

1. With reference to Himalayan Yew, consider the following statements.

1. It is an endemic and exclusive species of Indo-Burma biodiversity hotspot region.
2. Taxol extracted from the plant has been successfully used to treat some cancers
3. It is currently classified as endangered by the IUCN.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 and 2 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 3 only
D. 1 and 3 only

2. Which of these European nations are open to seas/oceans or have coasts?

1. Serbia
2. Belgium
3. Macedonia
4. Austria

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 2 only
D. 1 and 4 only

3. The Animal Welfare Board of India is a statutory advisory body on Animal Welfare Laws and promotes animal welfare in the country. It was established in 1962 under

- A. Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act**
B. Wildlife Protection Act
C. Environment Protection Act
D. Forest Act

4. Decomposition of organic matter its speed is determined by which of these major factors?

1. Soil organisms
2. Temperature conditions
3. Moisture conditions
4. Quality of the organic matter

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 and 2 only
B. 2, 3 and 4 only
C. 3 and 4 only
D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

5. The organized sector of India shares which of the following characteristics?

1. Recognition and registration by the government
2. Security of employment for the employed based on a contract
3. Terms of employment are regular and negotiated between the employer and employee
4. The sector is mandated to comply with labour laws in India

Choose the answer from the codes below:

- A. 1 and 2 only
B. 2, 3 and 4 only
C. 3 only
D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

6. As per available data, which of the following sources provides the most credit to rural households?

A. Government of India loan waiver schemes

B. Cooperatives and commercial banks

- C. Professional and agricultural money lender networks
D. Traders and landlords with traditional affiliates

7. Consider the following with reference to the United Nations Guidelines for Consumer Protection (UNGCP).

1. It assists Member States in formulating and enforcing domestic and regional laws.
2. The Intergovernmental group of experts on consumer protection law and policy has been established to monitor the implementation of the guidelines.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
B. 2 only
C. Both 1 and 2
D. None

8. Which of these countries touches Celtic sea, English Channel and Bay of Biscay all?

- A. France** B. Switzerland
C. Italy D. Austria

9. Humus is least in which of the following soils?

- A. Laterite soils**
B. Black soil
C. Alluvial soil
D. Soils of temperate forests

10. Fahien's account on the Gupta administration provides useful information about the empire. As per his accounts

1. Imposing a fine was a common punishment.
2. There was no spy system.
3. Roads were not safe for travellers due to frequent thefts.
4. People were not free to move and their movements were heavily controlled by the state.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 and 2 only** B. 3 and 4 only
C. 1 only D. 2, 3 and 4 only

11. Arrange the following in decreasing order of protection and funding given by the government in connection with safeguarding wildlife, biodiversity and forests:

- A. Protected forests > National Park > Wildlife Sanctuary
B. Reserved forests > National Park > Protected Forests > Wildlife Sanctuary

C. National Park > Wildlife Sanctuary > Reserved Forests > Protected forests

D. All of the above enjoy the same level of protection and funding.

12. Which of these nations border Baltic Sea?

1. Russia 2. Germany
3. Poland 4. Belarus

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only** B. 2 and 4 only
C. 1 and 3 only D. 1, 3 and 4 only

13 A system of agriculture where monoculture is practiced on a large area is

- A. Subsistence Agriculture
- B. Plantation Agriculture**
- C. Slash and Burn Agriculture
- D. Transhumance Agriculture

14 Which of the following processes contributes to the enrichment of minerals in rocks?

- A. Weathering of rocks
- B. Erosional and depositional action of rivers
- C. Both (a) and (b)**
- D. None of the above

15 Despite having large reserves of coal, why India imports millions of tonnes of coal every year?

- 1. Availability of coking coal is limited in India.
- 2. Indian coal has very high calorific value that is unsuitable for the power plants in India.
- 3. Fumes emitted by Indian coal contain Mercury.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 only**
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 2 only
- D. 3 only

16 Coastal erosion can be caused by

- 1. Global warming induced sea level rise
- 2. removal of beach sediments by wave action
- 3. Presence of coral reefs
- 4. Growth of mangroves near the seashore

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 and 2 only**
- B. 2, 3 and 4 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

17 Press Trust of India (PTI) is chaired by

- A. Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting
- B. Secretary, Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- C. An eminent personality nominated by the Prime Minister of India
- D. A person elected by the PTI, who need not necessarily belong to the government**

18 India's zero-subsidy UJALA (Unnat Jyoti by Affordable Lighting for All) Scheme model was replicated in which of these countries?

- A. Malaysia**
- B. Pakistan
- C. Sri Lanka
- D. Bhutan and Bangladesh

19 SLINEX 2017, recently in news, was a

- A. Major conference on alternative sustainable energy sources
- B. India-Sri Lanka joint maritime naval exercise**
- C. Optical fibre communication line setup by major ISPs of India
- D. Ransomware quarantined by McAfee

20 Why a desert cooler cools better on a hot dry day?

- 1. Low humidity helps in better evaporation

- 2. Air pressure is higher on a hotter day as compared to a colder day
- 3. Latent heat of vaporization is higher for water on a drier day

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 only**
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 2 only

21. Nuakhai Juhar is the harvest festival of which of these States/Union Territories (UTs) of India?

- A. Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- B. Jammu and Kashmir
- C. Odisha**
- D. Andhra Pradesh

22. A 'diamond futures contracts' has been recently designed to provide Indian exporters with a hedging tool. What do you understand by hedging in this context?

- 1. To ensure optimum demand conditions of diamonds abroad
- 2. To protect them from diamond price fluctuations

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only**
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. None

23. The famous Indra Sawhney and others vs. Union of India case under the Supreme Court of India concerns with

- A. Reservation of backward classes community**
- B. Protection of basic structure of the constitution
- C. Acquisition of properties from marginalized communities by the state
- D. Provisions related to detention of a subject under Section 144 of Cr. PC

24 On the recommendations of the Central Board of Directors of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) which of these bodies holds the authority to notify new currency notes such as the Rs.200 note recently?

- A. The Union Finance Ministry**
- B. Chairman, Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
- C. Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Limited (SPMCIL)
- D. Any of the above depending on the value of the denomination of the currency

25. Why did the famous archaeologist John Marshall dedicated his important volumes on Sanchi to Sultan Jehan Begum, the ruler of Bhopal in colonial India?

- 1. She provided money for the preservation of the ancient site.
- 2. She initiated the cult of building stupas.
- 3. Her department waived off all taxes on religious sects.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 only**
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 2 only

26. Consider the following about the Kakatiyas.

1. Kakatiyas were worshippers of Shiva.
2. They were the historic overlords and progenitors of the Rashtrakutas.
3. The Kakatiya polity was based a monarchical system that preferred women over men in rulership.
4. Their empire was conquered by the Delhi Sultanate.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

A. 1 and 4 only

B. 2, 3 and 4 only

C. 1 and 3 only

D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

27 Gobindobhog rice, a speciality from Burdwan district of West Bengal, has got the geographical indication (GI) status. What advantage(s) will such recognition bring to this product?

1. Its price will be regulated by the government to avoid hoarding and black marketing.
2. It will be added to the list of Essential Commodities.
3. The Government will make special efforts to increase the production of this variety of rice.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

A. 1 and 2 only

B. 3 only

C. 1 only

D. None of the above

28. The National Police Commission was constituted by the Government to

1. Hear public complaints against the Police
2. Suggest reforms to the police system in the country
3. Court martial guilty and corrupt police officers

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

A. 1 only

B. 2 only

C. 2 and 3 only

D. 1 and 3 only

29. Which of these countries are constitutional monarchies?

1. Syria
2. Bhutan
3. Turkey
4. Cambodia
5. China

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

A. 1, 2 and 5 only

B. 2 and 4 only

C. 1, 3 and 4 only

D. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

30. In the Rashtrakuta rule, 'hiranya-garbha' sacrifice was done in order to

- A. Donate land to Brahmins
- B. Start excavation for establishing a new empire
- C. To convert the caste of an individual to Kshatriya**
- D. Begin a war

31 A 'by-election' is conducted in the event of vacancy caused by death or resignation of a Member of

Parliament, which is to be filled between general elections. This election is organized and conducted by

A. An all-party Organization

B. Election Commission of India

C. Concerned State Election Commission

D. Central Government in the supervision of the President

32. With reference to Al-Biruni, consider the following:

1. He travelled to the South Asia and authored a study of Indian culture.

2. Mahmud Ghazni entrusted the writing of Kitab-al Hind to Al-Biruni.

3. He was given the title "founder of Indology".

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

A. 1 only

B. 2 and 3 only

C. 1 and 3 only

D. 1, 2 and 3

33 With reference to the Chola empire, consider the following statements.

1. Settlements of peasants were known as ur.

2. Nadu was a group of villages that often administered collection of taxes.

3. Muvendavelan was a title given to upper castes that worked for the welfare of backward castes.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

A. 1 and 2 only

B. 2 and 3 only

C. 1 only

D. 3 only

34 Consider the following statements.

1. Supreme Court and the High Courts in India settle disputes arising out of governmental decisions.

2. Central Administrative Tribunal resolves disputes between the officials and government with regard to major government decisions.

Which of the above is/are correct?

A. 1 only

B. 2 only

C. Both 1 and 2

D. None

35 What are brain corals?

A. A slow-growing species of coral which often act as foundations for reefs

B. Corals found in fresh and cold water

C. Floating corals that feed on phytoplankton

D. None of the above

36 Consider the following statement.

1. World Bank provides low-interest loans and grants to developing countries.

2. International Monetary Fund (IMF) has the objective, inter alia, of promoting high employment, sustainable economic growth and reducing poverty around the world.

Which of the above is/are correct?

A. 1 only

B. 2 only

C. Both 1 and 2

D. None

37. Consider the following statements.

1. The executive power of the Union shall be vested in the President and shall be exercised by him either directly or through officers subordinates to him in accordance with the Constitution.
2. The supreme command of the Defence Forces of the Union shall be vested in the President and the exercise thereof cannot be regulated by law.

Which of the above is/are correct?

A. 1 only

- B. 2 only
C. Both 1 and 2
D. None

38 Recently, in a bid to curb health hazards originating from bursting of firecrackers, the Pune Bench of the National Green Tribunal has directed civic bodies to levy 'green tax' on sellers. Ecotaxes are examples of 'Pigouvian taxes', which are taxes that

1. Attempt to make the private parties involved feel the social burden of their actions
2. Shift the incidence of a direct tax in the form of an indirect tax
3. Applied only on business firms or commercial entities

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 only
B. 2 and 3 only

C. 1 only

D. 1, 2 and 3

39 Consider the following about the travel accounts of the Geographer Al-Idrisi.

1. He mentions sailing time across the world as two days.
2. He labelled silk found in Quanzhou as the best.
3. As per him, Indian subcontinent was circular in shape.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

A. 2 only

- B. 1 and 3 only
C. 2 and 3 only
D. 1 and 2 only

40 The growth of vegetation in a region depends on which of these factors?

1. Temperature
2. Moisture
3. Slope of Soil
4. Thickness of soil
5. Altitude

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1, 2 and 5 only
B. 2, 4 and 5 only
C. 1, 3 and 4 only

D. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

41 The Fatwa-i-Jahandari is a work of Ziauddin Barani dealing with

A. Economic principles of Mughal Empire

B. Political ideals to be pursued by a Muslim ruler

- C. Crime and punishment in Islam
D. Accounts of travellers to South Asia

42 As regards to the lordship of these dynasties/kingdoms, arrange them correctly from North to South:

1. Palas
2. Rashtrakutas
3. Chahamanas
4. Pandyas

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

A. 3124

- B. 4321
C. 1234
D. 1342

43 In Medieval India, Mahamandaleshvara was a term often used for

A. Samantas who gained power and wealth to overpower their Lords

- B. Kings who undertook an overseas expedition
C. Priests who performed the most Ashvamedha sacrifices
D. Patrons of temples with several deities

44 Political equality of citizens refers to

1. One citizen one vote
2. Right to contest public offices without undue discrimination
3. Right to public employment
4. Equal social status

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

A. 1 and 2 only

- B. 2, 3 and 4 only
C. 1, 3 and 4 only
D. 1, 2 and 3 only

45 With reference to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, consider the following:

1. It was adopted by an informal assembly of European Union and later approved by the UN General Assembly.

2. The Covenant is monitored by the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
B. 2 only
C. Both 1 and 2
D. None

46 The inscriptions of the Cholas mention various kinds of taxes. Which of these is the most frequently mentioned tax in these inscriptions?

- A. Ladamol
B. Vetti
C. Surnam
D. Rumolna

47 Consider the following statements.

1. Any ordinary law needs to be passed by both the Houses.
2. Money bills need to be passed only by the Lok Sabha.
3. In case of a disagreement between the two houses on ordinary bills, a joint sitting is called that is presided by the President.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 3 only
- C. 1 only**
- D. 1, 2 and 3

48 Consider the following about Amir Khusrau, who was an iconic figure in the cultural history of the Indian subcontinent.

- 1. He wrote poetry only in Persian.
- 2. He is regarded as the "father of qawwali".
- 3. He rejected Sufism as an unnecessary appendage of Islam. Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 2 only**
- C. 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3 only

49 Consider the following statements.

- 1. Parliament can expand the scope of fundamental rights by amending the constitution.
- 2. High Courts can interpret the constitution but cannot expand the scope of fundamental rights. Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only**
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. None

50 With reference to the 'Visiting Advanced Joint Research (VAJRA) Faculty Scheme', consider the following:

- 1. It was launched by the Prime Minister's office.
- 2. It will offer adjunct/visiting faculty assignments to eligible candidates overseas including Nonresident Indians (NRI).
- 3. Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) have been excluded from the purview of this scheme.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 only**
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 3 only

51 Consider the following about Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 (IDRA).

- 1. The Act establishes a 'Central Advisory Council' for the purpose of advising the Central Government on matters concerning the development of the industries.
- 2. The Act is administered by the Ministry of Commerce through its Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP).
- 3. The IDRA empowers the Central Government to regulate the development of industries by means of licensing with suitable exemptions as decided by the Government.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3**

52. Uttaramerur Inscription is a famous Tamil inscription dating to the Tenth Century A.D. It deals with

A. Recording the Mode of Election to Village Assemblies

- B. Sacrificial ceremonies to be performed in the North
- C. Rights and inheritances of a women
- D. The segregation of the law-making bodies and executive bodies

53 What was the position of paiks, with reference to medieval kingdoms of North-eastern India?

A. They were forced to work for the state.

- B. They were mercenaries recruited from other kingdoms.
- C. They held large amount of land and gold and donated it for public welfare.
- D. They were the patrons of literature and arts.

54 The Union Cabinet has given its approval to the proposal of the Finance Ministry to promulgate an ordinance to suitably amend the Goods and Services Tax (Compensation to States) Act, 2017. As per the approval

- 1. The maximum tax rate for compensation cess will be significantly reduced on all commodities
 - 2. Pre-GST tax on PSU produced goods would be reduced as states are allowed to levy additional taxes
- Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. None**

55 Consider these major bhakti saints and the regions associated with them.

- 1. Ramdas
- 2. Nammalvar
- 3. Surdas
- 4. Vallabhacharya

What is the correct North-South order of the regions associated with them?

- A. 3412**
- B. 1234
- C. 1324
- D. 3124

56 With reference to Medieval India, buranjis were
A. Historical chronicles, written initially in the Ahom and afterwards in Assamese language

- B. An encyclopedia of diverse topics written in a variety of local languages
- C. Works discussing the four Vedas and the six Vedangas
- D. Stories of Lingam, entailing description of disputes between Vishnu and Brahma

57 Which of these sects advocated renunciation of the world to reach salvation?

- 1. Yogis
- 2. Nathpanthis
- 3. Siddhacharas

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 and 3 only

- B. 1 and 2 only
C. 2 only
D. 1, 2 and 3

58 Consider the following statements. The Election Commissioners (ECs) in the Election Commission of India are

1. Appointed by the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC)
2. To be removed only in the same manner as that of the CEC
3. Not answerable to the government of the day for their day to day actions

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 3 only
D. 1 and 2 only

59 With reference to Medieval India, the popular saintly figures like Appar, Sambandar, Sundarar and Manikkavasagar belonged to which of these sects?

- A. Ajivikas
B. Nayanars
C. Alvars
D. Ligayatas

60 The Tripartite Struggle for control of northern India took place in the ninth century. The struggle was between the

- A. Pratihara Empire, the Pala Empire and the Rashtrakuta Empire**
B. Mauryas, Guptas and Harshavardhana
C. Nandas, Sungas and Kanvas
D. Satvahanas, Chalukyas and Pala Empire

61 Which of these statements about Atal Pension Yojana (APY) is correct?

- A. It was started before the 2008 recession.
B. The Central Government contributes 100% of the fund.
C. Only Income Tax payers are eligible under the scheme.
D. None of the above

62 Consider the following statements about the authors of tawrikhs.

1. They lived mainly in cities.
2. These authors prescribed elitism rather than merit to preserve purity in the royal lineage.
3. They were sharply critical of the Sultans and the bureaucratic establishment. Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 only**
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 2 only
D. 3 only

63 With reference to Delhi Sultanate, who were the bandagan?

- A. Royal spies posted to other kingdoms
B. Translators and scribes hired by the royalty
C. Cavalrymen deputed to hilly regions
D. Special slaves purchased for military service

64 It is the largest coastal lagoon in India and the largest wintering ground for migratory birds on the Indian sub-continent. A wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention, it is

- A. Vembanad Lake
B. Chilka Lake
C. Kolleru Lake
D. Sultanpur Lake

65 The text 'Lilatilakam' deals with

- A. Grammar and poetics**
B. Commentary on the Upanishads
C. Love story of a Chola King
D. War rituals in Rashtrakuta empire

66 Akbar ordered one of his close friends and courtiers, Abul Fazl to write Akbar Nama, a work of three volumes. The volumes deal with

1. Akbar's ancestors
2. Evolution of administrative setup in Indian subcontinent
3. Geography of India
4. Events of Akbar's reign

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 and 4 only**
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1, 2 and 3 only D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

67 Virashaiva movement initiated by Basavanna and his companions like Allama Prabhu and Akkamahadevi argued for

1. Equality of all human beings
2. Revival of a new caste system based on divine origin
3. Promoting idol worship
4. Rituals to be conducted by all segments of society

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 only**
B. 2, 3 and 4 only
C. 1 and 4 only
D. None of the above

68 Consider the following about Sulh-i kul, started by Akbar.

1. It was an idea of "universal peace".
2. Abul Fazl was against this system of beliefs.
3. This system of governance was abandoned by rulers who followed Akbar.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 2 and 3 only
B. 3 only
C. 1 only
D. 1 and 2 only

69 Fundamental Rights are guaranteed against the actions of the

1. Legislature
2. Executive
3. Any other authorities instituted by the government

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1 and 3 only

D. 1, 2 and 3

70 Which of these were some important centres of trade and artisanal production in Medieval central and south India?

1. Bidar
2. Svamimalai
3. Masulipatnam
4. Thanjavur

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 and 3 only
B. 2 and 4 only
C. 1, 3 and 4 only

D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

71 The Architectural Splendour of Hampi is located in which of these river basins?

- A. Godavari-Vaigai basin
B. Cauvery-Penna basin

C. Krishna-Tungabhadra basin

- D. Mahanadi-Bhima basin

72 Why Gold mining in Kolar mines is expensive or economically less viable?

1. Gold is combined with uranium in these mines.
2. These are some of the deepest mines on earth.
3. Mining follows expulsion of methane hydrates from the mine bed.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 only

B. 2 only

- C. 2 and 3 only
D. None of the above

73 Rathakaras, mentioned in a twelfth-century inscription from Uyyakondan Udaiyar, were engaged in the profession of

- A. temple architecture
B. preparing metal equipment used to perform sacrifices

C. making chariots

- D. manual scavenging

74 Consider the following dynasties of Medieval India.

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

The correct chronological order in which they appeared in India is? A. 1234

- B. 2143

C. 1243

- D. 3142

75 Consider the following about the state of Garha Katanga, a Gond kingdom.

1. It earned much wealth by trapping and exporting wild elephants to other kingdoms.
2. It banned the system of coin minting due to widespread counterfeiting.
3. It conquered Bundelas and Marathas for much of Medieval Indian time period.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 and 2 only

- B. 3 only

C. 1 only

- D. 1, 2 and 3 only

76 Consider the following about National Human Rights Commission.

1. The Commission functions autonomously of the government.
2. It is authority established by executive orders based on past conventions.

3. Its recommendations are legally binding on both the courts and the government.

4. A citizen does not need to pay some fees to approach the commission. Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 and 2 only

- B. 2, 3 and 4 only

C. 1 and 4 only

- D. 2 and 3 only

77 Consider the following with reference to Ahom Kingdom.

1. They made land grants to religious institutions and figures.

2. Ahoms were persecutors of Hinduism.

3. Artisan population was predominant in the Kingdom.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1, 2 and 3

- B. 2 only

C. 1 only

- D. 3 only

78 All bills, in order to become a law, passed by the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha must be approved by

A. President

- B. Vice-President

- C. Speaker, Lok Sabha

- D. A Joint Parliamentary Committee

79 Naga is a vaguely defined umbrella term for several tribes in North-East India and Upper Burma. Which of these tribes fall under this category?

1. Nyima

2. Zonga

3. Angami

4. Chang and Chiru

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 only

- B. 2 and 3 only

C. 3 and 4 only

- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

80 The Puranas laid down that

1. It was not possible for devotees to receive the grace of God unless they were born in certain castes.

2. One should not be a devout of God idols and instead meditate on the formless reality

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only

- B. 2 only

- C. Both 1 and 2

D. None

81. India was the top producer of tea for nearly a century, but recently China has overtaken India as the top tea producer of green tea mainly due to

- A. Substantial reduction of coffee production in China
B. Increased land availability and labour productivity in China
C. China becoming the largest tea consumer in the world recently
D. Sudden climate events in India have disrupted tea production since last decade

82 Reserve Bank of India has issued an advisory to general public against depositing money in co-operative societies or primary co-operative credit societies (PACS). Consider the following about PACS.

1. Such co-operative societies have not been authorized for doing banking business by RBI.
2. These entities are not allowed to raise any deposits from their members or general public.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only**
B. 2 only
C. Both 1 and 2
D. None

83 Consider the following statements. Hydrogen cyanide (HCN)

1. is a colorless and non-flammable liquid
2. is used in manufacture of polymers and pharmaceuticals
3. is a strong base with a high pH value
4. has been detected in the interstellar medium

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 2 and 4 only**
B. 1 and 3 only
C. 1, 2 and 4 only
D. 2, 3 and 4 only

84 What are the agro-climatic conditions that differentiate the production of wheat and rice in India?

1. Wheat thrives well in soils that have the highest water retention capacity, whereas rice requires well drained soils.
2. Wheat requires moderate temperature and high rainfall, whereas rice requires high temperature and comparatively lower rainfall.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
B. 2 only
C. Both 1 and 2
D. None

85 The oldest rocks in the world can be found in which of these regions?

- A. Western Australia**
B. Southern Europe
C. North America
D. Eastern Asia

86 With reference to the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), consider the following statements.

1. It is a part of the United Nations Secretariat.
2. It is responsible for the follow-up to major United Nations Summits and Conferences.
3. It is a member of the United Nations Development Group.
4. It supports international cooperation to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 2 only
B. 1 and 4 only
C. 2 and 3 only
D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

87 Consider the following:

1. Brazil is the largest producer of high grade iron-ore in the world.
2. China is the biggest producer of copper mineral.
3. Bolivia is the world's largest producer of diamond.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 only**
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1 and 3 only
D. 2 only

88 Which of these rock formations of plains and young fold are most likely to contain non-metallic minerals?

- A. Igneous
B. Metamorphic

C. Sedimentary

- D. Any of the above depending on the rainfall in the region

89 Horizon 2020 initiative from the European Union

A. Provides grants to research and innovation projects through open and competitive calls for proposals

- B. Funds interstellar exploration projects keeping in view the needs of and capabilities of emerging economies
C. Gives a timeline of exit of countries from the European Union
D. None of the above

90. India has deposits of high grade iron ore which are mainly found in

1. Jharkhand
2. Orissa
3. Chhattisgarh
4. Madhya Pradesh
5. Goa

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
B. 4 and 5 only
C. 2, 3 and 4 only
D. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

91 Consider the following about Power Grid in India.

1. A Power grid helps transfer power from the surplus regions to the deficit ones.

2. National Power Grid of India connects all major geographical regions of India except North-eastern India.

3. Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID) is an Indian state-owned electric utilities company.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only**
- D. 1, 2 and 3

92 Consider the following statements.

- 1. Natural gas is often found with petroleum deposits.
- 2. Russia is a major producer of natural gas.
- 3. In India, natural gas is found only in Western and Southern India.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 and 2 only**
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

93 Among the following, which continent has the largest proportion of land as arable land?

- A. Europe**
- B. Australia
- C. South America
- D. Africa

94 Organic Farming does NOT deal with which of the following problems of farms?

- 1. Nutrient management
- 2. Weed management
- 3. Insect pest management
- 4. Disease management in plants

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 3 and 4 only
- D. It deals with all of the above using non-synthetic methods.**

95 Which of these regions of India is most suitable for growing rice for all three cropping seasons – kharif, rabi and zaid?

- A. North-western India
- B. Eastern India
- C. Southern India**
- D. Western India

96 Which of these is/are sign(s) that a rock might contain copper?

- 1. The rock will necessarily have a red appearance.
- 2. The rock will be exfoliated and consist of multiple layers.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. None**

97. Why are Millets often considered a solution for food security in many developing economies?

1. They can be grown on less fertile and sandy soils as compared to other grains.

2. Their deep root systems and short life cycles make it possible for millets to grow in places even where the mean annual precipitation is low.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2**
- D. None

98 The Barbados Programme of Action (BPOA) adopted in 1994, further complemented by The Mauritius Strategy of Implementation (MSI) of 2005 deals with the problems of

- A. Industrial financing in emerging economies
- B. Climate change financing in small island developing States (SIDS)**
- C. Transboundary waste management in ocean economies
- D. Customs, trade and commerce in Asia

99 With reference to co-operative societies, consider the following statements.

- 1. Under the Government of India Act, 1935, cooperatives were treated as a provincial subject.
- 2. "Cooperative Societies" is a State Subject under the Constitution of India.
- 3. Forming a Cooperative Society is a fundamental right in India.

Select the correct answer using the codes below.

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3**

100. Which of the following is NOT an example of "sunrise" industry?

- A. Information Technology Industry
- B. Wellness and Hospitality
- C. Renewable energy industry
- D. Automobile industry**