membranes, nucleic acids and cellular energy transfer systems. Many animals also need large quantities of this element to make shells, bones and teeth. The natural reservoir of phosphorus is rock, which contains phosphorus in the form of phosphates. When rocks are weathered, minute amounts of these phosphates dissolve in soil solution and are absorbed by the roots of the plants.
- Herbivores and other animals obtain this element from plants. The waste products and the dead organisms are decomposed by phosphate-solubilising bacteria releasing phosphorus. Unlike carbon cycle, there is no respiratory release of phosphorus into atmosphere.

12. Consider the following statements regarding carbon and phosphorus cycle.

1. Atmospheric inputs of phosphorus through rainfall is much higher than carbon inputs.
2. Gaseous exchanges of phosphorus between organism and environment are negligible.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

- Differences between carbon and phosphorus cycle are firstly, atmospheric inputs of phosphorus through rainfall are much smaller than carbon inputs, and, secondly, gaseous exchanges of phosphorus between organism and environment are negligible.

13. Which of the following area has emerged as single largest habitat of Irrawaddy dolphins in the world.

- a) Chilika Lake
- b) Kolleru Lake
- c) Bhitarkanika national park
- d) Pulicat Lake

Solution: a)



- The Chilika Lake in Odisha has emerged as the “single largest habitat of Irrawaddy dolphins in the world” with the spotting of about 155 such animals. Chilika is Asia’s largest brackish-water lagoon with an estuarine character, and one of India’s first Ramsar Convention sites.

14. Which of the following is a National Park, a UNESCO world heritage site and a Ramsar site in India?

- a) Sundarbans national park
- b) Manas national park
- c) Keoladeo national park
- d) Both a) and c)

Solution: d)

15. Consider the following pairs:

<i>Tiger Reserve</i>	<i>Location</i>
1. Pakke	West Bengal
2. Valmiki	Uttar Pradesh
3. Satkosia	Odisha

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

Solution: c)

- Pakke Tiger reserve in Arunachal Pradesh.
- Valmiki Tiger Reserve in Bihar.



4. GEOGRAPHY

1. Consider the following statements.

1. The core of the Great Himalayas is made up of granite rocks.
2. The Deccan Plateau receives heavy rainfall throughout the year as it falls on the windward side of major hills of Central and Southern India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

- The Deccan Plateau is a large triangular plateau, bounded by the Vindhyas to the north and flanked by the Eastern and Western Ghats.
- This region is mostly semi-arid as it lies on the leeward side of both Ghats. Much of the Deccan is covered by thorn scrub forest scattered with small regions of deciduous broadleaf forest. Climate in the Deccan ranges from hot summers to mild winters.

2. Siachen Glacier, one of the world's longest mountain glaciers, is part of

- a) The Zaskar
- b) Himalayas
- c) Karakoram Range
- d) Ladakh

Solution: c)

- Siachen Glacier, one of the world's longest mountain glaciers, lying in the Karakoram Range system of Kashmir near the India–Pakistan border, extending for 44 mi (70 km) from north-northwest to south-southeast. It has a number of fast-flowing surface streams and at least 12 medial moraines. It is the source for the 50-mi-long Nubra River, a tributary of the Shyok, which is part of the Indus River system.

3. Consider the following statements.

1. In India, the tropical zone, lying south of the Tropic of Cancer experiences high

temperatures throughout the year with high daily and annual range of temperature.

2. In India, area north of the Tropic of Cancer being away from the equator, experiences extreme climate with small daily and annual range.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d)

- The tropical zone being nearer to the equator, experiences high temperatures throughout the year with small daily and annual range.
- Area north of the Tropic of Cancer being away from the equator, experiences extreme climate with high daily and annual range of temperature.

4. Consider the following statements regarding Climate of India.

1. The Himalayas trap the monsoon winds, forcing them to shed their moisture within the subcontinent.
2. Difference in air pressure causes reversal in the direction of monsoon winds.
3. With a long coastline, large coastal areas have extremes of climate.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

- The lofty Himalayas in the north along with its extensions act as an effective climatic divide. The towering mountain chain provides an invincible shield to protect the subcontinent from the cold northern winds.
- These cold and chilly winds originate near the Arctic circle and blow across central and eastern Asia. The Himalayas also trap the monsoon



winds, forcing them to shed their moisture within the subcontinent.

- As compared to the landmass, water heats up or cools down slowly. This differential heating of land and sea creates different air pressure zones in different seasons in and around the Indian subcontinent. Difference in air pressure causes reversal in the direction of monsoon winds.
- With a long coastline, large coastal areas have an equable climate. Areas in the interior of India are far away from the moderating influence of the sea. Such areas have extremes of climate.

5. At present, which of the following continent has the highest rate of population growth?

- a) North America
- b) South America
- c) Asia
- d) Africa

Solution: d)

6. Consider the following statements regarding Dharwar System of rocks.

1. It is the oldest rock system of India.
2. These are mainly igneous in origin.
3. It hosts gold mines.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

- Dharwar system is later than the Archean system but older than the other systems. The Dharwar period of rock formation has been largely fixed from 2500 million years ago to 1800 million years ago.
- The rocks of the Dharwar system are mainly sedimentary in origin, and occur in narrow elongated synclines resting on the gneisses found in Bellary district, Mysore and the Aravalli's of Rajputana.
- The Dharwar rocks are rich in iron ore, manganese, lead, zinc, gold, silver etc. The Champions series containing gold mines lie

within this system. This Champion system is named after the Champion reef in the Kolar Gold Fields. The Kolar Gold Fields contain one of the deepest gold mines of world.

7. Places in the mountains are usually cooler than places on the plains due to the presence of

- a) Thin air on the mountains
- b) Moisture-laden winds on the mountains
- c) Leeward wind flow on the mountains
- d) All of the above

Solution: a)

- Density of air reduces with altitude, and so it is its ability to transfer the heat that the earth receives from the Sun.
- The atmosphere is not directly heated by the Sun, but by the air that is in contact with the earth.
- So, thin air reduces the warming potential in the mountains. Temperatures decline with gain in altitude.
- For example, Agra and Darjiling are located on the same latitude, but temperature of January in Agra is 16°C whereas it is only 4°C in Darjiling.

8. Which of the following rivers does **not** flow through a rift valley?

- a) Tapti
- b) Damodar
- c) Narmada
- d) Mahanadi

Solution: d)

- A rift valley is a lowland region that forms where Earth's tectonic plates move apart, or rift. Narmada flows in a rift valley flowing west between the Satpura and Vindhya ranges.
- The other rivers which flow through rift valley include Damodar River in Chota Nagpur Plateau and Tapti. The Tapti River and Mahi River also flow through rift valleys, but between different ranges.

9. The physiography or relief of India has its influence on

1. Temperature
2. Air Pressure
3. Direction of Wind
4. Distribution of rainfall



Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: d)

- The physiography or relief of India also affects the temperature, air pressure, direction and speed of wind and the amount and distribution of rainfall.

10. With which of the following countries does North Korea shares border?

- 1. China
- 2. Russia
- 3. South Korea

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: c)



11. Coriolis force plays a role in which of the following?

- 1. Directing Jet Streams
- 2. Direction of trade winds
- 3. Impact crater
- 4. Formation of meanders

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: c)

- Jet streams typically cover long distances and can be thousands of miles long. They can be discontinuous and often meander across the atmosphere. The meanders in the jet stream flow slower than the rest of the air and are called Rossby Waves. They move slower because they are caused by the Coriolis Effect and turn west in respect to the flow of air they are embedded in.
- Coriolis force deflects the wind to the right direction in the northern hemisphere and to the left in the southern hemisphere.
- Coriolis force acting on the fluid water deflecting it like it deflects the wind. This causes rivers to 'meander'.
- Crater is a circular depression in the surface of a planet, moon, or other solid body in the Solar System.

12. Meghalaya plateau has a highly eroded surface and some places are devoid of vegetation. Which of these can be a probable reason?

- a) It is a major volcanic zone.
- b) It receives maximum rainfall from the Monsoon.
- c) It is a region containing radioactive minerals.
- d) It is disturbed by frequent plate movements.

Solution: b)

- This area receives maximum rainfall from the south west monsoon. As a result, the Meghalaya plateau has a highly eroded surface. Cherrapunji displays a bare rocky surface devoid of any permanent vegetation cover.

13. Which of the following is the major difference between soils found in Peninsular India and Northern India?

- a) Soils of Peninsular India are highly productive, whereas that of Northern India is largely alkaline and unproductive.
- b) Soils of Northern India are of volcanic origin, whereas that of Peninsular India is that of geosyncline origin.



- c) Soils of Peninsular India are mainly formed by the decomposition of rocks in situ, whereas that of Northern India mainly by depositional work of rivers.
- d) All of the above

Solution: c)

- The soils of Peninsular India are formed by the decomposition of rocks in situ, i.e. directly from the underlying rocks. Soils of Peninsular India are transported and re-deposited to a limited extent and are known as sedentary soils.
- Alluvial soils are formed mainly due to silt deposited by Indo-Gangetic- Brahmaputra Rivers. In coastal regions some alluvial deposits are formed due to wave action.
- Rocks of the Himalayas form the parent material. Thus the parent material of these soils is of transported origin.

14. The difference between Mixed cropping and Mixed Farming is that

1. The former involves both growing crops and livestock whereas the later mainly relies on intercropping.
2. The former is done on small tracts of land by marginal farmers whereas the latter is done by large landholders.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d)

- Mixed farming is growing crops and rearing livestock simultaneously.
- Mixed cropping is growing two or more crops simultaneously on the same piece of land, for example, wheat gram, or wheat mustard, or groundnut sunflower. This reduces risk and gives some insurance against failure of one of the crops.
- Different ways of growing crops can be used to give maximum benefit.

15. Consider the following statements

1. Assumption and Comoros Islands are located in East Pacific Ocean.
2. 8 Degree Channel separates islands of Minicoy and Maldives.
3. Hambantota port is located at northern Sri Lanka bordering Gulf of Mannar

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

- Assumption and Comoros Islands are located in Indian Ocean and Hambantota port is located at extreme south of Sri Lanka.

16. The countries that border Red Sea are

1. Saudi Arabia
2. Yemen
3. Oman
4. Sudan
5. Eritrea

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: c)

The **six countries** bordering the Red Sea are:

Eastern shore:

1. Saudi Arabia
2. Yemen

Western shore:

1. Egypt
2. Sudan
3. Eritrea
4. Djibouti

17. To understand the differences in local climates of India, we need to understand which of the following factors

1. Distribution of air pressure and winds on the surface of the earth
2. Western disturbances



3. Tropical depressions during the south-west monsoon period

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: d)

To understand the differences in local climates of India, we need to understand the mechanism of the following three factors:

- (i) Distribution of air pressure and winds on the surface of the earth.
- (ii) Upper air circulation caused by factors controlling global weather and the inflow of different air masses and jet streams.
- (iii) Inflow of western cyclones generally known as disturbances during the winter season and tropical depressions during the south-west monsoon period into India, creating weather conditions favourable to rainfall.

18. Consider the following statements regarding Fold Mountains.

- 1. Fold mountains are created through a process called orogeny.
- 2. They are created at convergent plate boundaries, sometimes called continental collision zones or compression zones.
- 3. Most fold mountains are composed primarily of igneous rock.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

- Fold mountains are created where two or more of Earth's tectonic plates are pushed together. At these colliding, compressing boundaries, rocks and debris are warped and folded into rocky outcrops, hills, mountains, and entire mountain ranges.
- Fold mountains are created through a process called orogeny. An orogenic event takes millions of years to create a fold mountain.
- Fold mountains are often associated with continental crust. They are created at

convergent plate boundaries, sometimes called continental collision zones or compression zones. Convergent plate boundaries are sites of collisions, where tectonic plates crash into each other. Compression describes a set of stresses directed at one point in a rock or rock formation.

- Most fold mountains are composed primarily of sedimentary rock and metamorphic rock formed under high pressure and relatively low temperatures.
- Fold mountains are the most common type of mountain in the world. The rugged, soaring heights of the Himalayas, Andes, and Alps are all active fold mountains.

19. Consider the following statements.

- 1. It is India's largest inland Salt Lake.
- 2. It has been designated as a Ramsar site.
- 3. It is geographically a land locked river basin.

The above statements refer to?

- a) Bhitarkanika Lake
- b) Chilika Lake
- c) Bhimtal Lake
- d) Sambhar Lake

Solution: d)

- Sambhar has been designated as a Ramsar site (recognized wetland of international importance) because the wetland is a key wintering area for tens of thousands of flamingos and other birds that migrate from northern Asia.
- The specialized algae and bacteria growing in the lake provide striking water colours and support the lake ecology that, in turn, sustains the migrating waterfowl.
- It is not part of the Ganga river basin area and is geographically a separate land locked river basin. It is the source of most of Rajasthan's salt production.

15. The standard meridian of India passes through which of the following states?

- 1. Uttar Pradesh
- 2. Madhya Pradesh
- 3. Odisha
- 4. Andhra Pradesh



Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: d)

- Indian Standard Meridian ($82^{\circ}30'E$ meridian) passes through UP, MP, Chhattisgarh, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh.

INSIGHTSIAS



5. ART & CULTURE

1. Consider the following with reference to Central Indian paintings.

1. They take inspiration from Puranas and Indian folk-lore.
2. Vaishnavism, Saivism and Sakti exercised tremendous influence on these paintings.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

- Unlike Mughal painting which is primarily secular, the art of painting in Central India, Rajasthani and the Pahari region etc. is deeply rooted in the Indian traditions, taking inspiration from Indian epics, religious texts like the Puranas, love poems in Sanskrit and other Indian languages, Indian folk-lore and works on musical themes.
- The cults of Vaishnavism, Saivism and Sakti exercised tremendous influence on the pictorial art of these places.

2. Consider the following statements

1. According to this philosophy, Vedas are eternal and possess all knowledge.
2. Religion means the fulfilment of duties prescribed by the Vedas.
3. This philosophy encompasses the Nyaya-Vaisheshika systems and emphasizes the concept of valid knowledge.

The above statements are related to?

- a) Mimamsa School
- b) Vedanta School
- c) Yoga School
- d) Samkhya School

Solution: a)

- Mimamsa philosophy is basically the analysis of interpretation, application and the use of the

text of the Samhita and Brahmana portions of the Veda.

- According to Mimamsa philosophy, Vedas are eternal and possess all knowledge, and religion means the fulfilment of duties prescribed by the Vedas.
- This philosophy encompasses the Nyaya-Vaisheshika systems and emphasizes the concept of valid knowledge.

3. Consider the following statements about Kalighat paintings

1. The theme of these paintings were mostly mythological characters that later evolved to other secular and contemporary themes.
2. The brushwork on these paintings are deemed by experts as deft, seamless, flowing and one of the smoothest art forms in India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d)

- The paintings over a period of time developed as a distinct school of Indian painting. An important achievement of the Kalighat artistes was that they made simple paintings and drawings, which could easily be reproduced by lithography.
- From the depiction of Hindu gods, goddesses, and other mythological characters, the Kalighat paintings developed to reflect a variety of themes.
- The artists also chose to portray secular themes and personalities and in the process played a role in the Independence movement. They painted heroic characters like Tipu Sultan and Rani Lakshmbai.

4. With reference to 'Kathakali Dance', consider the following statements:

1. It generally represents the eternal conflict between good and evil.



2. It is mainly performed by both men and women.
Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

- Most Kathakali recitals are a grand representation of the eternal conflict between good and evil.
- It draws its themes from the stories narrated in the epics and the puranas.
- It is also called as the 'ballad of the east'. Kathakali is essentially an all-male troupe performance.

5. Which of the following temples do have 'Nagara Style of Architecture' ?

- 1. Sun Temple at Konark
- 2. Kandariya Mahadeva temple
- 3. Modhera Sun temple
- 4. Ladkhan temple at Aihole

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: b)

- Ladkhan temple at Aihole have Vesara style of architecture.

6. With reference to the history of philosophical thought in India, consider the following statements regarding Samkhya School.

- 1. Samkhya does not accept the theory of rebirth or transmigration of soul.
- 2. Samkhya holds that it is the self-knowledge that leads to liberation and not any exterior influence or agent.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

- The Samkhya School denies the existence of God. However, rebirth and transmigration of soul are inherent in the Samkhya School.
- Liberation results from the disappearance of the limitations of self-awareness.

7. Consider the following pairs

Vedangas	Description
1. Nirukta	Metrics in Sanskrit Grammar
2. Chhanda	Etymology or the origin of the words
3. Jyotisyā	Astronomy
4. Vyakarana	Grammar

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

Solution: b)

- To understand the Vedas better, it is necessary to study the Vedangas or the branches/limbs of the Veda. They are like a supplement to the original Veda and concentrate on topics like siksha (education), nirukta (etymology or the origin of words), Chhanda (metrics in Sanskrit grammar), jyotisha (astronomy) and vyakarana (grammar).

8. The term Bodhisattvas have been subject to multiple interpretations in Buddhism. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding various interpretations?

- 1. Bodhisattva was primarily used to refer to Gautama Buddha in his former life.
- 2. Bodhisattva was someone who became enlightened by the good karma of the Sangha.
- 3. Bodhisattva meant someone on the path to liberation.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: b)



- In early Indian Buddhism, the term bodhisattva was primarily used to refer specifically to Gautama Buddha in his former life.
- From this Jataka tales, Bodhisattva originally meant the Buddhism practitioner of austerities.
- In later Theravada literature, the term “bodhisatta” is used fairly frequently in the sense of someone on the path to liberation.
- According to some Mahayana sources a bodhisattva is someone on the path to full Buddhahood. Others speak of bodhisattvas renouncing Buddhahood.
- However, under the new tradition most accepted definition is the one who aspires to become buddha as soon as possible and then help sentient beings.

9. Abhidhamma Pitakas contain

1. Teachings attributed to the Buddha or his close companions
2. Philosophical and psychological discourse and interpretation of Buddhist doctrine

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: b)

The Tripitakas of Buddhism are known as the Sutta, the Vinaya and the Abhidhamma Pitakas.

- Out of them, the Abhidhamma Pitaka is a detailed scholastic reworking (interpretation and comment) of material appearing in the Suttas, according to schematic classifications. It does not contain systematic philosophical treatises, but summaries or enumerated lists.
- Abhidhamma has been variously described as philosophy, psychology, and metaphysics.

10. Consider the following statements.

1. These paintings have close resemblance to the mural paintings of Bhimbetka.
2. Traditionally, the paintings are done on the walls using very basic graphic vocabulary.
3. For painting only white pigment is used.

The above statements refer to

- a) Thangka Painting
- b) Kalamkari Paintings
- c) Paitkar Painting
- d) None of the above

Solution: d)

- The name of the painting comes from the people who have been carrying the painting tradition that goes back to 2500-3000 BC. They are called the Warlis, indigenous people that occupy mainly the Gujarat-Maharashtra border. These paintings have close resemblance to the mural paintings of Bhimbetka in Madhya Pradesh that date back to the pre-historic period.
- Traditionally, the paintings are done on the walls using very basic graphic vocabulary, including a triangle, a circle and a square.
- The base is made of a mixture of mud, branches and cow dung that gives it a red ochre colour. For painting only white pigment is used, which is made of a mixture of gum and rice powder.

11. Consider the following statements regarding ‘Torana’.

1. Torana is a free-standing ornamental or arched gateway.
2. Toranas are associated with Buddhist stupas like the Great Stupa in Sanchi, as well as with Jain and Hindu structures.
3. Jagannath Temple, Puri, is an example of Kalinga architecture having torana.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: d)

- Torana, is a free-standing ornamental or arched gateway for ceremonial purposes seen in the Hindu, Buddhist and Jain architecture of the



Indian subcontinent, Southeast Asia and parts of East Asia.

- Torana is a sacred or honorific gateway in Buddhist and Hindu architecture. Its typical form is a projecting cross-piece resting on two uprights or posts. It is made of wood or stone, and the cross-piece is generally of three bars placed one on the top of the other; both cross-piece and posts are usually sculpted.
- Toranas are associated with Buddhist stupas like the Great Stupa in Sanchi, as well as with Jain and Hindu structures, and also with several secular structures.
- In Kalinga architecture we can see the Toran in many temples built from the 7th to 12th centuries. Jagannath Temple, Puri, Rajarani Temple and Mukteswar Temple are the few example of Kalinga architecture having torana.

12. The Tamil “*Tirukkural*” written by Thiruvalluvar mainly deals with

- a) Ethics and way of life
- b) Genealogy of major Tamil Kingdoms
- c) Politics and administration
- d) Astronomy and Astrology

Solution: a)

- Thiruvalluvar is renowned Tamil poet and philosopher-saint believed to have lived between 3rd Century BC and 1st Century BC.
- He is the author of the book ‘Tirukkural (also known as the Kural), a work on ethics. It is one of the most revered ancient literally work in Tamil Language. Tirukkural is a classic Tamil sangam literature consisting of thousands of couplets or Kurals. The book is also called as the fifth Veda or ‘Bible of the Tamil Land’.

13. *Yavanas* are mentioned in detail in Sangam literature refer to

- a) Some Greek kingdoms
- b) Elaborate religious arrangements made by Kings
- c) Horse chariots that were used for Ashvamedha sacrifices
- d) Foreign conquests that lead to local cultural assimilation

Solution: a)

- In some Sanskrit sources, the usage of the words “Yona”, “Yauna”, “Yonaka”, “Yavana” or “Javana” etc. appears repeatedly, and particularly in relation to the Greek kingdoms which neighbored or sometimes occupied the Punjab region over a period of several centuries from the 4th century BCE to the first century CE.
- Examples are the Seleucid Empire, the Greco-Bactrian Kingdom and the Indo-Greek Kingdom.
- The Yavanas are mentioned in detail in Sangam literature epics such as Pattinappalai, describing their brisk trade with the Early Cholas in the Sangam period.

14. Which of the following are correctly matched :

<i>Reform movement</i>	<i>Region of influence</i>
1. Sri Narayana Dharma Paripalana Sabha	: Karnataka
2. Sarin Sabha	: Punjab
3. Paramhansa Mandali	: Madhya Pradesh
4. Kayastha Sabha	: Uttar Pradesh

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: b)

- The Paramahansa Mandali and the Prarthana Samaj is in Maharashtra.
- There were several other regional and caste movements’ like the Kayasth Sabha in Uttar Pradesh and the Sarin Sabha in Punjab.
- The backward castes also started the work of reformation with the Satya Sodhak Samaj in Maharashtra and the Sri Narayana Dharma Paripalana Sabha in Kerala.

10. Consider the following pairs:

<i>Martial Art</i>	<i>Originated State</i>
1. Kalaripayattu	: Kerala
2. Inbuan	: Mizoram



- 3. *Thang –ta* : Manipur
- 4. *Gatka* : Punjab

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

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

Solution: d)

11. Consider the following statements regarding North Indian Temple Style.

- 1. In North India it is common for an entire temple to be built on a stone platform with steps leading up to it.
- 2. It does usually have elaborate boundary walls or gateways.
- 3. The garbhagriha is always located directly under the tallest tower.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

- The style of temple architecture that became popular in northern India is known as nagara. In North India it is common for an entire temple to be built on a stone platform with steps leading up to it. Further, unlike in South India it does not usually have elaborate boundary walls or gateways. While the earliest temples had just one tower, or shikhara, later temples had several. The garbhagriha is always located directly under the tallest tower.

12. Consider the following statements.

- 1. This temple dates back to early eleventh century.
- 2. It was built by Raja Bhimdev I of the Solanki Dynasty.

- 3. There is a massive rectangular stepped tank which is perhaps the grandest temple tank in India.

The above statements refer to

- a) Sun temple, Konark
- b) Dashavatara temple, Deogarh
- c) Laxman Temple, Khajuraho
- d) Sun temple, Modhera

Solution: d)

- The Sun temple at Modhera dates back to early eleventh century and was built by Raja Bhimdev I of the Solanki Dynasty in 1026. The Solankis were a branch of the later Chalukyas. There is a massive rectangular stepped tank called the surya kund in front of it. Proximity of sacred architecture to a water body such as a tank, a river or a pond has been noticed right from the earliest times.
- By the early eleventh century they had become a part of many temples. This hundred-square-metre rectangular pond is perhaps the grandest temple tank in India. A hundred and eight miniature shrines are carved in between the steps inside the tank.

13. What is/are common between the teachings of Buddhism and Jainism?

- 1. Acceptance of the theory that God exists and it has multiple aspects.
- 2. To practice ahimsa and abstain from acquiring precious metals like Gold and Silver.
- 3. Penance and extreme austerity to punish the body.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: b)

- Right Knowledge (as per Mahavira) is the acceptance of the theory that there is no God and that the world has been existing without a creator and that all objects possess a soul.



- Buddhism sheds any discussion on God and soul as futile. Buddha also taught that the soul does not exist, so there is no meeting ground in this case.
- Right conduct (Jainism) refers to the observance of the five great vows such as not to injure life, not to lie, not to steal, not to acquire property and not to lead an immoral life.
- Buddhism also forbids its monks from acquiring property (that may bring a sense of ego and pride to its monks and nuns) and injuring life.
- Only Jainism advocates extreme penance, Buddhism preaches moderation.

14. The prominent construction works undertaken during Akbar's reign are:

1. Agra Fort
2. Ibadat Khana
3. Buland Darwaza

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: d)

- Akbar took a keen interest in the development of art and architecture during his reign. The principal feature of the constructions during Akbar's reign was the use of red sandstone.
- Some of the prominent construction works undertaken during Akbar's reign are described below:

Agra Fort

- It was one of the first constructions started during the reign of Akbar. However, most of the structures present inside the fort were done during the reign of Shah Jahan.

Fatehpur Sikri

- One of the highlights of Indo-Islamic architecture was the creation of a new capital city by Akbar at Fatehpur Sikri.

Some of the important buildings inside the city are:

1. Buland Darwaza
2. Salim Chisti's tomb
3. Panch Mahal
4. Jodha Bai's palace or Mariam-uz-Zamani's Palace
5. Ibadat Khana
6. Pachisi Court
7. Hiran Minar

15. Consider the following statements with reference to Central Indian paintings.

1. They take inspiration from Indian epics and religious texts.
2. They developed as an anti-Sanskrit cult to promote culture of tribal regions.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

- The cults of Vaishnavism, Saivism and Sakti exercised tremendous influence on the pictorial art of these places. Among these the cult of Krishna was the most popular one which inspired the patrons and artists.



6. HISTORY

1. Who among the following was the last Mauryan king.

- Kunala
- Dasaratha
- Brihadratha
- Asoka

Solution: c)

- Asoka's death in 232 B.C. was followed by the division of the Mauryan Empire into two parts – western and eastern. The western part was ruled by Kunala, son of Asoka and the eastern part by Dasaratha, one of the grand sons of Asoka. Due to the Bactrian invasions, the western part of the empire collapsed. The eastern part was intact under Samprati successor of Dasaratha. The last Mauryan king was Brihadratha, who was assassinated by Pushyamitra Sunga.

2. With reference to medieval kingdoms of North-eastern India what was the position of paiks?

- They were the patrons of literature and arts.
- They were mercenaries recruited from other kingdoms.
- They held large amount of land and gold and donated it for public welfare.
- They were forced to work for the state.

Solution: d)

- The Ahoms migrated to the Brahmaputra valley from present-day Myanmar in the thirteenth century. They created a new state by suppressing the older political system of the bhuiyans (landlords).
- The Ahom state depended upon forced labour. Those forced to work for the state were called paiks.
- A census of the population was taken. Each village had to send a number of paiks by rotation. People from heavily populated areas were shifted to less populated ones.

3. Consider the following statements regarding Treaty of Salbai.

- Treaty of Salbai was signed between the Marathas and the British East India Company.
- British Recognized the territorial claims of Mahadji Shinde in west of Yamuna River.
- Raghunath Rao was freed and a pension was fixed for him.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2, 3
- 3 only
- 1, 2, 3

Solution: d)

Treaty of Salbai was signed between the Marathas and the British East India Company. As per this treaty:

- British acknowledged Madhavrao II Narayan as Peshwa of the Maratha Empire
- British Recognized the Territorial claims of Mahadji Shinde in west of Yamuna River.
- Raghunath Rao was freed and a pension was fixed for them.
- British East India Company got the control of the Salsette.
- British promised to support Marathas in case they attack Hyder Ali of Mysore and retake the territories of Carnatic.
- In summary, the Treaty of Salbai which was the outcome of the First Anglo Maratha war maintained the status quo.
- Gujarat was restored to the Marathas; and only Salsette, with Elephanta and two other small islands in Bombay harbor was retained by the English.

4. Consider the following statements regarding Radicals during British rule in India.

- They went beyond the narrow criticism and imperialistic outlook of the Conservatives and the Imperialists.
- They advocated the introduction of modern western science, philosophy and literature.
- Raja Rammohan Roy and other like-minded reformers opposed Radical school of thought.



Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

Radicals

- They went beyond the narrow criticism and imperialistic outlook of the Conservatives and the Imperialists and applied advanced humanistic and rational thought to the Indian situation. They thought that India had the capacity to improve and that they must help the country do that.
- They wanted to make India a part of the modern progressive world of science and humanism and therefore advocated the introduction of modern western science, philosophy and literature. Some of the British officials who came to India after 1820 were Radicals. They were strongly supported by Raja Rammohan Roy and other like-minded reformers.

5. Consider the following statements regarding Partition of Bengal, 1905.

1. Partition of Bengal was carried out by the British viceroy in India, Lord Curzon.
2. New provinces of East Bengal and Assam were created after the partition of Bengal.
3. The incident gave birth to the Swadeshi and Rithala movement.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

The Partition of Bengal into two provinces was effected in July 1905.

- The new province of Eastern Bengal and Assam included the whole of Assam and the Dacca,

Rajshahi and Chittagong divisions of Bengal with headquarters at Dacca.

- Though Curzon justified his action on administrative lines, partition divided the Hindus and Muslims in Bengal. This led to the anti-partition agitation all over the country.
- This had also intensified the National Movement leading to the Swadeshi movement.
- Rithala is a place in Delhi, the movement or the riots in Rithala that happened between 1911-1932 cannot be related to the Swadeshi movement.

6. Kornish in medieval history refers to:

- a) A kind of salutation.
- b) A kind of revenue system.
- c) A title given to the courtier
- d) A kind of crop brought to India by the British.

Solution: a)

- Kornish was a form of ceremonial salutation in which the courtier placed the palm of his right hand against his forehead and bent his head. It suggested that the subject placed his head – the seat of the senses and the mind – into the hand of humility, presenting it to the royal assembly.

7. Consider the following statements

1. The Permanent Settlement system was introduced by the British to encourage investment in agriculture
2. The British expected the Permanent Settlement system would help the emergence of a class of yeomen farmers who would be loyal to the Company

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

- In introducing the Permanent Settlement, British officials hoped to resolve the problems they had been facing since the conquest of Bengal. By the 1770s, the rural economy in



Bengal was in crisis, with recurrent famines and declining agricultural output.

- Officials felt that agriculture, trade and the revenue resources of the state could all be developed by encouraging investment in agriculture. This could be done by securing rights of property and permanently fixing the rates of revenue demand.
- If the revenue demand of the state was permanently fixed, then the Company could look forward to a regular flow of revenue, while entrepreneurs could feel sure of earning a profit from their investment, since the state would not siphon it off by increasing its claim.
- The process, officials hoped, would lead to the emergence of a class of yeomen farmers and rich landowners who would have the capital and enterprise to improve agriculture. Nurtured by the British, this class would also be loyal to the Company.

8. Consider the following statements about Young Bengal Movement.

1. The movement was launched by Surendranath Banerjea and later gained prominence with the participation of Henry Vivian Derozio.
2. The movement had influence of French Revolution.
3. The movement failed to have a long-term impact.

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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

Solution: b)

Young Bengal Movement was launched by Henry Louis Vivian Derozio (1809-1831), who had come to Calcutta in 1826 and was appointed in the Hindu College as a teacher.

- Drawing inspiration from the great French Revolution, Derozio inspired his pupils to think freely and rationally, question all authority, love liberty, equality and freedom, and oppose decadent customs and traditions. The Derozians also supported women's rights and education.

- The Derozians, however, failed to have a long-term impact. Derozio was removed from the Hindu College in 1831 because of his radicalism. The main reason for their limited success was the prevailing social conditions at that time, which were not ripe for the adoption of radical ideas.
- Further, there was no support from any other social group or class.

9. Consider the following dynasties of Medieval India.

1. Rajput
2. Lodi
3. Tughluq
4. Sayyid

The correct chronological order in which they appeared in India is?

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

Solution: d)

RAJPUT DYNASTIES	
Tomaras	early twelfth century - 1165
Ananga Pala	1130 - 1145
Chauhans	1165 - 1192
Prithviraj Chauhan	1175 - 1192

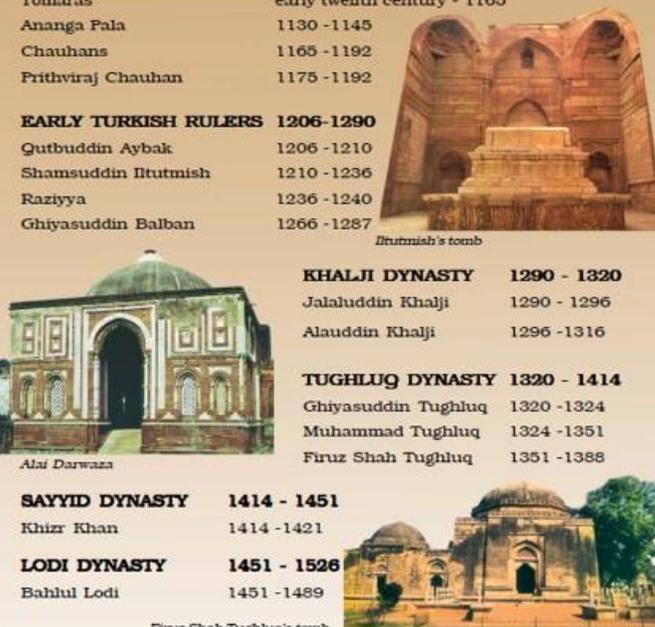
EARLY TURKISH RULERS 1206-1290	
Qutbuddin Aybak	1206 - 1210
Shamsuddin Iltutmish	1210 - 1236
Raziyya	1236 - 1240
Ghiyasuddin Balban	1266 - 1287

KHALJI DYNASTY 1290 - 1320	
Jalaluddin Khalji	1290 - 1296
Alauddin Khalji	1296 - 1316

TUGHLUQ DYNASTY 1320 - 1414	
Ghiyasuddin Tughluq	1320 - 1324
Muhammad Tughluq	1324 - 1351
Firuz Shah Tughluq	1351 - 1388

SAYYID DYNASTY 1414 - 1451	
Khizr Khan	1414 - 1421

LODI DYNASTY 1451 - 1526	
Bahlul Lodi	1451 - 1489



10. Which of the following could be the possible implications of the Battle of Plassey?

1. It resulted in the victory of East India Company (EIC), greater powers to extract revenue and its consolidation of its presence in Bengal.



2. It resulted in the East India Company gaining greater military might which allowed them to push
3. other European colonial powers away from Bengal.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: c)

11. Why did Buddhism start declining in India in the early medieval times?

1. Vaishnavism, Shaivism and other Hindu traditions became increasingly popular, and Brahmins developed a new relationship with the state
2. The Kings of Gupta dynasty were strongly opposed to Buddhism.

Select the correct answer code:

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

Solution: a)

- With the Gupta dynasty (~4th to 6th century), the growth in ritualistic Mahayana Buddhism, and the adoption of Buddhist ideas into Hindu schools, the differences between Buddhism and Hinduism blurred. Vaishnavism, Shaivism and other Hindu traditions became increasingly popular, and Brahmins developed a new relationship with the state. As the system grew, Buddhist monasteries gradually lost control of land revenue. In parallel, the Gupta kings built Buddhist temples such as the one at Kushinagara, and monastic universities such as those at Nalanda, as evidenced by records left by three Chinese visitors to India.
- According to Hazra, Buddhism declined in part because of the rise of the Brahmins and their influence in socio-political process.

12. Consider the following statements

1. Diwani Rights were the rights granted to British East India Company to collect revenues and decide civil cases.
2. *Chauth* and *Sardeshmukhi* were the titles given to military officials in the Army.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

- Chauth and Sardeshmukhi were the types of taxes collected in South India, particular in Maratha Empire.

13. Gandhiji represented the Indian National Congress in which of these Round Table Conferences?

- a) First Round Table Conference, 1930-31
- b) Second Round Table Conference, 1931
- c) Third Round Table Conference, 1932
- d) None of the above

Solution: b)

- The three Round Table Conferences of 1930–32 were a series of conferences organized by the British Government and Indian national congress was participant to discuss constitutional reforms in India. These started in November 1930 and ended in December 1932. They were conducted as per the recommendation of Jinnah to Viceroy Lord Irwin and Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald, and by the report submitted by the Simon Commission in May 1930. Demands for swaraj, or self-rule, in India had been growing increasingly strong.
- The Congress had boycotted the first conference.
- A settlement between Mahatma Gandhi and Viceroy Lord Irwin known as the Gandhi–Irwin Pact was reached and Gandhi was appointed as the sole representative of the Congress to the second Round Table Conference.



- Although MacDonald was still Prime Minister of Britain, he was by this time heading a coalition Government (the “National Government”) with a Conservative majority. It was held in London in September 1931.

14. With reference to the Simon Commission, consider the following statements:

1. It recommended the replacement of dyarchy with responsible government in the provinces.
2. It was boycotted by all political parties in India.
3. Rabindranath Tagore renounced his knighthood to protest against Simon commission.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Solution: a)

- In November 1927 itself (i.e., 2 years before the schedule), the British Government announced the appointment a seven-member statutory commission under the chairmanship of Sir John Simon to report on the condition of India under its new Constitution.
- All the members of the commission were British and hence, almost all the parties boycotted the

commission with a few exceptions like Justice Party of Madras and Unionist Party in Punjab.

- Rabindranath Tagore renounced his knighthood to protest against Jallianwala Bagh massacre.

15. Consider the following events during India’s freedom struggle:

1. Chauri-Chaura Outrage
2. Minto-Morley Reforms
3. Dandi March
4. Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms

Which of the following is the correct chronological order of the events above?

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

Solution: b)