

UP Home Guard Sample Paper

Q.1 In which regiment of the British Army was Mangal Pandey a sepoy during the first war of independence?

- A. 34th Bengal Native Infantry
- B. 3rd Native Bihar Infantry
- C. 11th Native Infantry
- D. 6th Dragoon Guards

Answer: A

Sol: The correct answer is (a) 34th Bengal Native Infantry.

- Mangal Pandey served as a soldier in the 34th BNI of the Bengal Army under the East India Company.
- He initiated the 1857 Revolt by attacking British officers at Barrackpore on 29 March 1857.

Information Booster:

- The 1857 Revolt is also known as the First War of Indian Independence.
- The introduction of the Enfield rifle with greased cartridges triggered large-scale resentment.
- The 34th BNI regiment was disbanded after the incident.
- Mangal Pandey was executed on **8 April 1857**.
- Barrackpore (West Bengal) was an important military cantonment of the British.

Additional Knowledge:

- 3rd Native Bihar Infantry: Not associated with the Pandey incident.
- 11th Native Infantry: Took part in other revolts but not linked to Mangal Pandey.
- 6th Dragoon Guards: A British cavalry regiment, not part of the Bengal Army.

Q.2 The Narora _____ Power Station is located in Uttar Pradesh.

- A. Natural Gas
- B. Wind
- C. Atomic
- D. Thermal

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is: (c) Atomic

Explanation:

The **Narora Atomic Power Station** is located in **Uttar Pradesh**, India. It is a nuclear power plant that operates using atomic energy, a clean and efficient source of power.

The plant plays an essential role in India's efforts to expand its energy portfolio while reducing reliance on fossil fuels. It is one of India's key nuclear facilities, along with others like the **Kudankulam** and **Tarapur** nuclear power plants.

Information Booster:

- **Narora Atomic Power Station** is situated near **Narora** in the **Bulandshahr district** of **Uttar Pradesh**.
- It was established to help meet India's growing demand for electricity using nuclear technology.
- The plant is part of the **Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL)**, which operates most of India's nuclear power stations.
- **Atomic energy** is considered a clean energy source because it produces little to no carbon emissions during power generation.
- The **Narora Nuclear Plant** consists of **two pressurized heavy water reactors** (PHWRs), contributing significantly to the country's nuclear energy capacity.
- India has committed to increasing its nuclear power capacity to meet its long-term energy needs and reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

Additional Information:

- **Natural Gas:** Natural gas power stations generate electricity by burning natural gas, a fossil fuel, and are common in many parts of the world.
- **Wind:** Wind power is a renewable energy source harnessed by wind turbines.
- **Thermal:** Thermal power stations generate electricity by burning coal, oil, or natural gas.

Q.3 Which is the second Elephant Reserve in Uttar Pradesh?

- A. Shivalik Elephant Reserve
- B. Terai Elephant Reserve
- C. South Orissa Elephant Reserve
- D. Lemru Elephant Reserve

Answer: B

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Sol: Ans. (b)

The Terai Elephant Reserve is the second elephant reserve in Uttar Pradesh, established in 2022. It spans 3,049 square kilometers and is one of the largest elephant reserves in northern India. The reserve includes important forested areas and wildlife corridors, connecting the Dudhwa National Park and Pilibhit Tiger Reserve, which are crucial for the movement and protection of elephants in the region.

Information Booster:

1. The Terai Elephant Reserve is the 33rd Elephant Reserve in India, established to protect elephants in Uttar Pradesh.
2. It covers parts of the Terai Arc Landscape, which is known for its rich biodiversity and is home to tigers, leopards, and other wildlife.
3. The reserve plays a crucial role in connecting wildlife corridors between Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, enabling elephant migration.
4. The Shivalik Elephant Reserve, the first in Uttar Pradesh, is located in the foothills of the Himalayas.
5. The Terai region is prone to human-elephant conflicts, and this reserve helps minimize these incidents by protecting critical habitats.
6. The reserve also focuses on habitat restoration, ensuring long-term conservation efforts for elephants and other wildlife.
7. Ecotourism initiatives in the Terai region help generate funds for wildlife conservation and local community development.

Additional Information:

- Shivalik Elephant Reserve (a) is the first elephant reserve in Uttar Pradesh.
- South Orissa Elephant Reserve (c) is in Odisha.
- Lemru Elephant Reserve (d) is in Chhattisgarh.

Q.4 On which river is the Krishna Raja Sagara Dam built?

- A. Tungabhadra
- B. Krishna
- C. Kali radi
- D. Cauvery

Answer: D

Sol: The correct answer is: (D) Cauvery

Explanation:

- The **Krishna Raja Sagara (KRS) Dam** is built across the **Cauvery River** in Karnataka.
- It was constructed during the reign of **Nalvadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar IV**.
- The project was engineered by **Sir M. Visvesvaraya**.

Information Booster:

- Location: **Mandya district**, Karnataka.
- Construction completed in **1931**.
- KRS Dam forms the famous **Brindavan Gardens**.
- Major source of irrigation and drinking water for **Mysuru & Mandya**.
- One of the earliest examples of **automated irrigation systems** in India.

Q.5 Which of the following is a thermosetting plastic?

- A. Bioplastic
- B. Bagasse
- C. Mycotecture
- D. Bakelite

Answer: D

Sol: The correct answer is: (D) Bakelite

Explanation:

- **Bakelite** is a **thermosetting plastic**, meaning it becomes permanently hard when heated and cannot be remoulded.
- It is widely used in **electrical switches, handles, and appliances** due to its heat-resistant nature.
- Thermosetting plastics undergo a **chemical change** when set.

Information Booster:

- Thermosetting plastics **cannot be softened** again once hardened.
- Examples include **Bakelite, Melamine, Urea-formaldehyde**.
- Used where **heat resistance** is required.

- Thermoplastics are the opposite: **they can be remelted**.
- Bakelite was invented by **Leo Baekeland** in 1907.

Q.6 The ____ Five-Year Plan was terminated by the new Janata Party government one year before its completion.

- A. fourth
- B. fifth
- C. seventh
- D. sixth

Answer: B

Sol: The correct answer is (b) fifth.

- The **Fifth Five-Year Plan (1974–1979)** was ended **one year early** in **1978** after the **Janata Party** came to power.

Information Booster:

- The Fifth Plan focused on **poverty removal (Garibi Hatao)** and **self-reliance**.
- It was replaced by a **rolling plan (1978–80)** introduced by **Jalan Committee**.
- The plan originally aimed at strengthening **agriculture, employment and defense**.

Additional Information:

- Fourth Plan (1969–74) emphasized **growth with stability**.
- Sixth Plan (1980–85) marked a shift toward **technology and modernization**.
- Seventh Plan (1985–90) prioritized **food, work, and productivity (FWP)**.

Q.7 In which of the following states is the Kolleru Lake located?

- A. Kerala
- B. Karnataka
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Tamil Nadu

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is: (C) Andhra Pradesh

Explanation:

- **Kolleru Lake** is a large freshwater lake located between the **Krishna and Godavari deltas** in Andhra Pradesh.
- It lies mainly in the **Eluru district**.
- It is one of the **largest freshwater lakes** in India.

Information Booster:

- Declared a **Wildlife Sanctuary in 1999**.
- Known for **migratory birds** like grey pelicans.
- Part of the **Ramsar Wetlands** (since 2002).
- Fed by **Budameru and Tammileru** streams.
- Key habitat for **freshwater biodiversity**.

Q.8 The 'Chennai Port' is located along which of the following water bodies?

- A. Gulf of Mannar
- B. Andaman Sea
- C. Bay of Bengal
- D. Arabian Sea

Answer: C

Sol: Correct Answer: (C) Bay of Bengal

Explanation:

- **Chennai Port** lies on the **Coromandel Coast** along the **Bay of Bengal**.

- It is one of India’s oldest and largest artificial ports.
- Located in Tamil Nadu, it handles major cargo and container traffic.

Information Booster:

- Chennai Port was opened in **1881**.
- Also known as **Madras Port**.
- Key exports: automobiles, textiles, machinery.
- Located south of the **Ennore Port (Kamarajar Port)**.
- Important for India’s east-coast maritime trade.

Additional Knowledge:

- Gulf of Mannar → Near Rameswaram–Tuticorin region.
- Andaman Sea → Further southeast, near Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
- Arabian Sea → West coast of India (Mumbai, Kochi).

Q.9 ‘Mutual Funds’ are regulated in India by which of the following institutions?

- A. RBI
- B. SEBI
- C. BSE
- D. NSE

Answer: B

Sol: The correct answer is **(b) SEBI**

Explanation:

- The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** is the primary regulatory body for the securities market in India.
- Since mutual funds are considered a part of the securities market, their operations are governed and supervised by SEBI.
- SEBI is responsible for protecting the interests of investors and ensuring that the mutual fund industry functions with transparency and integrity.
- All mutual funds must be registered with SEBI and adhere to its guidelines and regulations.

Information Booster:

- SEBI was established as a statutory body in **1992** through the SEBI Act, 1992.
- The key regulations governing the mutual fund industry are the **SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 1996**.
- SEBI's regulatory framework covers all aspects of mutual fund operations, from their launch and management to marketing and investor grievance redressal.

Additional Knowledge: (a) RBI (Option a) . The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** is the central bank and the primary regulator of the Indian banking system and monetary policy. . While it has an indirect role in regulating money market mutual funds, it is not the main regulator for the entire mutual fund industry.

(c) BSE (Option c) . **BSE** (Bombay Stock Exchange) is a stock exchange that provides a platform for trading securities. . It does not regulate the mutual fund companies or their schemes; rather, it is a marketplace where investors can buy or sell mutual fund units.

(d) NSE (Option d) . **NSE** (National Stock Exchange) is also a stock exchange and, like the BSE, provides a trading platform. . Both stock exchanges (BSE and NSE) are themselves regulated by SEBI.

Q.10 People of Punjab and Haryana celebrate Baisakhi festival or Vaisakhi by thanking God for good_____.

- A. life
- B. health
- C. climate
- D. harvest

Answer: D

Sol: The correct answer is (d) harvest

Explanation:

- **Baisakhi**, also known as Vaisakhi, is primarily a **spring harvest festival** celebrated in the northern states of Punjab and Haryana.
- It marks the end of the winter crop season (Rabi crops), particularly **wheat**, which is ready for harvesting around this time.
- Farmers celebrate by offering thanks to God for a bountiful yield and praying for future prosperity.

Information Booster:

- For Sikhs, Baisakhi holds additional religious significance, as it commemorates the establishment of the **Khalsa Panth** by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699.
- The festival also marks the beginning of the **Sikh New Year**.
- Celebrations include visiting gurdwaras, participating in religious processions (Nagar Kirtans), and performing folk dances like **Bhangra and Gidda**.
- Baisakhi fairs (melas) are organized, featuring music, dancing, and community feasts (langar).

Additional Knowledge:

- (a) life: While a harvest festival naturally celebrates life and its bounty, "harvest" is the most specific and accurate reason for the thanksgiving.
- (b) health: The celebration is not primarily focused on good health, though health and wealth are often associated with prosperity.
- (c) climate: While farmers rely on a favorable climate, Baisakhi is a celebration of the result of the season, which is the harvest, rather than the climate itself.

Q.11 India’s North Central Railway Zone’s Headquarter is located in ____.

- A. Prayagraj
- B. Jaipur
- C. Jabalpur
- D. Bilaspur

Answer: A

Sol: Correct Answer: (A) Prayagraj

Explanation:

- The **North Central Railway (NCR) Zone** has its **headquarters in Prayagraj (Uttar Pradesh)**.
- NCR is known as the **“Gateway to the North”** and handles major rail traffic of North India.
- It was formed in **2003** as one of India’s 19 railway zones.

Information Booster:

- NCR covers Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, and Madhya Pradesh.
- Major divisions: **Prayagraj, Jhansi, Agra**.
- NCR handles important routes like the Delhi–Howrah and Delhi–Mumbai corridors.
- NCR is one of the busiest zones due to high passenger and freight movement.
- Prayagraj HQ manages operations, planning, and administration of the zone.

Additional Knowledge:

- Jaipur – HQ of North Western Railway (NWR).
- Jabalpur – HQ of West Central Railway (WCR).
- Bilaspur – HQ of South East Central Railway (SECR).

Q.12 The play Andher Nagri Chaupat Raja is written by which of the following?

- A. Mahavir Prasad Dwivedi
- B. Maithilisharan Gupta
- C. Sumitranandan Pant
- D. Bharatendu Harishchandra

Answer: D

Sol: Correct Answer: (d) Bharatendu Harishchandra

Explanation:

- **“Andher Nagri Chaupat Raja”** is a famous Hindi play written by **Bharatendu Harishchandra**, known as the **father of modern Hindi literature**.
- The play is a satire highlighting **corruption, misrule, and foolish governance**.

Information Booster:

- Written in the **late 19th century**.
- Widely performed in schools and theatres for its moral lessons.
- Bharatendu promoted **Hindi prose, drama, and journalism**.
- His major works include **Bharat Durdasha, Satya Harishchandra**, and several essays and poems.

Q.13 Which of the following Articles deals with the composition of the panchayats?

- A. Article 243C
- B. Article 243D
- C. Article 243A
- D. Article 243B

Answer: A

Sol: Correct Answer: (A) Article 243C

Explanation:

- **Article 243C** of the Indian Constitution deals with the **composition of Panchayats**.
- It specifies how Panchayats at different levels (village, intermediate, district) are structured.
- It also empowers the State Legislature to decide the number of seats and how they will be filled.

Information Booster:

- Part IX (Articles 243–243O) covers **Panchayati Raj Institutions**.
- 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 gave constitutional status to Panchayats.
- Panchayats have **three tiers** in states with >20 lakh population.
- Reservations for SC/ST/Women in Panchayats included in Article 243D.
- Gram Sabha is covered under Article 243A.

Additional Knowledge:

- Article 243D – Reservation of seats in Panchayats.
- Article 243A – Gram Sabha composition and powers.
- Article 243B – Constitution of Panchayats at different levels.

Q.14 Which of the following instruments is used to measure electromotive force?

- A. Polarimeter
- B. Potometer
- C. Potentiometer
- D. Platometer

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is: (C) Potentiometer

Explanation:

- A **potentiometer** is an instrument used to measure **electromotive force (emf)** accurately.
- It works on the principle of **null deflection**, giving precise voltage comparison.
- It is widely used in laboratories for measuring **internal resistance** and **cell emf**.

Information Booster:

- EMF refers to the **energy supplied per unit charge** by a source.
- Potentiometer gives **more accurate results** than a voltmeter.
- It avoids **current flow**, ensuring no error due to internal resistance.
- Commonly used in **calibration of voltmeters**.
- Developed by **Poggendorff** in the 19th century.

Q.15 In kabaddi game, how many players are there in each team?

- A. 6
- B. 8
- C. 5
- D. 7

Answer: D

Sol: Correct Answer: (d) 7

Explanation:

- In a standard **kabaddi match**, each team consists of **7 players** on the court.
- Additional substitute players remain on the bench.

Information Booster:

- Kabaddi teams can have **5 substitutes**, making a total squad of **12 players**.
- The game involves two actions: **raiding** and **defending**.
- A raider must chant **“kabaddi-kabaddi”** while entering the opponent’s half.
- Kabaddi is the **national sport of Bangladesh** and very popular in India.

Q.16 Where are the mature sperm produced?

- A. Scrotum
- B. Vas deferens
- C. Prostate gland
- D. Testes

Answer: D

Sol: Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

- Mature sperm are produced in the **testes**, specifically in the **seminiferous tubules**.
- The process of sperm production is known as **spermatogenesis**.
- The testes are located in the **scrotum**, which maintains a temperature slightly lower than body temperature—essential for sperm development.

Information Booster:

- Testes produce both **sperm** and the male hormone **testosterone**.
- **Epididymis** stores and helps in the maturation of sperm after production.
- Spermatogenesis begins at **puberty** under the influence of hormones like **FSH and LH**.
- Average sperm production rate: **millions per day** in healthy males.
- The scrotum regulates temperature through **muscle contraction and relaxation**.

Additional Knowledge:

- **Scrotum (A):** It acts as a protective sac for the testes, not the site of sperm production.
- **Vas deferens (B):** Transports sperm from epididymis to the urethra.
- **Prostate gland (C):** Adds a fluid that nourishes and protects sperm, but does not produce them.

Q.17 Which of the following diseases is caused by protozoa?

- A. Polio
- B. Typhoid
- C. Chicken Pox
- D. Malaria

Answer: D

Sol: Correct Answer: (D) Malaria

Explanation:

- Malaria is caused by **protozoan parasites** of the genus *Plasmodium*, transmitted to humans through the bites of infected female *Anopheles* mosquitoes.
- It is a life-threatening disease prevalent in tropical and subtropical regions.

Information Booster:

- The four main species of *Plasmodium* that cause malaria in humans are *P. falciparum*, *P. vivax*, *P. ovale*, and *P. malariae*.
- Symptoms include fever, chills, headache, nausea, and in severe cases, coma or death.
- Unlike viruses or bacteria, protozoa are single-celled eukaryotic organisms.

Q.18 Industries that are dependent on animals for their raw material are called:

- A. Consumer-based

- B. Agro-based
- C. Pastoral-based
- D. Mineral-based

Answer: C

Sol: Correct Answer: (c) Pastoral-based

Explanation:

- Pastoral-based industries depend on animals and their products as raw materials.
- Examples include dairy, leather, wool, and silk industries, which use animal milk, hides, wool, and cocoons.
- These industries form a vital part of the rural and agro-allied economy.

Information Booster:

- The leather industry uses hides and skins from animals like cattle and goats.
- The wool industry depends on sheep and goats for raw wool.
- The silk industry uses cocoons from silkworms (sericulture).
- The dairy industry processes milk and milk products.
- Pastoral-based industries are common in Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, and Gujarat.

Additional Knowledge:

- Consumer-based: Produce goods directly for consumption (e.g., textiles, food processing).
- Agro-based: Depend on plant or crop products (e.g., cotton, jute, sugar).
- Mineral-based: Use minerals and ores as raw materials (e.g., iron, steel, cement).

Q.19 Uttar Pradesh is famous for which of these classical dance forms?

- A. Kathakali
- B. Kathak
- C. Bharatanatyam
- D. Sattriya

Answer: B

Sol:

- The correct answer is (b) Kathak.
- Kathak is one of the eight classical dance forms of India and is primarily associated with the state of Uttar Pradesh.
 - This dance form has its roots in the ancient temples of North India, where storytellers known as "Kathakars" would narrate stories through dance.
 - Kathak is characterized by intricate footwork, spins, and expressive gestures, often set to classical Hindustani music.
 - The dance form evolved during the Mughal era, incorporating elements of Persian dance and music, which enriched its repertoire and brought it to the royal courts.
 - Renowned Kathak dancers include Birju Maharaj, Sitara Devi, and Kumudini Lakhia, who have significantly contributed to the popularity and development of Kathak.

Information Booster:

Classical Dance Form State of Origin

Key Characteristics

Kathakali	Kerala	Elaborate costumes and makeup, storytelling through dramatic expressions and movements
Bharatanatyam	Tamil Nadu	Fixed upper torso, bent legs, intricate footwork, expressive hand gestures (mudras)
Sattriya	Assam	Devotional dance form performed in monasteries, combines drama, dance, and music
Manipuri	Manipur	Graceful and fluid movements, focus on devotion and spirituality
Kuchipudi	Andhra Pradesh	Combination of dance and drama, use of expressive hand gestures (mudras) and storytelling
Odissi	Odisha	Soft, lyrical movements, emphasis on tribhanga (three-bend) posture
Mohiniyattam	Kerala	Feminine, graceful movements, subtle expressions, and white and gold costumes

Q.20 Which of the following is a chromosomal disorder?

- A. Down's Syndrome
- B. Haemophilia
- C. Sickle cell anaemia
- D. Cystic fibrosis

Answer: A

Sol: Correct Answer: (a) Down’s Syndrome
Explanation:

- **Down’s Syndrome** is a **chromosomal disorder** caused by **trisomy of chromosome 21** (an extra copy of chromosome 21).
- It leads to developmental delays, characteristic facial features, and certain health challenges.

Information Booster:

- **Haemophilia** → A **sex-linked genetic disorder** (not chromosomal).
- **Sickle Cell Anaemia** → Caused by a **gene mutation** in haemoglobin.
- **Cystic Fibrosis** → A **genetic disorder** caused by mutation in the **CFTR gene**.
- Chromosomal disorders arise from **numerical or structural abnormalities** in chromosomes.

Q.21 Which Article of the Constitution of India prohibits the State from discriminating against the use of wells, tanks and places of public entertainment?

- A. Article 15
- B. Article 18
- C. Article 17
- D. Article 16

Answer: A

Sol: The correct answer is: (a) Article 15
Explanation:

- Article 15 prohibits discrimination by the State on grounds of **religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth**.
- Clause (2) of Article 15 specifically forbids discrimination in **access to wells, tanks, bathing ghats, roads, and places of public resort or entertainment**.
- The purpose is to ensure **equality and social justice**, especially for marginalized communities.
- This provision supports the eradication of untouchability and promotes **equal participation in public life**.
- Article 15 is a fundamental right under **Part III of the Constitution**.

Information Booster:

- Article 17 abolishes untouchability and forbids its practice in any form.
- Article 16 provides equality of opportunity in matters of public employment.
- Article 18 prohibits the State from granting titles.
- Article 15(4) allows the State to make special provisions for the advancement of **SCs, STs, and women**.
- Fundamental rights, including Article 15, are enforceable in courts under **Article 32**.

Additional Knowledge:

- Wells, tanks, and public entertainment venues were historically segregated, and Article 15 ensures **constitutional protection against such discrimination**.
- The **Right to Equality** (Articles 14–18) collectively safeguards citizens from social and political discrimination.

Q.22 Which of the following scientists developed the Theory of Relativity?

- A. Niels Bohr
- B. Ernest Rutherford
- C. JJ Thomson
- D. Albert Einstein

Answer: D

Sol: The correct answer is: (D) Albert Einstein

Explanation:

- The **Theory of Relativity** was developed by **Albert Einstein**.
- It includes **Special Relativity (1905)** and **General Relativity (1915)**.
- These theories revolutionised modern physics and concepts of **space, time, and gravity**.

Information Booster:

- Special Relativity introduced **$E = mc^2$** .
- General Relativity explains **gravity as curvature of spacetime**.
- Einstein received the **Nobel Prize (1921)** for the photoelectric effect.
- Relativity is crucial for **GPS technology**.
- One of the most influential physicists of the **20th century**.

Q.23 A terracotta plough has been found at _____, a Harappan site presently located in Haryana.

- A. Rakhigarhi
- B. Banawali
- C. Manda
- D. Kalibangan

Answer: B

Sol: The correct answer is (b) Banawali.

- Banawali (Hisar district, Haryana) yielded a *terracotta plough*, signifying agricultural development in Harappan civilisation.
- The site belongs to both **Pre-Harappan and Mature Harappan phases**.
- Findings include beads, seals, terracotta objects, and fire altars.

Information Booster:

- Banawali excavations were carried out by the Archaeological Survey of India in **1974-77**.
- The plough indicates early agricultural tools and advanced field patterns.
- Banawali lies on the banks of the now-dry Saraswati (Ghaggar) River.
- Northern Harappan sites often show evidence of barley and wheat cultivation.
- Haryana houses major Harappan sites such as Rakhigarhi, Bhirrana, and Kunal.

Additional Knowledge:

- Rakhigarhi (Option a) is India’s largest Harappan site; no terracotta plough discovered.
- Manda (Option c) is in Jammu & Kashmir, northernmost Harappan outpost.
- Kalibangan (Option d), in Rajasthan, showed *ploughed fields* but not a terracotta plough.

Q.24 The Prayag Prashasti (also known as the Allahabad Pillar Inscription) provides information about the achievements of _____.

- A. Samudragupta
- B. Chandragupta I
- C. Ashoka
- D. Shrigupta

Answer: A

Sol: The correct answer is (a) **Samudragupta**

Explanation:

- The **Prayag Prashasti**, or Allahabad Pillar Inscription, is a significant historical record detailing the military and administrative achievements of the Gupta Emperor **Samudragupta**.
- The inscription was composed in classical **Sanskrit** by Samudragupta's court poet and minister, **Harishena**.
- It is an important source of information on the political history of the **Gupta Empire**, describing his conquests in both Northern India (Aryavarta) and Southern India (Dakshinapatha).
- The pillar originally bore inscriptions from the Mauryan Emperor **Ashoka**, but the eulogy for Samudragupta was a later addition on the same pillar.

Information Booster:

- Based on his extensive military campaigns detailed in the inscription, Samudragupta is often referred to by historians as the "**Napoleon of India**".

- The text of the *Prashasti* highlights Samudragupta's military prowess, diplomatic relations, and his patronage of arts and culture, portraying him as a versatile ruler.
- The inscription is a prime example of the *prashasti* tradition, which involved composing eulogies to glorify a king's accomplishments.

Additional Knowledge:
Chandragupta I (Option b)

- Chandragupta I was the father of Samudragupta and is considered the real founder of the Gupta Empire, but his achievements are not the focus of this specific inscription.

Ashoka (Option c)

- The Allahabad Pillar was an original pillar of the Mauryan emperor Ashoka, and it contains some of his edicts. However, the **Prayag Prashasti** is a separate inscription added much later during the Gupta period.

Shrigupta (Option d)

- Shrigupta is known as the founder of the Gupta dynasty, which was a minor kingdom at the time. His achievements were not on the scale to be recorded in a major *prashasti* like this.

Q.25 The Prime Minister and the other Ministers of the Indian Union are appointed by the President under:

- A. Article 79 of the Constitution of India
- B. Article 75 of the Constitution of India
- C. Article 85 of the Constitution of India
- D. Article 70 of the Constitution of India

Answer: B

Sol: Correct Answer: (b) Article 75 of the Constitution of India
Explanation:

- **Article 75** states that the **Prime Minister is appointed by the President**, and the other Ministers are appointed **on the advice of the Prime Minister**.
- This article outlines the **composition, appointment, tenure, and responsibilities** of the Union Council of Ministers.

Information Booster:

- Ministers hold office **during the pleasure of the President**.
- The Council of Ministers is **collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha**.
- The President must appoint as PM the person **most likely to command majority support** in Lok Sabha.
- Articles **74 and 75** together define the functioning of the **Union Executive**.

Q.26 Rourkela Iron and Steel Plant was established with the technical co-operation of which of the following countries?

- A. Sweden
- B. Norway
- C. Germany
- D. United Kingdom

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is (c) Germany.

- Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) was set up in 1959 with German collaboration.
- It was India's first public sector integrated steel plant under SAIL.
- The German firms Krupp and Demag provided technical assistance.

Information Booster:

- RSP became operational in **1959**, located in **Odisha**.
- It was the **first steel plant** set up after Independence under the Second Five-Year Plan.
- Managed by **SAIL (Steel Authority of India Limited)** since 1973.
- Designed initially for **1 million tonnes** of steel production.
- Modernisation expanded its capacity to **4.5 million tonnes per annum**.

Additional Knowledge:

- **Bhilai Steel Plant** – established with **USSR** (1955).
- **Durgapur Steel Plant** – set up with **UK** cooperation (1959).
- **Bokaro Steel Plant** – established with **USSR** (1964).
- Germany played a significant role in early industrialisation of Indian steel sector.

Q.27 World Water Day is celebrated every year on _____.

- A. 20 August
- B. 22 March
- C. 4 April
- D. 24 January

Answer: B

Sol: Correct Answer: (b) 22 March
Explanation:

- **World Water Day** is observed annually on **22 March** to highlight the importance of freshwater.
- It promotes awareness about water conservation and sustainable water management.

Information Booster:

- First celebrated in **1993**, declared by the **United Nations**.
- Each year has a specific **water-related theme** (e.g., groundwater, accelerating change).
- Aims to support **SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation**.
- Encourages global action on **water scarcity and pollution**.

Q.28 The period _____ is referred to as a period of ‘steady population growth’.

- A. 1901–1911
- B. 1951–1981
- C. 1921–1951
- D. 1931–1941

Answer: B

Sol: The correct answer is (b) 1951–1981

- 1951–1981 is known as the phase of **steady growth** due to improved healthcare and falling death rates.
- Birth rates remained high, creating continuous population rise.

Information Booster:

- 1921 is called the **“Year of Great Divide”** (shift from declining to rising population).
- 1951 is the **“Year of Population Explosion”**.
- Post-1951 population increased sharply due to improved medical facilities.
- Green Revolution further supported population growth.
- India adopted its first population policy in **1976**.

Additional Knowledge:

- Census in India is conducted every 10 years since **1872**, regularly from **1881**.
- India became the world’s 2nd most populous country in 2000s.
- Growth slowed after 1991 due to increased literacy and awareness.
- Total Fertility Rate (TFR) in India is declining toward replacement level.

Q.29 With reference to countries and their capitals, which of the following pairs is correct?

- A. Cambodia-Tbilisi
- B. Myanmar - Naypyidaw
- C. Brunei-Beirut
- D. Azerbaijan-Yerevan

Answer: B

Sol: Correct Answer: (b) Myanmar – Naypyidaw
Explanation:

- **Naypyidaw** is the **official capital of Myanmar**, designated in 2005.
- It replaced Yangon as the administrative capital.

Information Booster:

- Cambodia → **Phnom Penh**
- Brunei → **Bandar Seri Begawan**
- Azerbaijan → **Baku**
- Naypyidaw is known for its **planned layout and wide highways**.

Q.30 The Government of India has constituted the Fifteenth Finance Commission with _____ as its operating period.

- A. 2015-2020
- B. 2019-2023
- C. 2020-2025
- D. 2020-2022

Answer: C

Sol: Correct Answer: (c) 2020–2025

Explanation:

- The **Fifteenth Finance Commission** was constituted with its operating period set for **2020–2025**.
- It was tasked with recommending the **distribution of tax revenues** between the Union and the States for this 5-year period.

Information Booster:

- Chairperson: **N. K. Singh**.
- Finance Commissions are set up under **Article 280** of the Constitution.
- They recommend **devolution of taxes, grants-in-aid**, and **fiscal consolidation measures**.
- The 15th FC also considered **defence and internal security funding** separately for the first time.

Q.31 In the context of the Panchayati Raj system in India, what does the term 'Village Panchayat' refer to?

- A. A block-level committee
- B. Local government at the village level
- C. A district-level administrative body
- D. An urban municipal corporation

Answer: B

Sol: The correct answer is: (B) Local government at the village level

Explanation:

- In the **Panchayati Raj system**, the **Village Panchayat** refers to the **local self-government institution at the village level**.
- It is the **first and lowest tier** in the **three-tier Panchayati Raj structure** in India, as mandated by the **73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992**.
- The Village Panchayat is responsible for the **administration and development** of the village, including basic services, infrastructure, and welfare schemes.

Information Booster:

- The **three-tier structure** of Panchayati Raj includes:
 - **Village Level** – *Gram Panchayat*
 - **Intermediate Level** – *Panchayat Samiti* (Block level)
 - **District Level** – *Zila Parishad*
- Each **Gram Panchayat** consists of **elected representatives**, headed by a **Sarpanch**.

- Village Panchayats derive their powers and responsibilities from **Article 243B** of the Constitution.
- Elections to Panchayats are conducted every **5 years** by the **State Election Commissions**.

Additional Knowledge:

- The **73rd Constitutional Amendment Act** added **Part IX** to the Constitution (Articles **243 to 243-O**) and introduced the **11th Schedule**.
- The 11th Schedule lists **29 subjects** that can be devolved to Panchayats, including agriculture, rural housing, and water supply.
- Village Panchayats play a key role in implementing flagship schemes like **MGNREGA**, **Swachh Bharat Abhiyan**, and **PM Awas Yojana (Gramin)**.
- The concept of **Panchayati Raj** was first recommended by the **Balwantrai Mehta Committee (1957)** and first adopted in **Rajasthan (1959)**.

Q.32 Name the scientific principle behind the working of optical fibres.

- A. Total external refraction of light
- B. Total internal refraction of light
- C. Total internal reflection of light
- D. Total external reflection of light

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is: (C) Total internal reflection of light

Explanation:

- Optical fibres work on the principle of **total internal reflection**.
- Light entering the fibre core reflects repeatedly without escaping.
- This allows data to travel long distances with **minimal loss**.

Information Booster:

- Total internal reflection occurs when light moves from **denser to rarer** medium.
- The angle of incidence must be **greater than the critical angle**.
- Used in **telecommunication, endoscopy, and sensors**.
- Optical fibres are made of **glass or plastic**.
- Provide **high-speed and long-distance** data transmission.

Q.33 The phenomenon of formation of associated molecules in carboxylic acids is due to:

- A. Ionic bonding
- B. Hydrogen bonding
- C. Covalent bonding
- D. van der Waals forces

Answer: B

Sol:

The correct answer is (b).

Explanation: Carboxylic acids form dimers through intermolecular hydrogen bonding between carbonyl oxygen and hydroxyl hydrogen. This association results in higher boiling points compared to alcohols of similar molecular weight. The dimer is quite stable and persists even in vapor phase. This hydrogen bonding is stronger than in alcohols because of the electron-withdrawing carbonyl group which makes the O-H bond more polar.

Additional Information: Option {a} ionic bonding would require complete charge separation. Option {c} covalent bonding would create new compounds. Option {d} van der Waals forces are much weaker and present in all molecules.

Q.34 Who was the first Chief Election Commissioner of India?

- A. Sukumar Sen
- B. V Narahari Rao
- C. HK Kripalani
- D. MC Setalvad

Answer: A

Sol: Correct Answer: (A) Sukumar Sen

Explanation:

- **Sukumar Sen** was appointed as the **first Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of India** in **1950**.
- He oversaw **India’s first general elections** in 1951–52, a massive democratic exercise involving millions of voters.

Information Booster:

- Sen was a distinguished Indian Civil Service (ICS) officer.
- His work laid the foundation for India’s robust electoral system and was later praised globally for managing one of the world's largest elections.

Q.35 The headquarters of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is located in:

- A. Delhi
- B. Mumbai
- C. Chennai
- D. Kolkata

Answer: B

Sol: The correct answer is: **(b) Mumbai**

Explanation:

- The **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)** has its **headquarters in Mumbai, Maharashtra**.
- It is the national governing body for cricket in India, formed in **December 1928**.
- The office is located at the **Cricket Centre, Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai**.
- BCCI manages domestic and international cricket in India, including the **Indian Premier League (IPL)**.

Information Booster:

- BCCI is the **richest cricket board** in the world.
- It operates as a **private autonomous body**, not directly under the Government of India.
- The current **BCCI President (as of 2025)** is **Roger Binny**.
- The **Secretary** is **Jay Shah**.
- BCCI is affiliated with the **International Cricket Council (ICC)**.

Q.36 Which of the following is a water borne disease?

- A. measles
- B. Dengue
- C. Yellow Fever
- D. E. coli

Answer: D

Sol: Correct Answer: (d) E. coli

Explanation:

- **E. coli infection** spreads through **contaminated water** and food.
- It commonly causes **diarrhoea, stomach cramps, and vomiting**.

Information Booster:

- Water-borne diseases are caused by **microbes in polluted water**.
- Examples include **cholera, typhoid, and hepatitis A**.
- E. coli contamination often occurs due to **poor sanitation**.
- Ensuring **safe drinking water** prevents most water-borne infections.

Q.37 West Bengal shares boundaries with ____ countries.

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

Answer: D

Sol: The correct answer is: **(D) 3**

Explanation:

- **West Bengal** shares its international boundaries with **three countries — Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Nepal**.
- The state’s geographical position makes it one of India’s few states sharing borders with multiple nations.
- This unique location gives West Bengal both **strategic and economic importance** in eastern India.

Information Booster:

- **Bangladesh** lies to the **east and south-east** of West Bengal.
- **Bhutan** borders the **northern** part near Alipurduar and Jalpaiguri districts.
- **Nepal** touches the **north-western tip** near Darjeeling district.
- West Bengal also shares inter-state borders with **Sikkim, Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand, and Odisha**.
- Total international border length: about **2,667 km**, the **second-longest** after Jammu & Kashmir/Ladakh.

Additional Knowledge:

- **Bangladesh:** Capital – Dhaka; Currency – Taka.
- **Bhutan:** Capital – Thimphu; Currency – Ngultrum.
- **Nepal:** Capital – Kathmandu; Currency – Nepalese Rupee.
- The **Siliguri Corridor (Chicken’s Neck)** connects the state to India’s northeast.
- Major border check-posts: **Petrapole (Bangladesh), Phuentsholing (Bhutan), and Kakarbhitta (Nepal)**.

Q.38 The Dutch East India Company (VOC) was established in:

- A. 1602
- B. 1627
- C. 1664
- D. 1616

Answer: A

Sol: Correct Answer: (A) 1602

Explanation:

- The Dutch East India Company (VOC) was established in 1602. It was a chartered company formed by the Dutch government to carry out trade in the East Indies (Southeast Asia) and later in other parts of the world, including India. The primary purpose of the VOC was to profit from the lucrative spice trade and establish colonies and trade networks in Asia.
- The company was granted a monopoly on Dutch trade in the East Indies and had significant influence over Dutch colonial activities in Asia. The VOC became one of the most powerful and wealthiest trading companies of its time, shaping European colonial expansion in the East.

Information Booster:

- The VOC was the first company to issue shares to the public, creating the world's first stock exchange in Amsterdam.
- The Dutch East India Company controlled much of the trade in spices, textiles, and other goods between Asia and Europe, especially in regions like the Malay Archipelago, Sri Lanka, and parts of India.
- The VOC had its own army, navy, and administrative system, making it one of the most powerful corporate entities in world history.
- The company played a significant role in the early stages of Dutch colonialism in the East, setting up trading posts in places like Batavia (modern-day Jakarta) and Surat in India.
- The VOC was dissolved in 1799 due to financial difficulties and increasing competition, but its legacy remains significant in the history of global trade and colonialism.

Q.39 The Parliamentary Form of Government has been borrowed by the Indian Constitution from the Constitution of which country?

- A. United Kingdom
- B. France
- C. Ireland
- D. United States of America

Answer: A

Sol: The correct answer is (a) United Kingdom.

- India adopted the Parliamentary system from the British Constitution in 1949.
- Features like the Cabinet system, Collective Responsibility, and Nominal Executive come from the UK.

Information Booster:

- UK system includes *Prime Minister as real head* and *Monarch as nominal head*.
- India follows *bicameral legislature* similar to the UK.
- Article 75 explains *collective responsibility* of the Council of Ministers.
- India's Parliamentary model ensures accountability of the Executive to the Legislature.
- The first Parliamentary election in India was held in **1951–52**.

Additional Knowledge:

- **France** inspired India's *concept of Republic* and *Liberty, Equality, Fraternity*.
- **Ireland** inspired the *Directive Principles of State Policy* and *Nomination of Rajya Sabha members*.
- **USA** inspired *Fundamental Rights, Judicial Review, and Written Constitution*.
- The idea of *Impeachment of the President* is also borrowed from the USA.

Q.40 Which of the following Articles of the Constitution of India has provisions for a joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament?

- A. Article 93
- B. Article 126
- C. Article 108
- D. Article 122

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is: (C) Article 108

Explanation:

- **Article 108** provides for a **joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament**.
- A joint sitting is summoned by the **President of India**.
- It is used to resolve a **deadlock** between Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on a bill (except Money Bills & Constitutional Amendment Bills).

Information Booster:

- First joint sitting in India: **Dowry Prohibition Bill, 1961**.
- Presided over by: **Speaker of Lok Sabha**.
- Joint sitting not applicable to: **Money Bills & Constitution Amendment Bills**.
- Provision aims to ensure **legislative efficiency**.
- Based on principles of **parliamentary democracy**.

Q.41 When was NITI Aayog formed to replace the Planning Commission of India?

- A. May 2014
- B. April 2017
- C. May 2015
- D. January 2015

Answer: D

Sol: The correct answer is (d) **January 2015**.

- The **NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India)** was established on **1 January 2015**, replacing the **Planning Commission** that had been functioning since 1950.
- It serves as a **policy think tank** of the Government of India to promote **cooperative federalism** and evidence-based policymaking.

Information Booster:

- Chairperson – **Prime Minister of India**.

- Vice Chairperson (as of 2025) – **Suman Bery**.
- CEO – **B.V.R. Subrahmanyam (since 2023)**.
- First Vice Chairperson – **Arvind Panagariya**.
- Motto – “Transforming India.”

Q.42 The part of the brain responsible for maintaining posture and balance is the

- A. Cerebellum
- B. Medulla
- C. Pons
- D. Cerebrum

Answer: A

Sol: The correct answer is (a) Cerebellum

Explanation:

- The **cerebellum** (Latin for "little brain") is a major structure located at the back of the brain, underneath the cerebrum.
- Its primary function is to coordinate and regulate muscular activity, particularly in maintaining **posture, balance, and coordination**.
- It continuously receives sensory information and works to ensure smooth, precise, and balanced movements.

Information Booster:

- The cerebellum is a key component of the **central nervous system** and accounts for roughly 10% of the brain's volume but contains over 50% of its neurons.
- Damage to the cerebellum does not cause paralysis, but rather problems with coordination, balance, and motor learning (e.g., staggering walk, tremors).
- This part of the brain is particularly developed in birds and fish, animals that require highly refined balance and coordination for flight or swimming.

Additional Knowledge:

Medulla (Option b)

- The **medulla oblongata** is part of the brainstem and is responsible for regulating **vital involuntary functions**, such as heartbeat, breathing, blood pressure, and digestion. It is not primarily for balance.

Pons (Option c)

- The **pons** is also part of the brainstem and acts as a bridge or relay center connecting the cerebrum and the cerebellum. It is involved in regulating sleep and breathing, and in coordinating certain senses.

Cerebrum (Option d)

- The **cerebrum** is the largest part of the brain and is responsible for **higher brain functions** such as thought, reason, emotion, memory, language, and voluntary movement. It is divided into four lobes but does not primarily handle balance and posture regulation.

Q.43 Gharana Parampara is found in which of the following?

- A. Hindustani Lok Music
- B. Karnataka Classical Music
- C. Karnataka Folk Music
- D. Hindustani Classical Music

Answer: D

Sol: Correct Answer: (D) Hindustani Classical Music

Explanation:

- **Gharana Parampara** (lineage system) is a unique tradition of **Hindustani Classical Music**.
- A Gharana represents a distinct style of singing or playing, passed down through generations.
- Gharanas preserve technique, aesthetics, and identity of classical performance.

Information Booster:

- Famous vocal Gharanas: **Gwalior, Jaipur-Atrauli, Kirana, Agra, Patiala**.
- Famous instrumental Gharanas: **Maihar, Etawah, Senia**.
- Gharanas are based on teacher–disciple tradition (Guru–Shishya Parampara).
- Karnataka Classical Music follows **Paddhati**, not Gharana.
- Gharana focuses on improvisation, raga treatment, and stylistic discipline.

Q.44 Where was the World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) held in March 2025?

- A. Hyderabad, India
- B. New Delhi, India
- C. Bengaluru, India
- D. Mumbai, India

Answer: B

Sol: The correct answer is: (B) New Delhi, India

Explanation:

- The **World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) 2025** was held in **New Delhi, India**, in **March 2025**.
- Organized annually by **The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)**, WSDS serves as a premier platform for global leaders to discuss policies, partnerships, and technologies for **sustainable development and climate action**.
- The 2025 summit focused on **climate resilience, energy transitions, and green financing**, with participation from multiple countries, international organizations, and think tanks.

Information Booster:

- **WSDS** was initiated in **2001** and has been held annually since then by **TERI**.
- The **2025 theme** was reportedly **“Driving Climate Action through Global Partnerships”**.
- Key participants included leaders from **UNDP, UNEP, World Bank**, and representatives from **over 40 countries**.
- **India’s Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)** was a key collaborator in WSDS 2025.
- WSDS also showcases **India’s commitment** to its **net-zero target by 2070** and its leadership in **International Solar Alliance (ISA)** and **LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment)** mission.

Additional Knowledge:

- **Hyderabad, Bengaluru, and Mumbai** host major sustainability conferences, but **WSDS is traditionally held in New Delhi**.
- WSDS aligns with India’s G20 and COP commitments, highlighting efforts in **renewables, adaptation, and climate finance**.
- Past WSDS editions have featured global figures such as **Ban Ki-moon, Antonio Guterres**, and **Al Gore**.
- TERI also releases key research reports during the summit, such as **TERI’s Green Budgeting Framework** and **Climate Risk Assessment tools**.
- The summit supports **SDG 13 (Climate Action)** and integrates cross-sectoral issues like **urban planning, biodiversity, and circular economy**.

Q.45 Which of the following regions is most vulnerable to earthquakes in India?

- A. Deccan Plateau
- B. Himalayan region
- C. Coastal plains
- D. Thar Desert

Answer: B

Sol: Correct Answer: (B) Himalayan region

Explanation:

→ The Himalayan region in India is the most vulnerable to earthquakes. This is because the region is seismically active due to the tectonic plate collision between the Indian Plate and the Eurasian Plate. The ongoing convergence of these two plates causes significant tectonic stress, resulting in frequent earthquakes.

→ The Himalayas are part of a highly active seismic zone, and the region has experienced some of the most powerful and destructive earthquakes in India's history. The entire Himalayan belt, from Jammu and Kashmir in the north to parts of Nepal and Bhutan, is particularly prone to seismic activity.

→ In addition to tectonic stress, the region’s complex topography and the presence of numerous fault lines further contribute to the frequency and intensity of earthquakes.

Information Booster:

→ The Indian Plate is moving northward, causing the Eurasian Plate to be compressed and folded, which results in the formation of the Himalayas and also generates earthquakes.

- The Himalayan earthquake zones include areas like Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Nepal, and Sikkim, all of which are highly susceptible to seismic activity.
- The 2015 Gorkha earthquake in Nepal and the 2001 Gujarat earthquake are examples of significant seismic events in regions adjacent to the Himalayan region.
- Earthquakes in the Himalayan region can also trigger landslides, making the region highly vulnerable to multiple natural disasters simultaneously.

Additional Information (Other Options):

Option (A) – "Deccan Plateau": The Deccan Plateau is a relatively stable region with low seismic activity because it lies away from tectonic plate boundaries.

Option (C) – "Coastal plains": Coastal plains in India, such as in Tamil Nadu or Gujarat, are not as seismically active as the Himalayan region, though some coastal areas can be vulnerable to other natural disasters like tsunamis.

Option (D) – "Thar Desert": The Thar Desert in Rajasthan is not particularly prone to earthquakes, as it is situated far from the active tectonic zones of India.

Q.46 Who was appointed as the president and chief executive officer of BMW Group India as of September 2025?

- A. Anurag Mehrotra
- B. Hardeep Singh Brar
- C. Santosh Iyer
- D. Balbir Singh Dhillon

Answer: B

Sol: Correct Answer: (B) Hardeep Singh Brar

Explanation:

On 8 July 2025, the BMW Group India announced the appointment of Hardeep Singh Brar as President and Chief Executive Officer, effective from 1 September 2025.

Information Booster:

- Brar succeeds Vikram Pawah, who will move to lead BMW Group’s Australia & New Zealand operations.
- Brar brings over **30 years of automotive industry experience**, including senior roles at Kia India, Maruti-Suzuki, Volkswagen Passenger Cars, General Motors, Nissan Motor, and Great Wall Motor Company.

Additional Knowledge:

- BMW stands for **Bayerische Motoren Werke (Bavarian Motor Works)**.
- Founded on **7 March 1916** in Munich, Germany.
- Origin: Started as an **aircraft engine manufacturer** during World War I.
- First product: **Aircraft engines** such as the BMW IIIa, known for high-altitude performance.
- Headquarters: **Munich, Germany**.
- CEO (Global): **Oliver Zipse** (as per recent years).

Q.47 'Adhai Din Ka Jhonpra' in Ajmer was built in the period of which of the following dynasties?

- A. Slave Dynasty
- B. Tughlaq dynasty
- C. Lodhi dynasty
- D. Khailji dynasty

Answer: A

Sol: The correct answer is: (A) Slave Dynasty

Explanation:

- **Adhai Din Ka Jhonpra**, located in **Ajmer, Rajasthan**, was constructed during the early phase of the **Slave Dynasty**, under the rule of **Qutb-ud-din Aibak**.
- Originally a **Sanskrit college** (Hindu-Jain temple complex), it was converted into a **mosque** in **1192 CE**, shortly after **Muhammad Ghori’s victory at the Second Battle of Tarain**.
- Qutb-ud-din Aibak, the first ruler of the Slave Dynasty, oversaw its transformation using **materials from existing temples**, showcasing **early Indo-Islamic architecture**.

Information Booster:

- **Qutb-ud-din Aibak** ruled from **1206 to 1210 CE**, establishing the **Mamluk (Slave) Dynasty**, the first of the Delhi Sultanate.

- The name **“Adhai Din Ka Jhonpra”** literally means “shed of two and a half days”, believed to refer to either the speed of construction or a religious fair.

- It is one of the **oldest surviving mosques in India** with an inscription dating to **1199 CE**.

- Features notable **arched screens, corbelled domes**, and **intricately carved pillars** reused from Hindu and Jain structures.
- The mosque reflects a **blend of Islamic calligraphy** with **Hindu architectural motifs**.

Additional Knowledge:

- **Tughlaq Dynasty (1320–1414 CE)** came much later and is known for fortifications like **Tughlaqabad Fort**.
- **Lodhi Dynasty (1451–1526 CE)** was the last dynasty of the Delhi Sultanate, noted for tomb architecture like **Sikandar Lodhi’s tomb**.
- **Khilji Dynasty (1290–1320 CE)** came after the Slave Dynasty, with rulers like **Alauddin Khilji**, famous for conquests and economic reforms.
- Adhai Din Ka Jhonpra remains a key site to study **transitional Indo-Islamic architecture** from the early Sultanate period.

Q.48 Which global observance did UNESCO mark on 24 January 2025?

- A. World Science Day
- B. International Day of Peace
- C. World Heritage Day
- D. International Day of Education

Answer: D

Sol: The correct answer is **(D) International Day of Education**.

Explanation:

- On **24 January 2025**, UNESCO marked the **International Day of Education**, dedicated to celebrating the role of education for peace and development.
- The 2025 observance focused on the theme **“AI and Education: Preserving Human Agency in a World of Automation”**, highlighting the importance of maintaining human control and ethical considerations in the integration of artificial intelligence into educational systems.

Information Booster:

- The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed **24 January** as International Day of Education to underscore education's vital role in achieving sustainable development and fostering global peace.
- UNESCO's Director-General, Audrey Azoulay, emphasized the need for clear ethical guidelines and the responsible use of AI in education to ensure that technology complements, rather than replaces, human interaction and judgment in learning environments.
- Global events, including conferences in Paris and New York, as well as webinars, were organized to engage educators, policymakers, and stakeholders in discussions about the opportunities and challenges posed by AI in education.

Why other options are incorrect:

- **(A) World Science Day:** Typically observed on **10 November**, this day focuses on the role of science in society and the need to engage the wider public in debates on emerging scientific issues.
- **(B) International Day of Peace:** Observed on **21 September**, this day is dedicated to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and peoples.
- **(C) World Heritage Day:** Celebrated on **18 April**, this day aims to raise awareness about the importance of preserving cultural heritage and the diversity of cultures worldwide.

Q.49 Thorn Forests are found in ____.

- A. Kashmir
- B. Kerala
- C. Sikkim
- D. Rajasthan

Answer: D

Sol: The correct answer is: **(D) Rajasthan**

Explanation:

- **Thorn forests** are found in **arid and semi-arid regions** where rainfall is **less than 50 cm per year**.
- In India, such conditions occur mainly in **western Rajasthan** and parts of **Gujarat, Punjab, and Haryana**.
- Vegetation consists of **scattered trees, thorny bushes, and shrubs** that can survive extreme heat and drought.

Information Booster:

- Major trees: **Acacia, Babool, Khejri, and Cactus.**
- Soil type: **Sandy and saline**, with poor water retention capacity.
- Rainfall range: **25–50 cm annually.**
- Common in the **Thar Desert region.**
- Adaptations: Thick bark, deep roots, and small leaves to minimize water loss.

Additional Knowledge:

- **Kashmir:** Has **temperate coniferous and alpine forests.**
- **Kerala:** Dominated by **tropical evergreen and monsoon forests.**
- **Sikkim:** Features **temperate and alpine forests** due to high altitude.

Q.50 The _____ is related with the measurement of poverty.

- A. Tan Index
- B. Sen index
- C. Mat index
- D. Sat index

Answer: B

Sol: The **Sen Index**, developed by **Amartya Sen**, is used to measure **poverty by considering income distribution and inequality**. It provides a more **comprehensive measure of poverty** compared to traditional indices.

Additional Information

- **Tan, Mat, and Sat Index** are not recognized poverty measurement indices.
- **Other poverty measures include:**
 - **Headcount Ratio**
 - **Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)**
 - **Gini Coefficient**

Q.51 Which of the following key centres of the 1857 Revolt was recaptured from the rebel forces in September 1857?

- A. Madras
- B. Delhi
- C. Surat
- D. Bombay

Answer: B

Sol: Correct Answer: (B) Delhi
Explanation:

- **Delhi** was a key centre of the 1857 Revolt, also known as the First War of Indian Independence.
- The city was taken over by the rebel forces in May 1857 and became the symbolic capital of the revolt.
- However, in **September 1857**, British forces recaptured Delhi after intense fighting, marking a significant turning point in the rebellion.

Information Booster:

- **Start of the Revolt:** The revolt began on **May 10, 1857**, in **Meerut**, when Indian soldiers (sepoys) rebelled against the British East India Company. This marked the beginning of a widespread rebellion across northern and central India.
- **Revolt in Delhi:** The rebels, led by figures like Bahadur Shah Zafar and various other leaders, held Delhi as their base of operations.
- **Recapture of Delhi:** The recapture of Delhi was crucial in the suppression of the revolt, as it marked the end of the rebel stronghold.
- **British Leadership:** The recapture was led by British forces under the command of General John Nicholson.

Q.52 Which ruler introduced the policy of blood and iron?

- A. Raziya
- B. Balban

- C. Iltutmish
- D. Aibak

Answer: B

Sol: Correct Answer: (B) Balban

Explanation:

- The policy of blood and iron was introduced by Ghiyas-ud-Din Balban, the Sultan of Delhi (1266–1287). This policy was aimed at strengthening the central authority of the Sultanate and maintaining order in the face of constant threats from internal revolts and external invasions.
- Balban's rule was marked by the establishment of strong military power, and he believed that strict control and the use of force were necessary to preserve the authority of the Sultanate. He was known for his authoritarian style of governance, where he emphasized loyalty and discipline among his officials and military commanders.
- The blood and iron policy symbolized the use of military force (iron) and the idea of blood ties and loyalty to the throne as crucial factors in maintaining power. It was aimed at curbing the power of the nobility and ensuring that the Sultan's orders were followed without question.

Information Booster:

- Balban's reign was crucial in establishing the strength of the Delhi Sultanate after the weakening of authority during the earlier rule of the slaves.
- He implemented strict measures to ensure discipline in the administration and military.
- One of his key strategies was to consolidate power by reducing the influence of the nobles and asserting the Sultan as the central authority.
- Balban's military campaigns aimed at securing the borders of the Sultanate, including defending against Mongol invasions, were part of his strategy to project strength and maintain peace.
- His emphasis on the "divine right" of kingship and his title as the "Shadow of God" reflected his view of absolute rule.
- Balban's policies laid the foundation for later rulers to follow a centralized, militaristic approach to governance.

Additional Information (Other Options):

- Option (A) – "Raziya": Raziya Sultana was known for her attempts to establish a just and capable rule, but she did not implement the policy of blood and iron.
- Option (C) – "Iltutmish": Iltutmish was instrumental in consolidating the Delhi Sultanate, but the blood and iron policy was not associated with his reign.
- Option (D) – "Aibak": Qutb-ud-Din Aibak, the founder of the Delhi Sultanate, focused more on establishing the foundation of the Sultanate rather than adopting policies of military force like blood and iron.

Q.53 Life expectancy is an indicator of which of the following?

- A. Technology and Innovation Report
- B. Human Development Report
- C. World Employment Report
- D. Commodities and Development Report

Answer: B

Sol: Correct Answer: (B) Human Development Report

Explanation:

- Life expectancy is one of the three core indicators used in the Human Development Report (HDR) published by UNDP.
- It reflects the overall health and longevity of a country's population.
- HDR uses life expectancy to calculate the Human Development Index (HDI).

Information Booster:

- HDI = Life Expectancy + Education Index + Per Capita Income.
- HDR is released annually by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
- Life expectancy shows the quality of healthcare, nutrition and living standards.
- Higher life expectancy → higher HDI.
- HDR ranks countries as high, medium or low human development.

Additional Knowledge:

- Technology and Innovation Report – Published by UNCTAD; focuses on science and innovation, not life expectancy.
- World Employment Report – Published by the ILO; focuses on labour markets and employment trends.
- Commodities and Development Report – UNCTAD report on global commodity trends.

Q.54 The word 'budget' is derived from the word 'Bougette'. Bougette is a/an ____ word.

- A. French
- B. Arabic
- C. German
- D. Spanish

Answer: A

Sol: The correct answer is (a) French.

- The term 'budget' originates from the French word 'bougette', meaning a small bag or purse used to carry financial documents.
- It later came to signify the government's statement of income and expenditure.

Information Booster:

- The **first Indian Budget** was presented by **James Wilson** in **1860** during British rule.
- The **first Union Budget of independent India** was presented by **R.K. Shanmukham Chetty** in **1947**.
- The **Union Budget** is presented annually by the **Finance Minister of India** in Parliament.
- Since 2017, the **Railway Budget** has been merged with the **Union Budget**.
- The **Union Budget 2025** was presented by **Nirmala Sitharaman**, making her the **longest-serving female Finance Minister** in India.

Additional Knowledge:

- The **term ‘budget’** in modern usage refers to a **detailed financial statement** of revenue and expenditure.
- The **Economic Survey**, released a day before the budget, reviews the nation’s annual economic performance.
- The **interim budget** is presented before general elections when a full budget cannot be tabled.
- The **Union Budget 2025–26** focuses on **fiscal consolidation and green infrastructure**.
- Budget documents are prepared under the **Article 112 of the Indian Constitution**.

Q.55 Who among the following will be the 25th Chief Justice of India in May 2025?

- A. Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia
- B. Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai
- C. Justice Prashant Kumar Mishra
- D. Justice Pamidighantam Sri Narasimha

Answer: B

Sol: The correct answer is: (B) Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai

Explanation:

- **Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai** assumed office as the **25th Chief Justice of India in May 2025**, following the retirement of Justice **Sanjiv Khanna**.
- He took oath on **14 May 2025** and is serving as the **52nd Chief Justice of India**, as per the seniority convention followed in judicial appointments.
- His elevation holds significance as he became only the **second Dalit** and the **first Buddhist** to serve as CJI.

Information Booster:

- Justice Gavai’s tenure is from **14 May 2025 to 23 November 2025**.
- He was appointed as a **Supreme Court judge in May 2019**, and previously served as a judge of the **Bombay High Court**.
- He is known for his contributions in **constitutional law** and **social justice jurisprudence**.
- His appointment continues the tradition of appointing the **senior-most judge** of the Supreme Court as the CJI.
- Justice Gavai’s rise is seen as a representation of **social diversity** within India’s highest judiciary.

Additional Knowledge:

- **Justice Sanjiv Khanna** (predecessor) served a short tenure before retiring on **13 May 2025**.
- **Justice Pamidighantam Sri Narasimha** is expected to become the **56th CJI in May 2028**.
- **Justice D. Y. Chandrachud** was the 50th CJI and served a full term from **2022 to 2024**.
- The office of the CJI is governed by **Article 124 of the Indian Constitution**, which lays down the appointment process and tenure.
- The Chief Justice leads the **Supreme Court of India** and also plays a key role in judicial appointments through the **Collegium System**.

Q.56 Who among the following founded the Hyderabad city?

- A. Subhan Quil Qutb Shah
- B. Ibrahim Quil Qutb Shah
- C. Muhammad Quil Qutb Shah
- D. Jamsheed Quil Qutb Shah

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is: (C) Muhammad Quli Qutb Shah

Explanation:

- Hyderabad city was founded by **Muhammad Quli Qutb Shah** of the Qutb Shahi dynasty.
- He established the city in **1591 CE**.
- He also built the iconic **Charminar**, which became the symbol of Hyderabad.

Information Booster:

- Muhammad Quli Qutb Shah was the **5th ruler** of the Qutb Shahi dynasty.
- He shifted the capital from **Golconda** to the newly founded Hyderabad.
- Hyderabad was originally named **Bhagnagar**.
- The city was built along the **Musi River**.
- Qutb Shahi architecture reflects a mix of **Persian, Indian, and Islamic** styles.

Q.57 Who is considered as the father of taxonomy?

- A. Darwin
- B. Einstein
- C. Mandelbrot
- D. Linnaeus

Answer: D

Sol: Correct Answer: (D) Linnaeus

Explanation:

- **Carl Linnaeus** (1707–1778), a Swedish botanist and zoologist, is known as the **Father of Taxonomy**.
- He developed the **binomial nomenclature system**—the scientific method of naming organisms using two names (Genus and Species).
- His book **“Systema Naturae” (1735)** classified living organisms scientifically for the first time.

Information Booster:

- Taxonomy is the science of naming, describing, and classifying organisms.
- Linnaeus is also called the **Father of Modern Classification**.
- The binomial system gives every organism a universal name (e.g., *Homo sapiens*).
- His classification divided living organisms into **Kingdom, Class, Order, Genus, and Species**.
- Modern taxonomy is based on both morphology and genetics.

Additional Knowledge:

- **Darwin:** Proposed the **Theory of Evolution by Natural Selection**.
- **Einstein:** Developed the **Theory of Relativity**, unrelated to biology.
- **Mandelbrot:** Known as the **Father of Fractal Geometry**, not taxonomy.

Q.58 What is the minimum amount of bank loan granted under the Stand-Up India scheme of the Government of India?

- A. ₹20 lakh
- B. ₹5 lakh

- C. ₹10 lakh
- D. ₹2 lakh

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is: (C) ₹10 lakh

Explanation:

- Under the **Stand-Up India Scheme**, bank loans are provided between **₹10 lakh to ₹1 crore**.
- The scheme supports **SC/ST** and **women entrepreneurs** for setting up greenfield enterprises.
- Hence, the **minimum loan amount is ₹10 lakh**.

Information Booster:

- Launched on **5 April 2016**.
- Implemented through all **Scheduled Commercial Banks**.
- Each bank branch must support at least **one SC/ST** and **one woman borrower**.
- Loans are provided for **manufacturing, services, and trading** activities.
- Margin money requirement: **up to 25%**, with support from the **Credit Guarantee Fund**.

Q.59 In the preparation of alkynes from vicinal dihalides, the reagent used is:

- A. Alcoholic KOH
- B. Aqueous KOH
- C. Sodium metal
- D. Zinc dust

Answer: A

Sol:

The correct answer is (a).

Explanation: Vicinal dihalides undergo double dehydrohalogenation with alcoholic KOH to form alkynes. First elimination gives vinyl halide, second elimination gives alkyne. For example: $\text{CH}_2\text{Br}-\text{CH}_2\text{Br} \rightarrow \text{CH}_2=\text{CHBr} \rightarrow \text{HC}\equiv\text{CH}$. Alcoholic KOH promotes elimination (E2 mechanism), while aqueous KOH favors substitution. Strong base and heat are necessary for the second elimination from vinyl halide, which is more difficult than the first elimination.

Additional Information: Option {b} aqueous KOH gives diols. Option {c} sodium metal gives Wurtz reaction products. Option {d} zinc dust gives alkenes.

Q.60 Who among the following is the author of Mudrarakshasa?

- A. Kalidas
- B. Visakhadatta
- C. Ashvaghosh
- D. Bhas

Answer: B

Sol: Correct Answer:(b) Visakhadatta

The Sanskrit play **Mudrarakshasa** was written by **Visakhadatta**. This historical drama is set in the era of the Mauryan Empire and depicts the political intrigue during the time of **Chandragupta Maurya** and his advisor, **Chanakya (Kautilya)**.

Key Details About Mudrarakshasa:

- Theme:**
 - The play focuses on Chanakya's cunning strategies to bring Chandragupta Maurya to power and consolidate the Mauryan Empire by defeating the Nanda dynasty.
 - "Mudra" refers to a signet ring, and "Rakshasa" refers to the character Amatya Rakshasa, a loyal minister of the Nandas.
- Genre:**
 - A political drama showcasing diplomacy, espionage, and strategic alliances.
- Significance:**
 - Provides insights into the socio-political conditions of ancient India.
 - Highlights Chanakya's intellect and statecraft.

Information Booster:

- Visakhadatta is known primarily for **Mudrarakshasa** and another play, **Devichandraguptam** (now mostly lost).
- The play is an example of classical Sanskrit literature with its intricate plot and vivid character portrayals.
- Chanakya's tactics in the play are often cited as examples of early Indian political science and strategy.

Additional Knowledge:

- **(a) Kalidas:** Incorrect; he is known for works like **Abhijnanashakuntalam** and **Meghaduta**, not Mudrarakshasa.
- **(b) Visakhadatta:** Correct; authored Mudrarakshasa.
- **(c) Ashvaghosh:** Incorrect; he wrote **Buddhacharita** and other Buddhist texts.

(d) Bhas: Incorrect; he authored plays like **Swapnavasavadattam** and **Pratijna Yaugandharayana**

Q.61 Who is considered as the main architect of the Second Five-Year Plan in India?

- A. D.T. Lakdawala
- B. V.K.R.V. Rao
- C. D.R. Gadgil
- D. P.C. Mahalanobis

Answer: D

Sol: The correct answer is (d) *P.C. Mahalanobis*.

- The **Second Five-Year Plan (1956–1961)** was based on the **Mahalanobis Model**, formulated by the Indian statistician and economist **Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis**.
- It emphasized **rapid industrialization**, especially the development of **heavy and capital goods industries**.

Information Booster:

- The plan followed the **Nehru–Mahalanobis strategy of economic development**.
- It gave priority to **public sector growth** and **industrial base expansion**.
- The **Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956** was implemented during this period.
- The plan targeted a **4.5% growth rate**, but achieved around **4.2%**.
- This plan laid the foundation for India’s **socialist pattern of society**.

Additional Knowledge:

- **First Five-Year Plan (1951–56)** – Focused on agriculture and irrigation (K.N. Raj model).
- **Third Five-Year Plan (1961–66)** – Emphasized self-reliance and economic stability.
- **P.C. Mahalanobis** founded the **Indian Statistical Institute (ISI)** and introduced the **Mahalanobis Distance formula** in statistics.
- He was a member of the **Planning Commission of India** during the Nehru era.

Q.62 Which of the following is NOT a direct tax?

- A. Income tax
- B. Value Added Tax (VAT)
- C. Tax on capital gains
- D. Corporate tax

Answer: B

Sol: Correct Answer: (B) Value Added Tax (VAT)

Explanation:

- **VAT is an indirect tax** because it is collected from consumers by sellers and then paid to the government.
- The burden of tax shifts from the seller to the buyer, meaning the person paying the tax is not the one directly assessed.

Information Booster:

- Direct taxes are paid **directly by individuals or companies** to the government.
- Indirect taxes are paid **through intermediaries**, like shops or businesses.
- GST has replaced VAT in most sectors in India (except alcohol & some petroleum products).
- Income Tax Act, 1961 regulates direct taxes in India.
- Corporate tax is levied on the net income of companies.

Additional Knowledge:

- Income tax – Direct tax; paid by individuals.
- Capital gains tax – Direct tax; paid by person earning profit.
- Corporate tax – Direct tax; paid by companies.

Q.63 From which of the following Assembly constituencies of Uttar Pradesh did Shri Yogi Adityanath win the State election in March 2022?

- A. Saharanpur Nagar
- B. Nakur
- C. Gorakhpur Urban
- D. Behat

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is (c) Gorakhpur Urban.

- Yogi Adityanath contested and won from **Gorakhpur Urban** in the 2022 UP Assembly Elections.
- He became CM for the **second consecutive term**, the first to do so in UP since independence.

Information Booster:

- UP Assembly elections 2022 were held in **seven phases (Feb–Mar 2022)**.
- BJP secured a majority with **255 seats**.
- This was Yogi Adityanath's **first Assembly election as a candidate**.
- Gorakhpur is his long-time political base.
- Yogi previously served 5 terms as **Member of Parliament (Gorakhpur)**.

Additional Knowledge:

- Gorakhpur Urban seat was created after the **2008 delimitation**.
- UP has a total of **403 Assembly seats**.
- The Governor appoints the Chief Minister under **Article 164**.
- UP is India's most populous state and politically crucial in national politics.

Q.64 Which action by Lord Dalhousie in 1856 greatly contributed to the discontent leading to the Revolt of 1857?

- A. Annexation of Punjab
- B. Annexation of Avadh
- C. Suppression of the Santhal uprising
- D. Introduction of the Doctrine of Lapse

Answer: B

Sol: Correct Answer: (B) Annexation of Avadh

Explanation:

→ The annexation of Avadh (also known as Oudh) by Lord Dalhousie in 1856 is widely considered one of the key actions that triggered discontent among Indian rulers, soldiers, and the common people.

→ The annexation was carried out under the Doctrine of Lapse, which angered local rulers, particularly the Nawabs of Avadh. This act led to widespread resentment and contributed to the Revolt of 1857.

Information Booster:

→ The annexation of Avadh was seen as unjust and led to the displacement of many families who depended on the Nawab's patronage.

→ The loss of Avadh was particularly resented by the sepoy, many of whom were from the region, and this fueled the growing discontent within the army.

→ The annexation violated the understanding that princely states under British protection would not be annexed.

Additional Information (Other Options):

Option (A) Annexation of Punjab: While Punjab was annexed after the Second Anglo-Sikh War, it was not the direct cause of the Revolt of 1857.

Option (C) Suppression of the Santhal uprising: The Santhal uprising was a significant event, but it did not directly lead to the Revolt of 1857.

Option (D) Introduction of the Doctrine of Lapse: While the Doctrine of Lapse contributed to the revolt, it was the annexation of Avadh that was the final spark.

Q.65 In which list of the Seventh Schedule does the Central Government have exclusive power to legislate?

- A. State List
- B. Concurrent List
- C. Union List
- D. Residual List

Answer: C

Sol: Correct Answer: (C) Union List

Explanation:

- The **Union List** in the **Seventh Schedule** of the Indian Constitution comprises subjects on which **only the Central Government** can make laws.
- It includes matters of national importance like defense, foreign affairs, atomic energy, and banking.

Information Booster:

- The **State List** is under the exclusive jurisdiction of state legislatures.
- The **Concurrent List** allows both Centre and states to legislate, but central law prevails in case of conflict.
- **Residual powers**, mentioned in Article 248, also belong to the Centre, covering subjects not enumerated in any of the three lists.

Q.66 The principle of conservation of angular momentum applies when:

- A. No external force acts
- B. No external torque acts
- C. No external impulse acts
- D. No external work is done

Answer: B

Sol:

The correct answer is (b).

Explanation: Angular momentum $L = I\omega$ is conserved when net external torque $\tau_{\text{ext}} = 0$. This follows from $\tau = dL/dt$. Even if external forces act, if their lines of action pass through the axis, no torque is produced. Examples include: ice skater spinning faster when pulling arms in (I decreases, ω increases), planetary orbits, and gyroscopes. This principle is fundamental in rotational dynamics and explains many phenomena in astronomy and sports.

Additional Information: Option {a} is for linear momentum conservation. Option {c} relates to linear impulse-momentum theorem. Option {d} relates to work-energy theorem.

Q.67 What is the percentage of population living in cities referred to as?

- A. Growth Rate
- B. Urbanisation
- C. Population Density
- D. Crude Birth Rate

Answer: B

Sol: Correct Answer: (B) Urbanisation

Explanation:

- The **percentage of population living in cities or urban areas** is called **urbanisation**.
- It shows how much of a country's population has shifted from rural to urban regions.
- Higher urbanisation indicates growth of towns, cities and metropolitan areas.

Information Booster:

- Urbanisation is measured as % of total population living in urban settlements.
- India's urbanisation (2025 estimate) is around **36%**.
- Rapid urbanisation occurs due to migration, industrialisation and job opportunities.
- UN reports classify cities based on population thresholds.
- Urbanisation impacts housing, transport and infrastructure needs.

Additional Knowledge:

- Growth Rate – Increase in population over time.
- Population Density – Number of people per sq. km.
- Crude Birth Rate – Births per 1,000 people per year.

Q.68 What is the required qualification to be appointed as Attorney General of India (Attorney- General)?

- A. Member of Legislative Assembly
- B. President of the Council of States
- C. High Court Judge
- D. Supreme Court Judge

Answer: D

Sol: Correct Answer: (d) Supreme Court Judge

Explanation:

- To be appointed as the **Attorney General of India**, a person must be **qualified to be appointed as a Judge of the Supreme Court**.
- This requires at least **5 years as a High Court judge**, or **10 years as a High Court advocate**, or being an **eminent jurist** in the opinion of the President.

Information Booster:

- The Attorney General is the **highest law officer** of India.
- Appointed by the **President of India** under **Article 76** of the Constitution.
- He/She advises the **Government of India** on legal matters.
- The Attorney General can **participate in Parliament** but cannot vote.

Q.69 Mahatma Gandhi labelled which repressive British legislation as the ‘Black Act’ and called for an All-India mass protest against it in 1919?

- A. Indian Councils Act
- B. Rowlatt Act
- C. Vernacular Press Act
- D. Arms Act

Answer: B

Sol: Correct Answer: **(B) Rowlatt Act**

Explanation:

- In **1919**, Mahatma Gandhi condemned the **Rowlatt Act** as the **“Black Act”**.
- It allowed arrest without trial and detention without due process.
- Gandhi launched a nationwide **Satyagraha** against it.

Information Booster:

- Passed based on the recommendations of the Rowlatt Committee.
- Officially called the Anarchical and Revolutionary Crimes Act, 1919.
- Led to widespread protests and the Jallianwala Bagh tragedy.
- Marked the first all-India movement led by Gandhi.

Additional Knowledge:

- **Indian Councils Act:** Series of Acts (1861, 1892, 1909) meant to expand legislative councils.
- **Vernacular Press Act (1878):** Passed by Lord Lytton to curb Indian-language newspapers.
- **Arms Act (1878):** Restricted Indians from possessing arms; introduced discrimination.

Q.70 Which Article of the Constitution of India prohibits Indian citizens from accepting any title from a foreign state?

- A. Article 15
- B. Article 16
- C. Article 17
- D. Article 18

Answer: D

Sol: The correct answer is **(d) Article 18**

Explanation:

- **Article 18** of the **Constitution of India** prohibits Indian citizens from accepting any title from a foreign state.
- It specifically abolishes titles from foreign states and restricts Indian citizens from receiving any title, decoration, or honor from any foreign state unless granted by the Indian government.
- The intent behind this provision is to prevent the influence of foreign powers in India and to maintain the dignity of the republic by ensuring that Indian citizens are not subject to foreign awards or titles that could undermine the sovereignty and integrity of the country.
- This Article reflects the democratic ethos of India, where citizens are not given hereditary titles or privileges based on the monarchy or nobility system prevalent in other countries.

Information Booster:

- **Abolition of Titles:** Prior to the enactment of this provision, Indian citizens had historically received titles such as "Sir" or "Rai Bahadur" from British rulers.
- The **Constitution of India** also prohibits the creation of new titles within India, ensuring equality among citizens and preventing any class-based distinctions.
- **Exceptions:** The only exception to this rule is for **honorary titles** or distinctions that are awarded within India for **meritorious services** but without any hereditary connotation.

Additional Knowledge:

(a) Article 15:

- **Article 15** prohibits discrimination on the grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth. It does not deal with the acceptance of foreign titles.

(b) Article 16:

- **Article 16** deals with equality of opportunity in public employment and prohibits discrimination in employment on the grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, descent, place of birth, or residence.

(c) Article 17:

- **Article 17** abolishes **untouchability** and forbids its practice in any form, ensuring social equality for all citizens.

Q.71 What was the category of India as per the Global Hunger Index score in 2024 that shows the severity of hunger in a country?

- A. Serious
- B. Low
- C. Alarming
- D. Moderate

Answer: A

Sol: The correct answer is: (A) Serious

Explanation:

- In the **Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2024**, India was placed in the **"Serious"** category.
- India's **GHI score** indicated a **high level of hunger and undernutrition**, reflecting issues such as **child wasting, child stunting, undernourishment**, and **child mortality**.
- This category falls between **"Moderate"** and **"Alarming"** on the GHI severity scale.

Information Booster:

- The **GHI 2024** ranked **India at 111 out of 125 countries**.
- India scored **28.7** on the index, which falls in the **"Serious"** category (scores between 20.0–34.9).
- **Child wasting rate** in India remains high at **18.7%**, one of the highest in the world.
- The report is published jointly by **Concern Worldwide** and **Welthungerhilfe**, both global humanitarian organizations.
- India's performance was **worse than neighbours** like **Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka**, and **Pakistan** in GHI 2024.

Additional Knowledge:

- **GHI Categories:**
 - **Low (≤9.9)**
 - **Moderate (10.0–19.9)**
 - **Serious (20.0–34.9)**
 - **Alarming (35.0–49.9)**
 - **Extremely Alarming (≥50.0)**
- The **Government of India** has criticised the methodology of the GHI, citing over-reliance on child nutrition indicators and limited data sources.
- The **GHI** uses **four indicators**: Undernourishment, Child Wasting, Child Stunting, and Child Mortality.
- Despite significant food grain production, issues such as **distribution inefficiencies, poverty, sanitation, and maternal health** contribute to persistent hunger levels.

- Programmes like **Poshan Abhiyaan**, **PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana**, and **Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)** aim to address undernutrition.

Q.72 Which country will host the 2034 FIFA World Cup?

- A. Saudi Arabia
- B. Qatar
- C. Russia
- D. Brazil

Answer: A

Sol: Correct Answer: (A) Saudi Arabia

Explanation:

- FIFA confirmed that the **2034 FIFA World Cup will be hosted by Saudi Arabia**.
- Saudi Arabia was the **only officially submitted bid**, leading to its automatic selection.
- This will be the **first-ever World Cup hosted by Saudi Arabia**.

Information Booster:

- 2026 World Cup hosts: USA, Canada, Mexico.
- 2030 World Cup: Hosted across **Spain, Portugal, Morocco**, with opening matches in **Uruguay, Argentina, Paraguay**.
- Saudi Arabia is investing heavily in global sports under "Vision 2030".
- Riyadh is also hosting major events like the Asian Cup 2027.
- FIFA rotates hosting rights across continents.

Additional Knowledge:

- Qatar hosted FIFA World Cup 2022.
- Russia hosted FIFA World Cup 2018.
- Brazil hosted FIFA World Cup 2014.

Q.73 Which organisation is operating the Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana of the Government of India?

- A. Unit Trust of India
- B. LLC of India
- C. Post Office
- D. State Bank of India

Answer: B

Sol: The correct answer is: (B) LIC of India

Explanation:

- The **Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY)** is operated exclusively by **LIC of India**.
- It is meant for senior citizens aged **60 years and above**.
- The scheme offers a **guaranteed pension** based on the purchase price.

Information Booster:

- Launched in **2017** for senior citizens.
- **LIC** is the sole implementing agency.
- Pension modes: **Monthly, Quarterly, Half-yearly, Yearly**.
- Maximum investment allowed: **₹15 lakh**.
- Helps protect elders from **interest rate fluctuations**.

Q.74 In post 1991 reforms, the term 'disinvestment' refers to:

- A. selling government's share in public sector companies
- B. reducing agricultural subsidies
- C. reducing foreign trade
- D. increasing taxes

Answer: A

Sol: The correct answer is (a) selling government's share in public sector companies

Explanation:

- Disinvestment refers to the process of selling or liquidating government-owned shares in Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs).
- It was introduced as part of the New Economic Policy (NEP) of 1991 during liberalization.
- The main objective was to reduce the fiscal burden, improve public finances, and enhance efficiency through private participation.
- Disinvestment helps in introducing competition, modern technology, and better management practices in PSUs.
- It can also contribute to wider ownership of shares among the public.

Information Booster:

- The Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) under the Ministry of Finance oversees the disinvestment process.
- Strategic disinvestment involves transfer of management control, unlike minority stake sales.

Additional Knowledge:

(b) reducing agricultural subsidies (Option b)

- Refers to lowering financial support to farmers but is not termed "disinvestment".
- Part of broader fiscal consolidation strategies, not directly related to PSUs.

(c) reducing foreign trade (Option c)

- Contrary to reform goals — the 1991 policy aimed to expand foreign trade through liberalization.
- Not associated with disinvestment.

(d) increasing taxes (Option d)

- Tax hikes were not labeled as disinvestment.
- Disinvestment was specifically aimed at raising non-tax revenue.

Q.75 In the human digestive system, the digestion of proteins begins in which organ?

- A. Stomach
- B. Liver
- C. Small Intestine
- D. Mouth

Answer: A

Sol: The correct answer is (a) Stomach

Explanation:

- The **stomach** is where the chemical digestion of **proteins** primarily begins in the human digestive system.
- The stomach lining secretes **hydrochloric acid (HCl)** and the enzyme **pepsin**.
- Hydrochloric acid denatures the proteins and provides the acidic environment necessary for pepsin to function.
- Pepsin is a proteolytic enzyme that begins breaking down large protein molecules into smaller polypeptides and peptones.

Information Booster:

- The digestion of **carbohydrates** begins earlier in the **mouth** with the enzyme salivary amylase.
- The digestion of **fats** primarily begins later in the **small intestine** with the help of bile and lipase.
- The stomach's unique muscular walls also aid in the mechanical churning and mixing of food with digestive juices, creating a substance called chyme.

Additional Knowledge:

Liver (Option b)

- The liver produces **bile**, which is stored in the gallbladder. Bile is important for the **emulsification of fats** in the small intestine, not the digestion of proteins.

Small Intestine (Option c)

- The **small intestine** is where the majority of chemical digestion and nutrient **absorption** occurs. Protein digestion is completed here using enzymes like trypsin and chymotrypsin released from the pancreas, but it begins in the stomach.

Mouth (Option d)

- The **mouth** is where mechanical digestion (chewing) and the chemical digestion of **carbohydrates** begin, using salivary amylase. No protein digestion occurs in the mouth.

Q.76 In India, the Annual Financial Statement is generally implemented for the period _____.

- A. 1st April to 31st March
- B. 1st April to 30th September
- C. 1st January to 31st December
- D. 1st July to 30th June

Answer: A

Sol: The correct answer is (a) *1st April to 31st March*.

- In India, the **financial year** or **Annual Financial Statement** runs from **1st April to 31st March** of the following year.
- This system was adopted in **1867 during British rule** and continues to be used for government budgets, taxation, and accounting.

Information Booster:

- The **Union Budget** is presented annually in **February** for implementation from 1st April.
- The **Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act, 2003** guides fiscal management.
- A proposal to shift to a **January–December financial year** was discussed but not implemented.
- The financial year format is followed by both **Central and State Governments**.
- Businesses also align income tax and audit records with this financial period.

Additional Knowledge:

- The **Budget** is presented by the **Finance Minister** under **Article 112** of the Constitution.
- The term *Annual Financial Statement* is constitutionally used instead of “Budget.”
- Countries like the USA follow the **October–September** financial year model.

Q.77 In which Indian state are the Kachchh and Kathiawar coasts located?

- A. Goa
- B. Rajasthan
- C. Gujarat
- D. Maharashtra

Answer: C

Sol: Correct Answer: (C) Gujarat

Explanation:

- The **Kachchh** and **Kathiawar** coasts are located in the western Indian state of **Gujarat**. These coasts are known for their unique landscapes, including the Rann of Kutch, and are important for their biodiversity and economic activities like fishing and salt production.

Information Booster:

- **Kachchh Coast:** Located in the Kutch district, it is known for the Rann of Kutch, a salt marsh, and is also famous for the Kutch Wildlife Sanctuary.
- **Kathiawar Coast:** Located in the Saurashtra region, it is known for its historic ports and towns like Porbandar (birthplace of Mahatma Gandhi).

Other Options:

- **A (Goa):** Goa is located on the western coast of India but is not home to the Kachchh and Kathiawar coasts.
- **B (Rajasthan):** Rajasthan is a landlocked state and does not have a coastline.
- **D (Maharashtra):** Maharashtra has a coastline, but it does not include the Kachchh and Kathiawar coasts.

Q.78 In which of the following places is the bench of Allahabad High Court established?

- A. Gorakhpur
- B. Lucknow
- C. Agra
- D. Noida

Answer: B

Sol: Correct Answer: (b) Lucknow
Explanation:

- The **bench of the Allahabad High Court** is established at **Lucknow**, also known as the **Lucknow Bench**.
- It hears cases related to various districts falling under its territorial jurisdiction.

Information Booster:

- Allahabad High Court was established in **1866**, one of the oldest in India.
- Principal seat: **Prayagraj (Allahabad)**.
- Lucknow Bench was created to reduce case load and improve accessibility for nearby districts.
- High Courts in India can have **multiple benches** based on administrative needs.

Q.79 The Raulane Festival, recently in news, is celebrated in which Indian state?

- A. Uttarakhand
- B. Himachal Pradesh
- C. Arunachal Pradesh
- D. Sikkim

Answer: B

Sol: The correct answer is (b) Himachal Pradesh

- The Raulane Festival is celebrated in the Kinnaur district of Himachal Pradesh.
- It is held as a farewell to the Sauni winter fairies.
- The central rituals take place at the ancient Nagin Narayan Temple.

Information Booster:

- Festival is one of Himachal's oldest winter traditions.
- Key ritual performers: Raula and Raulane (both male).
- Known for masked dances and sacred ceremonies.
- Symbolises transition from winter to spring.
- Preserved through oral tradition by Kinnauri tribes.

Q.80 What does the number of compressions or rarefactions passing a point per unit time represent in a sound wave?

- A. Frequency
- B. Amplitude
- C. Wavelength
- D. Loudness

Answer: A

Sol: Correct Answer: (A) Frequency

Explanation:

- The number of compressions or rarefactions passing a point per unit time is called **frequency**.
- Frequency tells how fast sound waves oscillate in a medium.
- Measured in **Hertz (Hz)**.

Information Booster:

- High frequency → high-pitched sound.
- Low frequency → low-pitched sound.
- Frequency depends on the source, not the medium.
- Human hearing range: **20 Hz to 20,000 Hz**.
- Ultrasonic waves have frequency **above 20,000 Hz**.

Additional Knowledge:

- Amplitude – Height of the wave; represents loudness.
- Wavelength – Distance between two consecutive compressions or rarefactions.
- Loudness – Depends on amplitude.

Q.81 Which among the following is related to the human skeletal structure?

- A. Spleen
- B. Urethra
- C. Femur
- D. Iris

Answer: C

Sol: Correct Answer: (c) Femur

Explanation:

- The **femur** is the **longest and strongest bone** in the human skeletal system.
- It forms the **thigh bone** and supports body weight during standing, walking, and running.

Information Booster:

- Located between the **hip and knee joints**.
- Part of the **appendicular skeleton**.
- Plays a crucial role in **movement and posture**.
- Protects major blood vessels like the **femoral artery**..

Q.82 Which of the following was a major drawback of the Indian economy at the time of independence?

- A. Self-sufficiency in food grains
- B. High unemployment and poverty
- C. Strong infrastructure
- D. High industrial output

Answer: B

Sol: Correct Answer: (B) High unemployment and poverty

Explanation:

- At the time of independence in 1947, the Indian economy was marked by **high levels of unemployment and widespread poverty**.
- Colonial economic policies had severely weakened domestic industries, particularly handicrafts, and reduced people’s purchasing power.

Information Booster:

- India was primarily an **agrarian economy** with low agricultural productivity.
- The **industrial sector was underdeveloped**, and most industries were controlled by the British.
- **Infrastructure**, such as railways and roads, existed mainly to serve **colonial economic interests**, not national development.

Q.83 In a terrestrial ecosystem, green plants capture approximately what percentage of solar energy falling on their leaves?

- A. 0.01%
- B. 5%
- C. 10%
- D. 1%

Answer: D

Sol: Correct Answer: (D) 1%

Explanation:

- Green plants in a terrestrial ecosystem capture only **about 1%** of the solar energy falling on their leaves.
- This energy is converted into chemical energy through photosynthesis.
- Remaining sunlight is either reflected, absorbed as heat, or unused.

Information Booster:

- Gross primary productivity (GPP) is based on energy captured by producers.
- Only a small fraction becomes net primary productivity (NPP).
- Energy flow in ecosystems follows the **10% law** at each trophic level.
- Plants utilize PAR (Photosynthetically Active Radiation).
- Most solar energy does not participate in photosynthesis.

Q.84 During whose reign did the Moroccan traveller Ibn Battuta visit India in the 14th century?

- A. Mohammad Bin Tughlaq
- B. Alauddin Khalji
- C. Jalaluddin Khalji
- D. Feroz Shah Tughlaq

Answer: A

Sol: The correct answer is: (A) Mohammad Bin Tughlaq

Explanation:

- Moroccan traveler **Ibn Battuta** visited India during the reign of **Mohammad Bin Tughlaq** in the **14th century**.
- He was appointed as the **Qazi of Delhi** by the Sultan.
- His travel account forms part of the famous book **"Rihla"**.

Information Booster:

- Ibn Battuta arrived in India in **1333 CE**.
- He spent nearly **8 years** in the Tughlaq court.
- He also served on a diplomatic mission to **China**.
- His writings provide valuable insights into **Tughlaq administration**.
- Mohammad Bin Tughlaq ruled from **1325–1351 CE** under the Delhi Sultanate.

Q.85 Which of the following festivals is celebrated in Madhya Pradesh?

- A. Thaipusam Festival
- B. Jaisalmer Desert Festival
- C. Bihu Festival
- D. Khajuraho Dance Festival

Answer: D

Sol: Correct Answer:D. Khajuraho Dance Festival

Explanation:

The **Khajuraho Dance Festival** is a renowned cultural event celebrated in **Madhya Pradesh**. It showcases **classical Indian dance forms** against the backdrop of the **Khajuraho temples**, which are famous for their intricate carvings and historical significance.

Information Booster:

- Held annually in **February–March** in **Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh**.
- Organized by the **Madhya Pradesh Kala Parishad**.

- Features **Bharatanatyam, Kathak, Odissi, Kuchipudi, Manipuri, and Kathakali** performances.
- Celebrates India's rich classical dance heritage.
- Khajuraho temples are **UNESCO World Heritage Sites**.
- Established to promote and preserve **Indian cultural traditions**.

Additional Information:

- **Thaipusam Festival (A):** Celebrated in **Tamil Nadu** and Malaysia, dedicated to **Lord Murugan**.
- **Jaisalmer Desert Festival (B):** Held in **Rajasthan**, featuring camel races, folk performances, and cultural events.
- **Bihu Festival (C):** A major **harvest festival of Assam**, celebrated three times a year (**Bohag, Kati, and Magh Bihu**).

40

Q.86 Which of the following traditional dance forms in India incorporates the use of a pair of decorated sticks and is traditionally performed during Navratri?

- A. Koli
- B. Dandiya
- C. Bhangra
- D. Bihu

Answer: B

Sol: Correct Answer: (B) Dandiya

Explanation:

- Dandiya is a traditional folk dance performed with two decorated sticks called dandiyas.
- It is mainly performed during **Navratri**, especially in Gujarat.
- The dance represents the mock fight between Goddess Durga and Mahishasura.

Information Booster:

- Dandiya is also known as **Dandiya Raas**.
- Performed in circular formations with rhythmic stick movements.
- Music uses traditional Gujarati instruments like dhol and shehnai.
- Garba and Dandiya are two major dance forms of Navratri.
- Popular in Gujarat and across India during festive celebrations.

Additional Knowledge:

- Koli – Fisherfolk dance of Maharashtra.
- Bhangra – Energetic folk dance of Punjab.
- Bihu – Festival dance of Assam.

Q.87 Who inaugurated the 10 new AMRIT pharmacies on the 10th anniversary of the scheme in November 2025?

- A. Mansukh Mandaviya
- B. J.P. Nadda
- C. Sarbananda Sonowal
- D. Kiren Rijiju

Answer: B

Sol: The correct answer is (b) J.P. Nadda

- Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda inaugurated 10 new AMRIT pharmacies.
- The inauguration marked the 10th anniversary of the AMRIT scheme.
- The event highlighted the government’s push for affordable medicines.

Information Booster:

- AMRIT pharmacies offer up to 50% discount on essential medicines.
- The network has expanded to over 255 outlets across India.
- Operated by HLL Lifecare Limited under the Health Ministry.

- New outlets include AIIMS Deogarh, IIT Jodhpur, and PGI Chandigarh.
- AMRIT supports India’s Universal Health Coverage goals.

Additional Knowledge:

- Over 6.85 crore patients have benefitted from the initiative.
- Medicines worth ₹17,000 crore have been dispensed.
- Estimated patient savings stand at ₹8,500 crore.
- J.P. Nadda also launched Ecogreen 2.0 and a customised My Stamp during the event.

Q.88 In which state is the Kanha National Park situated?

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Haryana
- C. Karnataka
- D. Manipur

Answer: A

Sol: The correct answer is: **(A) Madhya Pradesh**

Explanation:

- Kanha National Park is located in **Madhya Pradesh**.
- It is one of India’s largest and most famous tiger reserves.
- The park is part of the **Kanha–Kisli Tiger Reserve**.

Information Booster:

- Established in **1955** as a wildlife sanctuary.
- Declared a **tiger reserve** in 1973 under Project Tiger.
- Famous for the conservation of **hard-ground barasingha**.
- Spread across the **Mandla and Balaghat** districts.
- Inspiration for Rudyard Kipling’s **“The Jungle Book.”**

Q.89 Intellipaath has partnered with which government initiative to launch the ‘YUVAi for ALL’ programme for AI literacy in India?

- A. Digital India Mission
- B. IndiaAI Mission
- C. Atal Innovation Mission
- D. PM e-VIDYA Mission

Answer: B

Sol: The correct answer is (b) IndiaAI Mission

- Intellipaath partnered with the IndiaAI Mission under MeitY to launch ‘YUVAi for ALL’.
- The programme aims to expand AI literacy nationwide.
- The initiative supports the government’s goal of building an AI-ready workforce.

Information Booster:

- Ministry involved: MeitY (Ministry of Electronics & IT).
- Target: Empower 10 million citizens with AI skills by January 2026.
- Training includes free AI & Generative AI courses.
- Certificates issued are government-recognized.
- Focus groups: Students, educators, and working professionals.

Q.90 What is the SI Unit of temperature?

- A. Degree Fahrenheit
- B. Candela
- C. Kelvin
- D. Degree Celsius

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is **(C) Kelvin**

Explanation:

- **Kelvin (K)** is the **SI unit of temperature**.
- It is based on the absolute thermodynamic scale.
- 0 K represents **absolute zero**, the lowest possible temperature.

Information Booster:

- Kelvin scale was named after **Lord Kelvin**.
- Celsius and Fahrenheit are **non-SI temperature scales**.
- 0°C = 273.15 K.
- Kelvin is used widely in **science and thermodynamics**.
- Candela is the SI unit of **luminous intensity**, not temperature.

Q.91 Who introduced the Permanent Settlement in Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa?

- A. Warren Hastings
- B. Lord Cornwallis
- C. Lord Dalhousie
- D. John Shore

Answer: B

Sol: Correct Answer: (B) Lord Cornwallis

Explanation:

- Lord Cornwallis introduced the Permanent Settlement in Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa in 1793.
- The system fixed land revenue permanently, with zamindars responsible for collecting taxes from peasants. This led to the creation of a landed aristocracy but also put pressure on peasants.
- The Permanent Settlement aimed to increase revenue for the British, but it led to widespread indebtedness among peasants and the decline of agricultural productivity.

Information Booster:

- The Permanent Settlement was intended to stabilize the revenue system and provide a steady income for the British East India Company.
- The zamindars, who were granted control over land, were expected to pay fixed taxes, but many were unable to do so, leading to widespread economic distress.
- This system ultimately contributed to the weakening of agrarian economy and increased discontent among the Indian population.

Additional Information (Other Options):

Option (A) Warren Hastings: Warren Hastings was involved in early administrative reforms but did not introduce the Permanent Settlement.

Option (C) Lord Dalhousie: Lord Dalhousie was responsible for annexations and other reforms, but not the Permanent Settlement.

Option (D) John Shore: John Shore was the Governor-General, but he did not implement the Permanent Settlement.

Q.92 Which of the following schools of temple architecture was developed by the Chandela dynasty?

- A. Solanki
- B. Dravidian
- C. Khajuraho
- D. Odisha

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is (c) *Khajuraho*.

- The *Khajuraho school of temple architecture* was developed by the **Chandela dynasty** of Central India between the **10th and 12th centuries CE**.
- These temples are known for their **Nagara style** and **intricate erotic sculptures** symbolizing various aspects of life.

Information Booster:

- The Khajuraho Group of Monuments is located in **Madhya Pradesh**.
- It is a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** since **1986**.
- The temples are dedicated to **Hindu and Jain deities**.
- The **Kandariya Mahadev Temple** is one of the finest examples of this style.
- The temples were built mainly under **King Dhanga** and **King Vidyadhara**.

Additional Knowledge:

- **Solanki style** flourished in Gujarat under the Chalukyas of Anhilwara.
- **Dravidian style** is prominent in South India (Tamil Nadu).
- **Odisha style (Kalinga architecture)** developed in eastern India with temples like Lingaraja and Konark.

Q.93 Disinvestment proceeds contribute to non-tax revenue of the government. Which body manages disinvestment in India?

A. NABARD
B. RBI
C. DIPAM
D. SEBI

Answer: C

Sol: Correct Answer: (C) DIPAM
Explanation:

- **DIPAM** stands for the **Department of Investment and Public Asset Management**. It is the government body responsible for managing disinvestment in India. DIPAM is part of the Ministry of Finance and handles the sale of stakes in public sector enterprises, which contributes to the non-tax revenue of the government.

Information Booster:

- **DIPAM** was established to streamline and manage the government’s disinvestment activities, with the primary goal of enhancing the value of public assets.
- The department is also responsible for formulating policies on disinvestment, managing strategic sales, and executing transactions related to the privatization of public sector enterprises.
- **Disinvestment proceeds** are used for fiscal consolidation and funding various government projects.

Other Options:

- **A. NABARD:** National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, primarily focuses on rural development and agricultural finance.
- **B. RBI:** Reserve Bank of India, is the central banking institution, responsible for monetary policy and financial regulation
- **D. SEBI:** Securities and Exchange Board of India, regulates the securities markets in India and protects investor interests.

Q.94 Which of the following is celebrated, every year, in the first week of December in Nagaland?

A. Baneshwar fair
B. Hombill festival
C. Bohaggiyo Bishu tribal festival
D. Bhagoria festival

Answer: B

Sol: The correct answer is (B) Hornbill festival
Explanation:

- The Hornbill Festival is celebrated annually in Nagaland from December 1st to December 10th at the Kisama Heritage Village.
- This festival showcases the cultural heritage, art, music, dance, and cuisine of Nagaland's tribes and is known as the "Festival of Festivals".
- It aims to promote inter-tribal interaction and preserve Nagaland's heritage.

Information Booster:

- The festival is named after the Great Indian Hornbill, a significant bird in Naga culture.
- It was started by the Government of Nagaland in 2000 to encourage tribal interaction and promote the state's cultural heritage.
- It's a major tourist event, attracting many visitors, with the Kisama Heritage Village designed to resemble a typical Naga village.

Additional Knowledge:

Baneshwar fair (Option A)

- The Baneshwar Fair is a large folk fair in the Dungarpur district of Rajasthan held in January or February. It is dedicated to Shiva and Vishnu and is a gathering for Bhil tribal communities.

Bohaggiyo Bishu tribal festival (Option C)

- Bohag Bihu (Rongali Bihu) is one of three important Assamese festivals, celebrated in April in Assam to mark the Assamese New Year and spring. Other Bihu festivals include Magh Bihu (mid-January) and Kati Bihu (mid-October).

Bhagoria festival (Option D)

- The Bhagoria Haat Festival is celebrated by the Bhil tribal people of Madhya Pradesh for three days in March before Holi. It is known as the "Festival of Love".

Q.95 In the Cannizzaro reaction of formaldehyde, the products are:

A. Methanol and formic acid
B. Methanol and sodium formate
C. Methane and carbon dioxide
D. Methyl alcohol and formaldehyde

Answer: B

Sol:

The correct answer is (b).

Explanation: Cannizzaro reaction involves disproportionation of aldehydes lacking α -hydrogens in strong base. For HCHO: $2\text{HCHO} + \text{NaOH} \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{OH} + \text{HCOONa}$. One molecule gets oxidized to sodium formate (salt of formic acid) while the other gets reduced to methanol. This auto-redox reaction occurs because aldehydes without α -hydrogens cannot form enolate ions for aldol condensation. Benzaldehyde also undergoes Cannizzaro reaction.

Additional Information: Option {a} would be if acid were used instead of base. Option {c} represents complete oxidation. Option {d} shows no reaction occurring.

Q.96 The primary force responsible for pulling water upward in tall plants is ____.

- A. transpiration
- B. osmosis
- C. guttation
- D. root pressure

Answer: A

Sol: Correct Answer: (A) transpiration

Explanation:

- In tall plants, the **main force** that pulls water upward from roots to leaves is **transpiration pull**.
- Water evaporates from stomata $\rightarrow$ creates a suction force that pulls water up through the xylem.
- This upward movement is called the **transpiration pull mechanism**.

Information Booster:

- Transpiration pull can lift water **over 100 meters** in tall trees.
- Xylem tissue conducts water and minerals upward.
- Cohesion and adhesion of water molecules support continuous water column.
- Root pressure works only in short plants; not enough for tall trees.
- Transpiration depends on temperature, humidity and wind speed.

Additional Knowledge:

- Osmosis – Helps absorb water into root cells, but not for long-distance upward pull.
- Guttation – Occurs at leaf tips in small plants during night.
- Root pressure – Produces limited force; insufficient for tall plants.

Q.97 Which country ranked fourth in the Human Development Report 2025?

- A. Lebanon
- B. Zimbabwe
- C. Sierra Leone
- D. Denmark

Answer: D

Sol: Correct Answer: D: Denmark

Explanation:

- According to the Human Development Report 2025 released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), **Denmark** ranked fourth globally in the Human Development Index (HDI) for the year 2023.

Information Booster:

- **HDI Value:** Denmark achieved an HDI score of 0.962, placing it among the countries with "very high human development."
- **Key Factors Contributing to Denmark's High HDI:**
 - **Life Expectancy:** Denmark boasts a high life expectancy, reflecting the effectiveness of its healthcare system.
 - **Education:** The country has a robust education system, with high enrollment rates and quality of education.
 - **Income Levels:** Denmark maintains a high standard of living, supported by a strong economy and equitable income distribution.
 - **Social Welfare:** Progressive policies on social welfare, environmental sustainability, and gender equality contribute to its high HDI ranking.

Q.98 The catalyst used in the contact process for sulfuric acid manufacture is:

- A. Nickel
- B. Vanadium pentoxide
- C. Iron
- D. Platinum

Answer: B

Sol:

The correct answer is (b).

Explanation: The contact process: $2\text{SO}_2 + \text{O}_2 \rightleftharpoons 2\text{SO}_3$ uses V_2O_5 (vanadium pentoxide) as catalyst. This heterogeneous catalyst provides an alternative pathway with lower activation energy. V_2O_5 is preferred over Pt because it is cheaper and less susceptible to poisoning. The process operates at 400-450°C and 1-2 atm pressure. SO_3 produced is absorbed in 98% H_2SO_4 to form oleum, which is then diluted.

Additional Information: Option {a} Nickel is used in hydrogenation. Option {c} Iron is used in Haber process. Option {d} Platinum was used earlier but replaced due to poisoning issues.

Q.99 The Coromandel plain is located in the _____ direction of India.

- A. Southern
- B. Eastern
- C. Western
- D. Northern

Answer: A

Sol: Correct Answer: (a) Southern

Explanation:

- The **Coromandel Plain** lies along the **southeastern part of India**, mainly covering **Tamil Nadu** and parts of **Andhra Pradesh**.
- Although it is on the eastern coast, its **overall geographical position** falls in the **southern region of India**.

Information Booster:

- Major cities: **Chennai, Puducherry, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam**.
- Known for **retreating monsoon rainfall** (October–December).
- Important river deltas: **Cauvery, Palar**, and **Vellar**.
- Famous for **rice cultivation, fishing**, and **coastal trade**.

Q.100 What is the capital of Uttar Pradesh?

- A. Lucknow
- B. Agra
- C. Patna
- D. Varanasi

Answer: A

Sol: Correct Option: (A) Lucknow

Explanation:

- **Lucknow** is the **capital of Uttar Pradesh**, the most populous state in India.
- It serves as the **administrative and political center** of the state.
- The city is known for its **rich cultural heritage, nawabi architecture, Urdu poetry**, and **delicious cuisine**.

Information Booster:

- **Located on:** The banks of the **Gomti River**
- Known for:

1. **Bara Imambara**

2. **Rumi Darwaza**

3. **Chikan embroidery**

4. **Tehzeeb (etiquette) and hospitality**

- It also hosts the **Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Sabha (Legislative Assembly)** and **Uttar Pradesh High Court bench**.

Additional Information :

- **Agra:**
 - Known for the **Taj Mahal**, not the capital.
- **Patna:**
 - Capital of **Bihar**, not Uttar Pradesh.
- **Varanasi:**
 - A spiritual and cultural hub on the Ganga River, but **not the administrative capital**.

