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T.B.C. : STS-K-TPT
Serial No.:

Test Booklet Series

B

TEST BOOKLET

Subject : Test 3 – Indian Geography
Answer Key

Time Allowed : Two Hours **Maximum Marks : 200**

INSTRUCTIONS

1.IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE EXAMINATION, YOU SHOULD CHECK THAT THIS TEST BOOKLET DOES NOT HAVE ANY UNPRINTED OR TORN OR MISSING PAGES OR ITEMS, ETC. IF SO, GOT IT REPLACED BY A COMPLETE TEST BOOKLET.

2. Please note that it is the candidate's responsibility to encode and fill in the Roll Number and Test Booklet Series A, B, C or D carefully and without any omission or discrepancy at the appropriate places in the OMR Answer Sheet. Any omission/discrepancy will render the Answer Sheet liable for rejection.

3. You have to enter your Roll Number on the Test Booklet in the Box provided alongside. DO NOT write anything else on the Test Booklet.

4. This Test Booklet contains 100/80 items (questions). Each item is printed in English. Each item comprises of four responses (answers). You will select the response which you want to mark on the Answer Sheet. In case you feel that there is more than one correct response, mark the response which you consider the best. In any case, choose ONLY ONE response for each item.

5. You have to mark all your responses ONLY on the separate Answer Sheet provided. See directions in the Answer Sheet.

6. All items carry equal marks

7. Before you proceed to mark in the Answer Sheet the response to various items in the Test Booklet, you have to fill in some particulars in the Answer Sheet as per instructions sent to you with your Admission Certificate.

8. After you have completed filling in all your responses on the Answer Sheet and the examination has concluded, you should hand over to the Invigilator only the Answer Sheet. You are permitted to take away with you the Test Booklet.

9. Sheets for rough work are appended in the Test Booklet at the end.

10. **Penalty for wrong answers:**

THERE WILL BE PENALTY FOR WRONG ANSWERS MARKED BY A CANDIDATE IN THE OBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTION PAPERS

(i) There are four alternatives for the answer to every question. For each question for which a wrong answer has been given by the candidate, **one third** if the marks assigned to that question will be deducted as penalty.

(ii) If a candidate gives more than one answer, it will be treated as a wrong answer even if one of the given answers happens to be correct and there will be same penalty as above to that question.

(iii) If a question is left blank, i.e., no answer is given by the candidate, there will be no penalty for that question.

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1. With reference to important latitudinal and longitudinal lines passing through India, consider the following statements:

1. The meridian passing very close to Delhi also passes very close to Bengaluru.
2. The latitude that passes through Rajasthan also passes through Arunachal Pradesh.
3. The Indian Standard Time (IST) meridian intersects the Tropic of Cancer in Chhattisgarh.
4. The Indian Standard Time meridian passes through five Indian States.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 1, 3 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

✅ **Correct Answer: (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4**

🔎 **Brief Explanation**

Statement 1 – Correct
Delhi (~77°13′E) and Bengaluru (~77°35′E) lie very close to the same meridian (~77°E).

Statement 2 – Correct
The latitude that passes through Rajasthan also passes through Arunachal Pradesh.

Statement 3 – Correct
The IST meridian (82°30′E) intersects the Tropic of Cancer (23°30′N) in **Chhattisgarh**.

Statement 4 – Correct
The IST meridian passes through **Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Andhra Pradesh** (5 States).

2. **With reference to the physiographic divisions of India, consider the following statement:**
The Himalayan mountain system together with its eastern extension (the Purvanchal ranges) extends across more than eight States and two Union Territories of India.
Which of the following is the **most appropriate assessment** of the above statement?
a) It is correct, as the Himalayan–Purvanchal system *eight States and two Union Territories of India*
b) It is incorrect, as the Purvanchal ranges are confined to only two States
c) It is incorrect, as the Himalayan system does not extend into Union Territories
d) It is incorrect, as several regions included in the count are part of the Peninsular Plateau

✅ **Correct Answer: (a)**

🧠 **Brief Answer Explanation**

- The **Himalayan system** (including Trans-Himalaya, Greater, Lesser and Shiwalik ranges) extends across:
  - **Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh (UTs)**
  - Multiple northern and northeastern States.
- The **Purvanchal ranges** form the **eastern extension of the Himalayas**, covering parts of the Northeast.
- Collectively, the system spans **well over eight States and two Union Territories**, even when:
  - Excluding plateau regions like **Meghalaya**
  - Excluding isolated hills such as those in **Tripura**

3. Which of the following rivers have their origin in Western Ghats?
1.Tamraparni
2. Mahanadi
3. Tapi
4. Kaveri

Select the correct answer from the code given below:
a) 1 and 4 only
b) 1 and 3 only
c) 2 and 4 only
d) 4 only

✅ **Answer Key**
Correct Answer: (a) 1 and 4 only

🌊 **Explanation:**

- **Tamraparni (1)** – Originates in the **Agasthyamalai hills** of the **Western Ghats** in Tamil Nadu. ✔
- **Mahanadi (2)** – Originates in the **Sihawa hills** of Chhattisgarh, **not** the Western Ghats. ❌
- **Tapi (3)** – Rises in the **Satpura range**, not in the Western Ghats. ❌
- **Kaveri (4)** – Originates at **Talakaveri** in the **Brahmagiri hills** of the Western Ghats. ✔

4. **Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the code given below:**

List I (Glacier)	List II (River Originating)
A. Gangotri Glacier	1. Alaknanda
B. Zemu Glacier	2. Teesta
C. Siachen Glacier	3. Indus
D. Satopanth Glacier	4. Bhagirathi

Code:

Option	A	B	C	D
a)	4	2	3	1
b)	1	2	3	4
c)	4	1	2	3
d)	3	2	4	1

✅ **Correct Answer: (a)**

🧠 **Brief Explanation (Exam-oriented):**

- **Gangotri Glacier → Bhagirathi (A-4)**
- **Zemu Glacier → Teesta (B-2)**
- **Siachen Glacier → Indus (C-3)**
- **Satopanth Glacier → Alaknanda (D-1)**

5. The Western Ghats are characterised by **steep-sided, terraced, flat-topped hills and escarpments**, presenting a **mesa-like, stepped topography** facing the Arabian Sea coast, often described as a **"Landing Stair" appearance**. This distinctive landform is primarily due to:
a) Horizontally bedded basaltic lava flows
b) Intense folding and faulting
c) Differential weathering of sedimentary rocks
d) Glacial planation and later fluvial incision during the Pleistocene period

✅ **Answer Key**
Correct Answer: (a) Horizontally bedded basaltic lava flows
Brief Explanation:
The step-like, mesa-shaped "Landing Stair" topography of the Western Ghats results from **successive horizontal basaltic lava flows of the Deccan Traps**, later sculpted by erosion. Folding, sedimentary weathering, or glacial processes do not account for this volcanic, terraced landscape.

6. With reference to the hill ranges and peaks of Peninsular India, consider the following statements:

1. The **Western Ghats** are locally referred to as **Sahyadri** in parts of Karnataka.
2. **Anaimudi** is the highest peak of the **Western Ghats**, while **Mahendragiri** is the highest peak of the **Eastern Ghats**.
3. The **Shevroy** and **Javadi** Hills form part of the **Eastern Ghats** system.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) **One statement only**
b) **Two statements only**
c) **All three statements**
d) **None of the statements**

✅ **Correct Answer: (c) All three statements**

🧠 **Brief Explanation (Exam-oriented):**

- **Statement 1 – Correct** ✔
  The Western Ghats are traditionally known as **Sahyadri** in Maharashtra and Karnataka.
- **Statement 2 – Correct** ✔
  Anaimudi (2,695 m) is the highest peak of the Western Ghats, and **Mahendragiri** is the highest peak of the Eastern Ghats.
- **Statement 3 – Correct** ✔
  The **Shevroy** and **Javadi Hills** are fragmented hill ranges forming part of the **Eastern Ghats** in Tamil Nadu.

7. With reference to the "Indian coast", consider the following statements:

1. The east coast of our country is a high rocky retreating coast.
2. The west coast is dominated by erosional forms
3. The west coast of India is a low sedimentary coast.
4. The east coast dominated by depositional forms

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 and 3 only
b) 1, 2 and 3 only
c) 2 and 4 only
d) All of the above

✅ **Answer Key**
Correct Answer: (c) 2 and 4 only

🧠 **Brief Explanation (Geography-standard):**

- **Statement 1 – Incorrect** ❌
  The **east coast of India** is **not high and rocky**; it is a **low, depositional coast** with extensive deltas.

- **Statement 2 – Correct** ✔
  The **west coast** is relatively **steep and rocky**, dominated by **erosional landforms** such as cliffs, headlands, and narrow beaches.
- **Statement 3 – Incorrect** ❌
  The **west coast** is **not a low sedimentary coast**; that description fits the east coast.
- **Statement 4 – Correct** ✔
  The **east coast** is dominated by **depositional features** like deltas of the Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, and Cauvery.

8. Consider the following statements regarding the Meghalaya Plateau:

1. It receives maximum rainfall from the southwest monsoon and as a result, it has permanent vegetation cover.
2. It is rich in mineral resources like coal, iron ore, sillimanite, limestone, and uranium.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

✅ **Answer Key**
Correct Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2

🧠 **Brief Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 – Correct** ✔
  The **Meghalaya Plateau**, especially the **southern slopes (Khasi–Jaintia Hills)**, receives **very heavy rainfall from the Southwest Monsoon** due to orographic uplift (e.g., Cherrapunji–Mawsynram region), supporting **dense and permanent vegetation cover**.
- **Statement 2 – Correct** ✔
  The plateau is **rich in mineral resources**, notably **coal and limestone** (widely exploited), along with deposits of **iron ore, sillimanite, and uranium** (some in exploratory or limited stages).

Hence, **both statements are correct → Option (c)**.

9. Consider the following statements:

1. Himalayan region is prone to high magnitude earthquake whereas peninsular India is free from earthquakes.
2. In India, geographic evidence is available for vulcanicity in the past, but at present there is no active volcano in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

✅ **Answer Key**
Correct Answer: (d) Neither 1 nor 2

🧠 **Brief Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 – Incorrect** ❌
  While the **Himalayan region** is indeed prone to **high-magnitude earthquakes**, **Peninsular India is not earthquake-free**. Regions like **Koyna**, **Latur**, and parts of **Gujarat** have experienced significant seismic activity.
- **Statement 2 – Incorrect** ❌
  India does have an **active volcano** — **Barren Island** in the **Andaman & Nicobar Islands**, which has erupted in recent decades.

Hence, **neither statement is correct → Option (d)**.

10. Rivers generally form meanders in its mature stage but Jhelum, flowing through the Kashmir valley, forms meanders in its youth stage. Which of the following can be the reason for this?

a) Presence hard surface rocks
b) Greater carrying capacity
c) Existence of lacustrine deposits
d) Steep slope of the Himalayas

✅ **Answer Key**
Correct Answer: (c) Existence of lacustrine deposits

🧠 **Brief Explanation:**

- The **Jhelum River**, though in its youthful stage, flows through the **Kashmir Valley**, which was once occupied by a **large ancient lake**.
- The valley floor consists of **soft, fine lacustrine (lake) deposits**, offering **low resistance to lateral erosion**.
- This allows the river to **meander even in its upper (youthful) course**, which is otherwise uncommon for Himalayan rivers.

11. With reference to India's geographical boundaries and latitudinal extent, consider the following statements:

1. **Bangladesh shares the longest land boundary with India** among all neighbouring countries.
2. India has **nine coastal states**, and **Gujarat has the longest coastline** among them.
3. The **Tropic of Cancer passes through seven Indian states**.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

a) **1 and 2 only**
b) **3 only**
c) **2 and 3 only**
d) **1, 2 and 3**

✅ **Correct Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only**

🧠 **Brief Explanation (Fact-checked):**

- **Statement 1 – Correct** ✔
  India's **longest international land boundary** is with **Bangladesh** (≈4,096 km).
- **Statement 2 – Correct** ✔
  India has **9 coastal states** (excluding UTs), and **Gujarat** has the **longest coastline**.
- **Statement 3 – Incorrect** ❌
  The **Tropic of Cancer passes through 8 states**, not 7:
  Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Tripura, Mizoram.

12. The Nilgiris along the west coast are relatively tectonically stable as compared to the Himalayas; but, still, debris avalanches and landslides occur in these hills. Why?

1. Many slopes are steeper with almost vertical cliffs and escarpments in the Western Ghats and Nilgiris.
2. Mechanical weathering due to temperature changes and ranges is pronounced in Nilgiris.
3. Nilgiris is mostly made up of sedimentary rocks and unconsolidated and semi consolidated deposits.
4. Nilgiris receive heavy amount of rainfall over short periods.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

✅ **Answer Key**
Correct Answer: (d) 1 and 4 only

🧠 **Brief Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 – Correct** ✔
  The **Western Ghats and Nilgiris** have **steep slopes, escarpments, and near-vertical cliffs**, which increase slope instability and make the region prone to landslides.
- **Statement 2 – Incorrect** ❌
  Mechanical weathering due to temperature variation is not pronounced in the Nilgiris, as the climate is relatively **equable and humid**; **chemical weathering** dominates instead.
- **Statement 3 – Incorrect** ❌
  The Nilgiris are primarily composed of **hard crystalline rocks (charnockites and gneisses)**, not sedimentary or unconsolidated deposits.
- **Statement 4 – Correct** ✔
  The region receives **very heavy rainfall over short durations**, which saturates slopes and triggers debris avalanches and landslides.

13. Match the following:

Rivers	Origin
A. Jhelum	1. Raksas Lake
B. Ravi	2. Bokhar Chu Glacier
C. Indus	3. West of Rohtang Pass (Kullu hills)
D. Sutlej	4. Verinag Spring

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

	A	B	C	D
(a)	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**
(b)	4	3	1	2
(c)	1	2	4	3
(d)	1	3	4	2

Correct Answer : **(a) 4 3 2 1**

14. They are flanked by Nepal Himalayas in the west and Bhutan Himalayas in the east and known for its fast-flowing rivers such as Tista, and deep valleys . The Himalayan region in this quotation is:

(a) Himachal and Uttarakhand Himalayas
(b) Darjeeling and Sikkim Himalayas
(c) Arunachal Himalayas
(d) Kashmir or Northwestern Himalayas

✅ **Answer Key**

Correct Answer: (b) Darjeeling and Sikkim Himalayas

15. Which of the following statements regarding Himalayan ranges and their locations are correct?

1. Kangchenjunga is located at the border of India and Nepal in the middle Himalayas.
2. Nanda Devi is situated in the Garhwal Himalaya.
3. Kamet is located in the Zaskar Mountain Range.
4. Rimo Muztagh is located in the Karakoram Range.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

✅ **Answer Key (d) 2 and 4 only**

Let's verify each statement carefully:

1. **Kangchenjunga**
   - ✔ Located on the **India–Nepal border**
   - ❌ It lies in the **Great Himalayas (Himadri)**, **not** in the *Middle Himalayas (Himachal)*
     → **Statement 1 is incorrect**
2. **Nanda Devi**
   - ✔ Located in the **Garhwal Himalaya** (Uttarakhand)
     → **Statement 2 is correct**
3. **Kamet**
   - ❌ Kamet is part of the **Garhwal Himalaya**, **not** the Zaskar Range
     → **Statement 3 is incorrect**
4. **Rimo Muztagh**
   - ✔ Located in the **Karakoram Range**
     → **Statement 4 is correct**

16. Consider the following statements regarding Ganga River System:

1. It consists of perennial rivers only.
2. It consists of rivers originating in the Himalayas only.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

✅ **Answer Key**

Correct Answer: (d) Neither 1 nor 2

🔍 **Brief Explanation**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Ganga River System includes **both perennial Himalayan rivers** (e.g., Bhagirathi, Alaknanda) **and non-perennial peninsular rivers** (e.g., Son, Punpun), which are rain-fed.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Not all rivers in the Ganga system originate in the Himalayas. Several important tributaries originate from the **Peninsular Plateau**.

👉 Hence, **neither statement is correct**.

17. With reference to the **Vindhya and Satpura ranges** of Peninsular India, consider the following statements:

1. The Vindhya Range forms an almost continuous east–west chain extending from western India up to the eastern limits near Bihar.
2. The Satpura Range is a tectonic landform associated with faulting and represents an uplifted **horst** structure.
3. The Vindhya Range marks the southern margin of the Malwa Plateau.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

✅ **Answer Key: (b) 2 and 3 only**

Brief Justification:

- **Statement 1 – Incorrect:** The Vindhyas do not form a continuous range up to Bihar; they taper off and are interrupted by river valleys.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** The Satpuras are classic **horst mountains**, formed due to tectonic faulting.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:** The Vindhyas define the **southern edge of the Malwa Plateau**.

18. With reference to the **Arunachal Himalayas**, consider the following statements:

1. The mountain ranges of Arunachal Pradesh are deeply dissected by fast-flowing rivers that cut **deep gorges while flowing from south to north**.
2. Major rivers draining this region include the **Kameng, Subansiri, Dihang, Dibang, and Lohit**.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

✅ **Answer Key: (b) 2 only**
Brief Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The rivers of the Arunachal Himalayas flow **from north to south** (from the Tibetan Plateau towards the Brahmaputra plains), not south to north, though they do form deep gorges.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Kameng, Subansiri, Dihang (Siang), Dibang, and Lohit are major rivers of the Arunachal Himalayas.

19. Consider the following description of a Himalayan mountain pass:

- It is located on the **India–China border** and holds high **strategic importance**.
- The pass was historically a part of the **ancient Silk Route**.
- It connects the Indian state of **Sikkim** with **Tibet Autonomous Region of China**.
- The pass was **reopened in 2006** after being closed following the **1962 Indo-China War**.
- It lies on an important route associated with **Kailash–Mansarovar travel**.

Which of the following passes is being described above?
a) Lipu Lekh Pass
b) Nathu La Pass
c) Shipki La Pass
d) Niti Pass

✅ **Correct Answer: (b) Nathu La Pass**
🧠 **Brief Answer Explanation**

- **Nathu La Pass** lies in **Sikkim** on the India–China (Tibet) border.
- It was a key segment of the **ancient Silk Route** facilitating trade between India and Tibet.
- The pass remained closed after the **1962 war** and was **reopened in 2006** for border trade.
- It is also used as one of the routes for **Kailash–Mansarovar Yatra**.

20. Match List I and List II and select the correct answer using the code given below the Lists

Reserve	Location
A. Nanda Devi	1. Orissa
B. Sundarbans	2. Madhya Pradesh
C. Simlipal	3. Uttarkhand
D. Pachmarhi	4. West Bengal

Code:

	A	B	C	D
a)	2	1	4	3
b)	2	4	1	3
c)	3	4	1	2
d)	3	1	4	2

✅ **Correct Answer: (c) A-3, B-4, C-1, D-2**
Brief Answer Explanation

- **Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve → Uttarakhand (A-3)**
  Located in the Garhwal Himalayas of Uttarakhand.
- **Sundarbans Biosphere Reserve → West Bengal (B-4)**
  Situated in the Ganga–Brahmaputra delta region of West Bengal.
- **Simlipal Biosphere Reserve → Odisha (C-1)**
  Located in the Mayurbhanj district of Odisha, part of the Eastern Ghats.
- **Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve → Madhya Pradesh (D-2)**
  Found in the Satpura range of Madhya Pradesh.

Hence, the correct matching is **A-3, B-4, C-1, D-2**, corresponding to **option (c)**.

21. With reference to the physiographic divisions of India, consider the following plateaus:

1. Chota Nagpur Plateau
2. Malwa Plateau
3. Karbi Anglong Plateau

Which of the above plateaus **do not form part of the Deccan Plateau**?
Select the correct answer using the code given below:
a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2 and 3 only

c) 1 and 3 only
d) 1, 2 and 3

✅ **Correct Answer: (d) 1, 2 and 3**

🧠 **Brief Answer Explanation (UPSC-ready)**

- The **Deccan Plateau** lies **south of the Narmada River**.
- **Chota Nagpur** and **Malwa Plateaus** belong to the **Central Highlands**.
- **Karbi Anglong Plateau** is a **detached extension of the Peninsular Plateau in Northeast India**, not the Deccan.

Therefore, **none of the listed plateaus are part of the Deccan Plateau**.

22. Evaluate the following statements regarding the coastal geography of India:

1. Kanyakumari serves as the junction point where the Eastern Coastal Plains and the Western Coastal Plains converge.
2. Throughout their entire length, the Eastern Coastal Plains are consistently wider than the Western Coastal Plains.

Which of the following is correct?

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

Answer: a) 1 only

The Explanation

- **Statement 1 is Correct:** Kanyakumari, located at the southernmost tip of the Indian mainland, is indeed the meeting point for the **Arabian Sea** (West), the **Bay of Bengal** (East), and the **Indian Ocean** (South). Geographically, it is where the two coastal strips converge.
- **Statement 2 is Incorrect:** While it is a general geographical rule that the **Eastern Coastal Plains** are broader (due to large river deltas like the Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, and Kaveri), the word **"always"** makes the statement false. There are specific stretches where the Western Coastal Plains can be wider than parts of the Eastern plains, or where the Eastern plains narrow significantly. In geography MCQs, absolute terms like "always" or "never" are often a red flag!

23. Regarding the **'Syntaxial Bending of the Himalayas,'** which of the following statements is **incorrect**?

a) This geological phenomenon is found exclusively in Northeast India.
b) It is defined by a sudden, sharp southward turn of the mountain ranges.
c) One such bend is located near the Namcha Barua peak.
d) This structural bend plays a role in the high levels of rainfall seen in the Northeast."

Answer: a) It occurs only in the North East of India.

The Explanation

This question asks you to identify the **false** statement.

- **Why 'a' is incorrect:** The Himalayas actually have **two** syntaxial bends (hairpin turns), not just one. While there is an eastern bend in the Northeast (near Namcha Barua), there is a western syntaxial bend in the **Northwest** (near Nanga Parbat) where the mountains turn sharply toward Pakistan.
- **Why the others are correct:**
  - **(b) & (c):** The Himalayas "bend" sharply southward at both ends of the range. The eastern bend occurs exactly near **Namcha Barua**, where the mountains pivot.
  - **(d):** This bend acts as a physical barrier that traps moisture-laden monsoon winds, forcing them to rise and cool (orographic lift), which results in the heavy rainfall characteristic of Northeast India.

24. With reference to the physiographic divisions of India, consider the following description:

"This region lies to the north-west of the Aravalli Range and is characterised by an undulating surface with sand dunes and arid landforms."

The description given above best refers to which one of the following regions?

a) Northern and North-Eastern Mountains
b) Peninsular Plateau
c) Northern Plains
d) Great Indian Desert

✅ **Correct Answer: (d) Great Indian Desert**

Brief Answer Explanation

- The **Great Indian Desert (Thar Desert)** lies **north-west of the Aravalli Hills**, primarily in **Rajasthan**.
- It is characterised by:
  - **Undulating topography**
  - **Sand dunes**, barren plains, and arid landforms
- The **Aravalli Range acts as a climatic barrier**, preventing adequate monsoon rainfall, contributing to desert conditions.

Why other options are incorrect:

- **Northern & North-Eastern Mountains** → Himalayan region, not NW of Aravallis
- **Peninsular Plateau** → Lies south of the Northern Plains
- **Northern Plains** → Flat alluvial region, not undulating or arid

25. Which of the following river drain in Meghalaya

a) Simsang River or Someshwari River
b) Lohit River
c) Dibang River
d) Subansri River

Answer: a) Simsang River or Someshwari River

The Explanation

The **Simsang River** (known as the **Someshwari** after it enters Bangladesh) is one of the major rivers of the **Garo Hills** in Meghalaya. It divides the Tura range into two parts and is famous for the Siju Caves located along its banks.

Why the other options are incorrect:

- **b) Lohit River:** This is a major tributary of the Brahmaputra that flows through **Arunachal Pradesh** and **Assam**.
- **c) Dibang River:** This is another key tributary of the Brahmaputra, primarily located in the Mishmi Hills of **Arunachal Pradesh**.
- **d) Subansiri River:** Known as the "Gold River," it is the largest tributary of the Brahmaputra, originating in Tibet and flowing through **Arunachal Pradesh** and **Assam**.

26. Which of the following states share border with Nepal?

1. Uttarakhand
2. Sikkim
3. Bihar
4. West Bengal

Select the answer using the code given below:

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

Answer : d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

27. **Match the physiographic feature with its location and characteristic**

Physiographic Feature	**Typical Location**	**Key Characteristic**
A. Dun	1. Western Himalayas	a. Narrow marshy tracts with dense forests
B. Duars	2. Brahmaputra valley foothills	b. Longitudinal valleys between Lesser and Shiwalik Himalayas
C. Karewas	3. Kashmir Valley	c. Elevated lacustrine deposits suitable for saffron cultivation
D. Kayals	4. Kerala coast	d. Brackish water lagoons parallel to the coastline

Which of the following is the correct matching?

Option	**A**	**B**	**C**	**D**
a)	1-b	2-a	3-c	4-d
b)	2-b	1-a	4-c	3-d
c)	1-a	2-b	3-d	4-c
d)	1-b	2-d	3-a	4-c

✅ **Correct Answer: (a)**

Brief Answer Explanation

- **Dun** → Found mainly in the **Western Himalayas**, these are **longitudinal valleys** lying between the Shiwalik and Lesser Himalayas (e.g., Dehradun).

- **Duars** → Occur in the **foothills of the Eastern Himalayas (Brahmaputra region)**; they are **marshy, forested tracts**.
- **Karewas** → Found in the **Kashmir Valley**; they are **elevated lacustrine (lake-deposited) terraces**, famous for saffron cultivation.
- **Kayals** → Located along the **Kerala coast**; these are **brackish water lagoons/backwaters** running parallel to the coast.

28. Mangrove ecosystems in India are ecologically significant for coastal protection, biodiversity conservation, and climate regulation. In this context, consider the following statements:

1. The Sundarbans in West Bengal constitute the world's largest contiguous mangrove forest and provide habitat to the Royal Bengal Tiger.
2. The Pichavaram mangroves of Tamil Nadu are characterised by an intricate network of canals and specialised root systems that support rich aquatic biodiversity.
3. The Bhitarkanika mangroves in Odisha are globally recognised for their high population density of saltwater crocodiles.
4. Mangrove vegetation in India grows equally well in freshwater ecosystems without any saline influence.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

✅ **Correct Answer: (a) 1, 2 and 3 only**

Brief Answer Explanation

- **Statement 1 – Correct:** The Sundarbans are the largest contiguous mangrove forest in the world and are a unique tiger habitat.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** Pichavaram mangroves are known for their complex canal system and specialised mangrove root adaptations supporting biodiversity.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:** Bhitarkanika hosts one of the highest concentrations of saltwater crocodiles globally.
- **Statement 4 – Incorrect:** Mangroves are *halophytic* plants that require saline or brackish water conditions; they do not thrive in purely freshwater environments.

29. The Tropic of Cancer (23½° North latitude) is an important latitudinal line that influences India's climate and seasonal solar position. In this context, consider the following statements:

1. The Tropic of Cancer passes through Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Jharkhand, but does not pass through Rajasthan and West Bengal.
2. On the **June Solstice**, the Sun is vertically overhead at the Tropic of Cancer at noon, resulting in the longest day in the Northern Hemisphere.
3. Indian cities such as **Bhopal, Ranchi, and Udaipur** lie very close to the Tropic of Cancer.
4. Regions traversed by the Tropic of Cancer in India experience a transition from **tropical to sub-tropical climatic conditions**, influencing agriculture and biodiversity.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 2 and 4 only
(b) 1, 2 and 3 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 3 and 4 only

✅ **Correct Answer: (c) 2, 3 and 4 only**

Brief Answer Explanation

- **Statement 1 – Incorrect:** The Tropic of Cancer *does* pass through both **Rajasthan and West Bengal**, along with six other states.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** On the June Solstice (around June 21), the Sun is overhead at the Tropic of Cancer, producing the longest day in the Northern Hemisphere.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:** Cities like **Bhopal, Ranchi, and Udaipur** lie very close to the Tropic of Cancer, though not exactly on it.
- **Statement 4 – Correct:** The Tropic of Cancer marks a climatic transition zone in India, influencing vegetation types, cropping patterns, and biodiversity.

30. The river systems of India exhibit marked contrasts based on their geological origin and hydrological characteristics. In this context, consider the following statements distinguishing **Peninsular Rivers** from **Himalayan Rivers**:

1. Himalayan rivers are largely **antecedent**, maintaining their courses while cutting across rising mountain ranges, whereas most Peninsular rivers follow structural lines of weakness.
2. Peninsular rivers are geologically older, with mature drainage patterns and well-graded valleys, while Himalayan rivers are relatively youthful and actively engaged in vertical erosion.
3. Peninsular rivers generally do not form deltas, whereas Himalayan rivers invariably form large deltas at their mouths.
4. Himalayan rivers derive their flow from both rainfall and glaciers, making them perennial, while most Peninsular rivers are seasonal and primarily dependent on monsoon rainfall.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1, 2 and 4 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

✅ **Correct Answer: (b) 1, 2 and 4 only**

Brief Answer Explanation

- **Statement 1 – Correct:** Himalayan rivers like the Indus and the Ganga are antecedent, while Peninsular rivers commonly follow fault lines and rift valleys.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** Peninsular rivers are ancient and show mature features, whereas Himalayan rivers are youthful and actively eroding.
- **Statement 3 – Incorrect:** Several Peninsular rivers (e.g., Godavari, Krishna, Mahanadi) form well-developed deltas; only west-flowing Peninsular rivers typically do not.
- **Statement 4 – Correct:** Himalayan rivers are perennial due to combined glacial and monsoonal input, while most Peninsular rivers are seasonal.

31. Evaluate the following statements concerning the **Tons River**, a major Himalayan waterway:

1. It is recognized as the **largest and longest tributary of the Yamuna**, contributing the most significant volume of water to it.
2. Its source is located at the **Bandarpunch Glacier** in the state of Uttarakhand.
3. Upon meeting the Yamuna near **Kalsi**, the Tons is actually **more voluminous** (carries more water) than the Yamuna itself.
4. The river journeys through **Rajasthan** and Uttar Pradesh before merging with the main Yamuna stream.

Which of the statements provided above are **correct**?
(A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 1, 2, and 3 only
(C) 1, 3, and 4 only
(D) 2, 3, and 4 only"

Answer Key: (B) 1, 2, and 3 only
Explanation
The Tons River is a powerhouse of the Himalayan drainage system, often overshadowing the Yamuna in size before they actually meet.

- **Statement 1 is Correct:** The Tons is indeed the largest tributary of the Yamuna. Its basin covers a significant portion of the Garhwal region.
- **Statement 2 is Correct:** It originates from the **Bandarpunch Glacier** (specifically the Ruinsara valley) at an elevation of approximately $3,900$ meters in Uttarakhand.
- **Statement 3 is Correct:** This is a unique geographical fact. At their confluence in **Kalsi** (Dehradun), the Tons carries nearly **double the volume of water** compared to the Yamuna. In hydrological terms, the "tributary" is actually larger than the "main" river at the point of meeting.
- **Statement 4 is Incorrect:** This is geographically impossible. The Tons flows through the mountainous regions of **Uttarakhand** and **Himachal Pradesh**. It never touches **Rajasthan**, which is far to the southwest and located in a completely different drainage basin.

32. Analyze the following statements regarding various **drainage patterns** found in physical geography:

1. A **Dendritic** pattern is characterized by a tree-like branching network and typically develops in areas where the underlying rock structure is uniform or homogeneous.
2. A **Radial** pattern occurs when streams diverge from a central high point and flow outward in all directions, with the **Amarkantak Plateau** serving as a prime example.
3. A **Trellis** pattern forms in landscapes with parallel folding or alternating hard and soft rocks, where secondary

tributaries merge with the primary river at **right angles** (90^0).

4. A **Centripetal** pattern is defined by rivers converging from all directions into a central low-lying basin or lake, such as the **Sambhar Lake** in Rajasthan.

Which of the statements listed above are **correct**?

(A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 2, 3, and 4 only
(C) 1, 2, and 4 only
(D) 1, 2, 3, and 4"

Answer Key: (D) 1, 2, 3, and 4

Explanation

All four statements accurately describe the fundamental drainage patterns studied in geomorphology:

- **Statement 1 (Dendritic):** The most common pattern. Like a tree's root system, it develops where the river channel follows the slope of the terrain across rocks of uniform resistance (like vast plains).
- **Statement 2 (Radial):** Think of spokes on a wheel. The **Amarkantak Range** is a classic Indian example where rivers like the **Narmada, Son, and Johilla** originate from the same plateau but flow in different directions.
- **Statement 3 (Trellis):** This occurs in folded sedimentary rocks (like the Appalachians or parts of the Western Ghats). The main river follows the strike, and shorter tributaries join perpendicularly.
- **Statement 4 (Centripetal):** The opposite of radial. It is common in arid or semi-arid depressions. In India, **Sambhar Lake** acts as the central sink for several small seasonal streams.

33. With reference to the **Brahmaputra River**, consider the following statements:

1. The river forms a dramatic **horseshoe-shaped bend around Namcha Barwa**, giving rise to the **Yarlung Tsangpo Grand Canyon**, which is regarded as the **deepest and one of the longest river gorges in the world**.
2. The Brahmaputra is associated with the formation of the **world's largest riverine island** and contributes to the **largest delta system on Earth**.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

✅ **Correct Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2**

Brief Answer Explanation

- **Statement 1 – Correct:** Near **Namcha Barwa**, the Yarlung Tsangpo forms one of the **deepest and longest river canyons** globally due to a sharp syntaxis bend.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** The river forms **Majuli**, the world's largest riverine island, and is part of the **Ganga–Brahmaputra Delta**, the largest delta in the world.

34. 88. Consider the following statements regarding the Subarnarekha River:

1. It originates from the Chota Nagpur Plateau in Jharkhand and flows through Odisha and West Bengal before draining into the Bay of Bengal.
2. The river is known for carrying traces of gold, which is reflected in its name "Subarnarekha" (meaning "Streak of Gold").
3. It passes through the Ramgarh Crater, a meteorite impact site, making it one of the few rivers in India to flow through an astrobleme.
4. It is a major tributary of the Mahanadi River.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer:

B. 1, 2, and 3 only

Explanation:

• Statement 1 (Correct): The Subarnarekha River originates from the Chota Nagpur Plateau in Jharkhand and flows through Odisha and West Bengal, draining into the Bay of Bengal.
• Statement 2 (Correct): The river is known for carrying traces of gold in its sands, which is why it was named Subarnarekha (meaning "Streak of Gold" in Sanskrit).
• Statement 3 (Correct): It passes through the Ramgarh Crater in Rajasthan, one of the few rivers in India to flow through a meteorite impact site (astrobleme).
• Statement 4 (Incorrect): The Subarnarekha does not join the Mahanadi; instead, it flows independently into the Bay of Bengal.

35. **Match the following peaks with their corresponding states and mountain ranges:**

Peak	**State**	**Mountain Range**
1. Doddabetta	A. Karnataka	i. Anamalai Hills
2. Anamudi	B. Tamil Nadu	ii. Eastern Ghats
3. Arma Konda	C. Kerala	iii. Nilgiri Hills
4. Mullayanagiri	D. Andhra Pradesh	iv. Baba Budan Giri Range
5. Deomali	E. Odisha	v. Western Ghats

Options:
a. 1-B-iii, 2-C-i, 3-D-ii, 4-A-iv, 5-E-ii
b. 1-A-iv, 2-B-iii, 3-C-i, 4-D-ii, 5-E-v
c. 1-B-iii, 2-C-v, 3-D-ii, 4-A-iv, 5-E-ii
d. 1-B-iii, 2-C-i, 3-D-ii, 4-A-v, 5-E-iv

Answer:
c. 1-B-iii, 2-C-v, 3-D-ii, 4-A-iv, 5-E-ii

Explanation:

- **Doddabetta:** Located in **Tamil Nadu**, it is the highest peak in the **Nilgiri Hills** section of the Western Ghats, with an elevation of **2,636 metres**.
- **Anamudi:** Situated in **Kerala**, it stands as the highest peak in the **Anamalai Hills** section of the Western Ghats, with an elevation of **2,695 metres**.
- **Arma Konda:** Found in **Andhra Pradesh**, it is the highest peak in the state's portion of the **Eastern Ghats**, with an elevation of **1,680 metres**.
- **Mullayanagiri:** Located in **Karnataka**, it is the highest peak in the **Baba Budan Giri Range** of the Western Ghats, standing at **1,925 metres**.
- **Deomali:** Situated in **Odisha**, it is the highest peak in the state's portion of the **Eastern Ghats**, with an elevation of **1,672 metres**.

36. Silent Valley National Park is renowned for its unique ecological characteristics and conservation history. Regarding its ecological and conservation aspects, consider the following statements:
1. Silent Valley has a distinct montane shola-grassland ecosystem, which is found in the higher altitudes of the Western Ghats.
2. The park is home to the endangered Lion-tailed Macaque, which is an indicator species for the health of tropical rainforests.
3. The region exhibits a tropical rainforest climate with no significant seasonal variations in temperature and rainfall.
4. The ecological significance of Silent Valley prompted the government to establish India's first biosphere reserve around it.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(A) 1, 2, and 3 only
(B) 2 and 3 only
(C) 2, 3, and 4 only
(D) 1, 3, and 4 only

Answer:
Correct Option: (B) 2 and 3 only
Explanation:
• Statement 1 is incorrect: While the Western Ghats have shola-grassland ecosystems, Silent Valley primarily consists of tropical evergreen forests. Shola-grassland ecosystems are typically found in the higher elevations of the Western Ghats, whereas Silent Valley is known for its dense, undisturbed rainforests.
• Statement 2 is correct: The endangered Lion-tailed Macaque is a flagship and indicator species found in Silent Valley. Its presence signifies the ecological health of the rainforest.
• Statement 3 is correct: Silent Valley experiences a tropical rainforest climate, characterized by high humidity, consistent temperatures, and substantial rainfall throughout
the year, with minimal seasonal variation.
• Statement 4 is incorrect: While Silent Valley is ecologically significant, India's first biosphere reserve was the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve (established in 1986), which includes Silent Valley but was not specifically created because of it.

37. **State of Assam shares borders with how many other countries and Indian states respectively?**
(a) 2 countries and 6 Indian states respectively
(b) 2 countries and 7 Indian states respectively
(c) 3 countries and 7 Indian states respectively
(d) 3 countries and 6 Indian states respectively

Answer Key
✅ **Correct Answer: (b) 2 countries and 7 Indian states respectively**
Explanation (brief):

- **Countries:** Assam shares international borders with **Bhutan** and **Bangladesh** (2 countries).
- **Indian States:** Assam borders **Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Meghalaya, and West Bengal** (7 states).

38. Which one of the following States does not make boundary with Chhattisgarh ?
(a) Jharkhand
(b) Bihar
(c) Odisha
(d) Telangana

Answer : (b) Bihar

39. Consider the following:
1. Mahadeo Hills
2. Sahyadri Parvat
3. Satpura Range

What is the correct sequence of the above from the north to the south ?
(a) 1, 2, 3
(b) 2, 1, 3
(c) 1, 3, 2
(d) 2, 3, 1

Answer : (c) 1, 3, 2

40. **With reference to the Eastern Ghats and Western Ghats, consider the following statements:**
1. The Western Ghats run almost parallel to the western coast of India for about 1,600 km and terminate at Marunthuvazh Malai in Kanyakumari district.
2. The Eastern Ghats extend from north of the Mahanadi River to the Vaigai basin in the southern part of the Indian peninsula.
3. The Western Ghats generally have a higher average elevation and more continuous mountain structure compared to the Eastern Ghats.
4. The Eastern Ghats and Western Ghats meet at the Nilgiri Hills.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
a) 1, 2 and 3 only
b) 1, 2 and 4 only
c) 1, 3 and 4 only
d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

✅ **Correct Answer: (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4**

Brief Answer Explanation

- **Statement 1 – Correct:**
  The Western Ghats extend for about **1,600 km** along the western coast and end at **Marunthuvazh Malai** in Kanyakumari.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:**
  The Eastern Ghats extend from **north of the Mahanadi River** to the **Vaigai basin**.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:**
  The Western Ghats are **higher, more continuous, and structurally more uniform**, whereas the Eastern Ghats are **lower and discontinuous**.
- **Statement 4 – Correct:**
  The **Nilgiri Hills** form the **junction where the Eastern and Western Ghats meet**.

41. With reference to major mountain and hill ranges of India, consider the following statements regarding the number of States and Union Territories they traverse:
1. The Himalayas together with the Purvanchal ranges pass through more than 8 state and 2 union territories.
2. The Western Ghats extend across six Indian States.
3. The Eastern Ghats traverse five Indian States.
4. The Aravalli Range extends across four Indian States.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2, 3 and 4 only
c) 1, 2 and 3 only
d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

✅ Correct Answer: (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Brief Explanation
Statement 1 – Correct:
Himalayas (4 States + 2 UTs) + Purvanchal (5 States) = 9 States + 2 UTs + Assam mountain range.
Statement 2 – Correct:
Western Ghats pass through Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu.
Statement 3 – Correct:
Eastern Ghats traverse Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu.
Statement 4 – Correct:
Aravalli Range extends across Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana and Delhi (NCT).

42. **With reference to the island groups of India and their geographical characteristics, consider the following statements:**
1. The Andaman Islands and the Nicobar Islands are separated from each other by the Ten Degree Channel.
2. Most islands of the Andaman and Nicobar group are formed as submarine mountain chains, with a few islands having volcanic origin.

3. The Lakshadweep Islands are mainly composed of coral formations and include several atolls.
4. Minicoy Island is separated from the Maldives by the Eight Degree Channel.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

a) **One statement only**
b) **Two statements only**
c) **Three statements only**
d) **All four statements**

✅ **Correct Answer: (d) All four statements**

🧠 **Brief Explanation**

- **Statement 1 – Correct:** The **Ten Degree Channel** separates the Andaman Islands (north) from the Nicobar Islands (south).
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** The Andaman–Nicobar chain is part of a **submarine mountain system**, with **Barren Island** being of volcanic origin.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:** The **Lakshadweep Islands** are **coral islands**, largely consisting of **atolls and reefs**.
- **Statement 4 – Correct: Minicoy** is separated from the Maldives by the **Eight Degree Channel**.

43. Arrange the following hills from North to South:

1. Mishmi hills
2. Patkai Bum
3. Lushai Hills
4. Naga Hills

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

✅ **Answer Key**

Correct Answer: (d) 1-2-4-3

🧭 **Explanation (North → South):**

- **Mishmi Hills (1)** – Northernmost, located at the India–China–Myanmar tri-junction.
- **Patkai Bum (2)** – Lies south of Mishmi Hills along the India–Myanmar border.
- **Naga Hills (4)** – Situated south of Patkai Bum.
- **Lushai (Mizo) Hills (3)** – Southernmost, extending into Mizoram.

44. The Great Northern Plains of India are extensive alluvial plains formed by the long-term depositional action of Himalayan rivers. With reference to their physiographic subdivisions, consider the following statements:

1. The **Terai Plains** lie **north of the Bhabar Plains** and are **marshy and waterlogged** in nature.
2. The **Bhabar Plains** consist mainly of **gravel and unassorted sediments** and are **highly suitable for cultivation**.
3. The **Bhangar Plains** are **older alluvial plains** and are generally **well-drained**.
4. The **Delta Plains** are considered an **extension of the Khadar Plains**.

Which of the statements given above are **incorrect**?

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

✅ **Correct Answer: (b) 1 and 2 only**

🧠 **Brief Explanation (Exam-oriented):**

- **Statement 1 – Incorrect** ❌
  Terai Plains lie **south of the Bhabar Plains**, not north, and are marshy due to re-emergence of rivers.
- **Statement 2 – Incorrect** ❌
  Bhabar Plains consist of coarse gravel and pebbles, making them **unsuitable for cultivation**.
- **Statement 3 – Correct** ✔
  Bhangar represents **older alluvium**, lies above floodplains, and is relatively well-drained.
- **Statement 4 – Correct** ✔
  Delta plains are formed by **recent alluvium (Khadar-type deposits)** at river mouths.

45. Himalayan rivers, owing to their steep gradients and high erosive power in the mountainous regions, create distinct fluvial landforms.
Consider the following table:

Physical Feature	Largest / Prominent Example in India	Associated River / Region
1. Gorge	Kali Gandaki Gorge	Nepal–Himalaya region
2. V-shaped Valley	Alaknanda Valley	Uttarakhand Himalaya
3. Ox-bow Lake	Kanwar Lake	North Bihar Plains
4. Waterfall	Teesta Falls	Eastern Himalaya

With reference to the **mountainous course of Himalayan rivers**, which of the above features are **formed primarily due to river erosion**?
a) 1 and 3 only
b) 3 and 4 only
c) 1, 2 and 4 only
d) 1, 2 and 3 only

✅ **Correct Answer: (c) 1, 2 and 4 only**
Gorges (1) ✔
Formed due to **intense vertical erosion** in steep mountainous terrain.
V-shaped Valleys (2) ✔
Characteristic of the **upper course** of rivers where down-cutting dominates.
Ox-bow Lakes (3) ❌
Ox-bow lakes are **not created by Himalayan rivers in their mountainous (upper) course**. They are formed **only when rivers enter low-gradient plains**, where **lateral erosion and meandering dominate**, which is **outside the mountainous course referred to in the question**.
Waterfalls (4) ✔
Result from **uneven erosion, knick points, and steep gradients** in the Himalayan region

46. With reference to the Himalayan ranges, which of the following statements is/are correct?
1. The Shiwaliks are consolidated sands, gravels and conglomerate deposits brought by the rivers flowing from the higher ranges.
2. Most of the Dun and Duars are located in the Middle Himalayas.
3. Ladakh & Karakoram Range belongs to Trans-Himalayan Range.
4. Namcha Barwa mountain peak is located in Himalayan region of Arunachal Pradesh.
Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 4 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1, 3 and 4 only

✅ **Answer Key**
Correct Answer: (d) 1, 3 and 4 only

🧠 **Brief Explanation (UPSC-oriented):**

- **Statement 1 – Correct** ✔
  The **Shiwalik (Outer Himalayan) range** consists of **consolidated sands, gravels, and conglomerates** deposited by rivers descending from higher Himalayan ranges.
- **Statement 2 – Incorrect** ❌
  Duns and Duars are longitudinal valleys mainly associated with the **Shiwalik region**, not the Middle Himalayas.
- **Statement 3 – Correct** ✔
  The **Ladakh and Karakoram ranges** are part of the **Trans-Himalayan ranges**, lying north of the Great Himalayas.
- **Statement 4 – Correct** ✔
  Namcha Barwa is a prominent peak located in the **eastern Himalayan region of Arunachal Pradesh**, near the great bend of the Brahmaputra.

47. With reference to the evolution and characteristics of rivers in Peninsular India, consider the following statements:
1. Rivers of the Peninsular Plateau are geologically older than the rivers of the Himalayan region.
2. The presence of broad, shallow, and gently graded valleys indicates the mature to old stage of Peninsular rivers.
3. The west-flowing rivers Narmada and Tapi flow through tectonic rift valleys rather than valleys carved primarily by river erosion.
Which of the statements given above are correct?
a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 3 only
d) 1, 2 and 3

Correct Answer
✅ **d) 1, 2 and 3**

Brief Answer Explanation

- **Statement 1** is correct: Peninsular rivers pre-date the Himalayan uplift and therefore are much older.
- **Statement 2** is correct: Broad and shallow valleys result from prolonged lateral erosion, characteristic of mature or old rivers.
- **Statement 3** is correct: Narmada and Tapi flow through fault-controlled rift valleys formed by tectonic movements, not by fluvial erosion.

48. Certain major rivers of the world are notable for crossing important latitudinal lines such as the **Tropic of Cancer**, **Tropic of Capricorn**, and the **Equator** (in some cases more than once).
Which of the following sets of rivers correctly matches the given criteria?
Criteria:
• One river crosses the **Tropic of Cancer**
• One river crosses the **Tropic of Capricorn**
• One river crosses the **Equator twice**
Options
a) **Narmada – Limpopo – Congo**
b) **Sabarmati – Zambezi – Amazon**
c) **Godavari – Orange – Niger**
d) **Mahi – Paraná – Congo**

✅ **Correct Answer**
a) Narmada – Limpopo – Congo

Brief Answer Explanation

- **Narmada** → Crosses the **Tropic of Cancer** in central India.
- **Limpopo** → Crosses the **Tropic of Capricorn** in southern Africa.
- **Congo River** → Crosses the **Equator twice** due to its looping course in Central Africa.

49. With reference to the Himalayan mountain system, consider the following statements:

1. **Nanga Parbat** in the west and **Namcha Barwa** in the east mark the two major syntaxial bends where the Himalayan ranges sharply turn southward.
2. The Himalayan ranges extend southward through the **Arakan Yoma** and further continue into the **Andaman and Nicobar Islands**.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

✅ **Answer Key: (a) 1 only**
Brief Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Himalayas show major syntaxial bends at **Nanga Parbat (western end)** and **Namcha Barwa (eastern end)**.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The **Arakan Yoma and Andaman–Nicobar Islands** are extensions of the **Purvanchal (Indo-Myanmar ranges)**, not the Himalayas.

50. Northeastern Plateau is an extension of the main Peninsular Plateau. A huge fault is created between the Rajmahal hills and the Meghalaya plateau because of:

(a) Force exerted by the northwestward movement of the Indian plate at the time of the Himalayan origin.
(b) Force exerted by the northeastward movement of the Indian plate at the time of the Himalayan origin.
(c) Force exerted by the southwestward movement of the Indian plate at the time of the Himalayan origin.
(d) Force exerted by the Southeastward movement of the Indian plate at the time of the Himalayan origin.

✅ **Answer Key: (c) Both 1 and 2**
Brief Explanation:
- The **Indian Plate moved north-eastward (NNE to NE)** during the Himalayan orogeny.
- This **north-eastward movement** caused:
  - Compression against the Eurasian Plate → formation of the Himalayas
  - **Block faulting in the Peninsular Plateau**
  - **Down-faulting of the Ganga Basin**
  - **Separation of the Meghalaya Plateau from the Rajmahal Hills**

51. Which of the following is/are tributary of Cauvery river?

1. Bhavani river
2. Noyyal river
3. Harangi river
4. Purna river

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
a) 1, 2 and 3 only
b) 1, 2 and 4 only
c) 2, 3 and 4 only
d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

✅ **Correct Answer: (a) 1, 2 and 3 only**

Brief Answer Explanation

- **Bhavani River** – A major left-bank tributary of the Cauvery, originating in the Nilgiri Hills and joining the Cauvery in Tamil Nadu. ✔
- **Noyyal River** – A right-bank tributary of the Cauvery, flowing through Coimbatore and Tiruppur regions. ✔
- **Harangi River** – An important tributary of the Cauvery originating in the Western Ghats of Karnataka. ✔
- **Purna River** – ❌ *Not a tributary of the Cauvery*. It is associated with river systems in Maharashtra (e.g., a tributary of the Tapi/Godavari system, depending on the Purna).

Hence, **only statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct**.

52. Evaluate the following statements concerning the **Indus Waters Treaty (1960)**:

1. India has been granted the exclusive right to use the waters of the Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab rivers.
2. The waters of the Indus, Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej are shared exclusively between India and Pakistan, with no other nations involved in the treaty.

Based on these statements, which is correct?
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2"

Answer: b) 2 only
The Explanation
This question tests your knowledge of how the six rivers were divided between the two nations under the 1960 treaty brokered by the World Bank.

- **Statement 1 is Incorrect:** Under the treaty, the three "**Western Rivers**" (Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab) were allocated to **Pakistan** for unrestricted use. India is only allowed "limited" use of these rivers for run-of-the-river power projects, navigation, and domestic use, but not "exclusive" use. India was given exclusive rights over the three "**Eastern Rivers**" (Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej).
- **Statement 2 is Correct:** The treaty is a bilateral agreement specifically between **India and Pakistan**. While the rivers themselves may originate or flow through other territories (like China or Afghanistan), the legal framework of this specific treaty applies only to the sharing and management between these two nations.

53. With reference to the geomorphic work of rivers during different stages of their course, consider the following statements:

1. In the lower course of a river, deposition is the dominant geomorphic process.
2. Estuaries generally provide more suitable locations for ports than deltas.
3. Vertical erosion (corrasion) is most active in the upper course of a river.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
a) 1 and 2 only
b) 2 and 3 only
c) 1 and 3 only
d) 1, 2 and 3

✅ **Correct Answer: (d) 1, 2 and 3**

Brief Answer Explanation

- **Statement 1 – Correct** ✅
  In the **lower course**, river velocity decreases, leading to **dominant deposition** and formation of floodplains, deltas, and levees.
- **Statement 2 – Correct** ✅
  Estuaries are deeper, less silted, and more navigable compared to **deltas**, which are shallow and unstable—making estuaries better natural harbours (e.g., Mumbai, London).
- **Statement 3 – Correct** ✅
  In the **upper course**, rivers flow swiftly over steep gradients, resulting in **strong vertical corrasion**, forming V-shaped valleys and gorges.

54. With reference to the geomorphic work of rivers, consider the following table:

River Course	Dominant Process	Characteristic Landform / Example
1. Upper Course	Vertical erosion	Gorge formation in the Indus River
2. Middle Course	Lateral erosion	Meanders of the Ganga in the Indo-Gangetic plains
3. Lower Course	Deposition	Delta formation of the Godavari
4. Upper Course	Deposition	Floodplains of the Brahmaputra

Which of the rows given above are **correctly matched**?

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

✅ **Correct Answer: (a) 1, 2 and 3 only**

Brief Answer Explanation

- **Row 1 – Correct** ✅
  Upper course rivers have steep gradients → **dominant vertical erosion**, forming **gorges** (e.g., Indus).
- **Row 2 – Correct** ✅
  In the middle course, **lateral erosion dominates**, leading to **meanders** (e.g., Ganga plains).
- **Row 3 – Correct** ✅
  In the lower course, **deposition dominates**, forming **deltas** (e.g., Godavari).
- **Row 4 – Incorrect** ❌
  Deposition and floodplain formation occur in the **middle and lower course**, not the upper course.

55. Unlike the rigid and stable Peninsular Block, the Himalayas and other extra-peninsular mountains are described as geologically young, weak, and flexible. Which of the following statements justifies this description?

1. These mountains remain constantly shaped by the interaction of internal (endogenic) and external (exogenic) forces, leading to the ongoing creation of faults, folds, and thrust planes.
2. These ranges are tectonic in origin and are actively being eroded and carved out by youthful, fast-flowing rivers.

Select the correct answer:
(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2"

Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2
The Explanation
This question highlights the fundamental difference between the **stable South** and the **restless North** of India's geography.

- **Why Statement 1 is Correct:** The Himalayas are "live" mountains. Because the Indian plate is still pushing into the Eurasian plate, internal (**endogenic**) forces cause the crust to fold and break (faults/thrusts). Meanwhile, external (**exogenic**) forces like rain and ice constantly wear them down. This "interplay" proves they are not yet stable or rigid.
- **Why Statement 2 is Correct:** Being **tectonic in origin** means they were uplifted by plate movements. Because the mountains are still rising and the terrain is steep, the rivers there (like the Indus or Brahmaputra) have high energy and are "dissecting" (cutting through) the mountains rapidly. This is a hallmark of a "young" mountain system.

Summary: While the Peninsular Block (Southern India) has stood still for millions of years, the Himalayas are still "moving and grooving," making them geologically flexible and weak.

56. A researcher has undertaken a project to trace the Indian Standard Line (Meridian). In doing so, how many states would he have to pass through?

a) 2
b) 3
c) 4
d) 5

Answer: d) 5
The Explanation
The Indian Standard Meridian is the central longitude used to determine **Indian Standard Time (IST)**. As it cuts vertically through the country, it passes through exactly five states. The states from North to South:

1. **Uttar Pradesh** (The line specifically passes through Mirzapur, near Prayagraj).
2. **Madhya Pradesh** (It crosses the eastern tip of the state).
3. **Chhattisgarh** (It traverses through the heart of this state).
4. **Odisha** (It passes through the western portion).
5. **Andhra Pradesh** (It crosses the coastal region before entering the Bay of Bengal).

57. With reference to important lakes, reservoirs, and river systems of India, consider the following statements:

1. **Kolleru Lake** is a freshwater lake situated between the deltas of the Godavari and Krishna rivers.
2. **Nagarjuna Sagar Reservoir** is built across the Kaveri River, while **Krishnaraja Sagar Reservoir** is located on the Krishna River.
3. The **Yamuna River**, originating from the Yamunotri Glacier, flows broadly

parallel to the Ganga and joins it as a **left-bank tributary**.

How many of the statements given above are correct?
(a) One statement only
(b) Two statements only
(c) Three statements only
(d) None of the statements

✅ **Correct Answer: (b) Two statements only**

Brief Answer Explanation

- **Statement 1 – Correct:** Kolleru Lake is a large freshwater lake located between the Krishna and Godavari deltas in Andhra Pradesh. Kolleru Lake is one of the largest freshwater lakes in India, located in Andhra Pradesh.
- **Statement 2 – Incorrect:** Nagarjuna Sagar is built on the **Krishna River**, while Krishnaraja Sagar is constructed on the **Kaveri River**; the statement reverses them.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:** The Yamuna flows roughly parallel to the Ganga and joins it from the **left bank** at Prayagraj.

58. Rudrasagar Lake is an important wetland ecosystem of northeastern India with ecological and hydrological significance. In this context, consider the following statements:

1. Rudrasagar Lake, locally known as **Twijilikma**, is located in the state of **Tripura**.
2. The lake functions as a **natural sedimentation basin**, receiving inflow from three perennial streams.
3. The lake drains its waters into the **Ganga River** through a connecting channel known as **Kachigang**.
4. Rudrasagar Lake provides habitat to several **migratory waterfowl**, including species such as the **Baer's pochard** and **ferruginous duck**.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1, 2 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

✅ **Correct Answer: (b) 1, 2 and 4 only**

Brief Answer Explanation

- **Statement 1 – Correct:** Rudrasagar Lake, also called *Twijilikma*, is located in Tripura and is listed as a Ramsar Site.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** It acts as a natural sedimentation reservoir and receives inflow from three perennial streams.
- **Statement 3 – Incorrect:** The lake does **not** drain into the Ganga; it is connected to the **Gomati River**, a tributary of the Meghna River system.
- **Statement 4 – Correct:** The lake is an important habitat for migratory birds, including threatened species such as Baer's pochard and ferruginous duck.

59. Analyze the following statements regarding various **drainage patterns** found in physical geography:

1. A **Dendritic** pattern is characterized by a tree-like branching network and typically develops in areas where the underlying rock structure is uniform or homogeneous.
2. A **Radial** pattern occurs when streams diverge from a central high point and flow outward in all directions, with the **Amarkantak Plateau** serving as a prime example.
3. A **Trellis** pattern forms in landscapes with parallel folding or alternating hard and soft rocks, where secondary tributaries merge with the primary river at **right angles** (90°).
4. A **Centripetal** pattern is defined by rivers converging from all directions into a central low-lying basin or lake, such as the **Sambhar Lake** in Rajasthan.

Which of the statements listed above are **correct**?
(A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 2, 3, and 4 only
(C) 1, 2, and 4 only
(D) 1, 2, 3, and 4"

Answer Key: (D) 1, 2, 3, and 4
Explanation
All four statements accurately describe the fundamental drainage patterns studied in geomorphology:

- **Statement 1 (Dendritic):** The most common pattern. Like a tree's root system, it develops where the river channel follows the slope of the terrain across rocks of uniform resistance (like vast plains).
- **Statement 2 (Radial):** Think of spokes on a wheel. The **Amarkantak Range** is a classic Indian example where rivers like the **Narmada, Son, and Johilla** originate from the same plateau but flow in different directions.

- **Statement 3 (Trellis):** This occurs in folded sedimentary rocks (like the Appalachians or parts of the Western Ghats). The main river follows the strike, and shorter tributaries join perpendicularly.
- **Statement 4 (Centripetal):** The opposite of radial. It is common in arid or semi-arid depressions. In India, **Sambhar Lake** acts as the central sink for several small seasonal streams.

60. **Match the following rivers with their corresponding gorges and states:**

River Name	Gorge	State
A. Pennar	1. Satkosia Gorge	P. Andhra Pradesh
B. Narmada	2. Gandikota Gorge	Q. Madhya Pradesh
C. Periyar	3. Marble Rocks Gorge	R. Kerala
D. Mahanadi	4. Idukki Gorge	S. Odisha

Select the correct match using the options below:

A. A-2-P, B-3-Q, C-4-R, D-1-S
B. A-1-S, B-2-P, C-3-Q, D-4-R
C. A-3-Q, B-4-R, C-2-P, D-1-S
D. A-4-R, B-1-S, C-2-P, D-3-Q

Answer:

✅ **Option A: A-2-P, B-3-Q, C-4-R, D-1-S**

Explanation:

- Pennar River → Gandikota Gorge → Andhra Pradesh
- Narmada River → Marble Rocks Gorge → Madhya Pradesh
- Periyar River → Idukki Gorge → Kerala
- Mahanadi River → Satkosia Gorge → Odisha

61. Silent Valley National Park is considered one of the most pristine tropical rainforests in India. Regarding Silent Valley, consider the following statements:

1. Silent Valley is located in the Nilgiri Hills and forms part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.
2. The Kunti River, a tributary of the Bharathapuzha River, flows through Silent Valley, supporting its unique ecosystem.
3. The region is named 'Silent Valley' because it lacks any faunal diversity, particularly due to the absence of loud insects like cicadas.
4. The movement to save Silent Valley in the 1970s was one of India's first major environmental movements and led to its declaration as a national park.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(A) 1, 2, and 4 only
(B) 1 and 3 only
(C) 2 and 4 only
(D) 1, 2, 3, and 4

Answer:
Correct Option: (A) 1, 2, and 4 only
Explanation:
• Statement 1 is correct: Silent Valley is located in the Nilgiri Hills of Kerala and is part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, which is a UNESCO-designated biosphere reserve.
• Statement 2 is correct: The Kunti River, a tributary of the Bharathapuzha River (Kerala's second longest river), flows through Silent Valley, sustaining its dense tropical rainforest ecosystem.
• Statement 3 is incorrect: The name 'Silent Valley' is not due to a lack of faunal diversity but because of the absence of cicadas' characteristic loud calls, which are common in other tropical forests. Silent Valley is, in fact, home to a wide range of biodiversity, including rare and endemic species.
• Statement 4 is correct: The Silent Valley movement in the 1970s and early 1980s was a landmark environmental campaign in India. The proposed hydroelectric project was scrapped due to public outcry, and in 1984, Silent Valley was declared a national park.
Thus, the correct answer is (A) 1, 2, and 4 only.

62. Consider the following locations

1. Tura Peak
2. Rongbang Dare Water Fall
3. Balpakram National Park
4. Siju Cave
5. Napak Lake

Above mentioned locations are part of which state in India

a) Meghalaya
b) Manipur
c) West Bengal
d) Sikkim

Answer : (a) Meghalaya

63. Chotanagpur plateau does not extend to which of the following states?
1. Chattisgarh
2. Jharkhand
3. Madhya Pradesh
4. Maharashtra
Select the correct answer using the code given below:
a) 2 and 4 only

b) 1 and 4 only
c) 3 only
d) 3 and 4 only

Answer : d) 3 and 4 only

64. Which one of the following is not inhibited by corals?
(a) Gulf of Kutch
(b) Lakshadweep
(c) Sundarbans
(d) Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Answer : (c) Sundarbans

65. In Indian physiography, several prominent hill ranges and plateaus are separated from each other by river valleys or structural gaps. With reference to such physiographic separations, consider the following statements:

1. The **Nilgiri Hills** are separated from the **Karnataka Plateau** by the **Moyar River valley**.
2. The **Rajmahal Hills** are separated from the **Meghalaya (Shillong) Plateau** by the **Malda Gap**, through which the Ganga flows eastward.
3. The **Satpura Range** is separated from the **Vindhya Range** by the **Narmada River rift valley**.
4. The **Nilgiri Hills** are separated from the **Anaimalai Hills** by the **Palghat Gap**, through which the **Bharathapuzha (Nila) River** flows.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
a) 1 and 3 only
b) 1, 2 and 3 only
c) 1, 3 and 4 only
d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

✅ **Correct Answer: (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4**

Brief Answer Explanation

- **Statement 1 – Correct:**
  The **Moyar River valley** separates the **Nilgiri Hills** from the **Karnataka (Mysore) Plateau**.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:**
  The **Malda Gap** lies between the **Rajmahal Hills** and the **Meghalaya Plateau**, allowing the **Ganga** to change its course.
- **Statement 3 – Correct:**
  The **Narmada Rift Valley** tectonically separates the **Vindhya Range (north)** and **Satpura Range (south)**.
- **Statement 4 – Correct:**
  The **Palghat Gap**, a major structural gap in the Western Ghats, separates the **Nilgiri Hills (north)** from the **Anaimalai Hills (south)**, and the **Bharathapuzha River** flows through this gap.

66. **With reference to the coastal morphology of India, consider the following statements:**

1. The eastern coast of India is predominantly a high, rocky, retreating coast shaped mainly by marine erosion.
2. The western coast of India is largely characterised by erosional landforms such as cliffs, headlands, and rocky shores.
3. The western coast of India is primarily a low, sedimentary coast formed due to large-scale deposition by rivers.
4. The eastern coast of India is mainly dominated by depositional landforms such as deltas, lagoons, and coastal plains.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
a) 1 and 3 only
b) 1, 2 and 3 only
c) 2 and 4 only
d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

✅ **Correct Answer: (c) 2 and 4 only**

🧠 **Brief Explanation**

- **Statement 1 – Incorrect:** The **eastern coast** is generally **low and depositional**, not high and rocky.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** The **western coast** is relatively **narrow, steep, and erosional**, influenced by wave action and the proximity of the Western Ghats.
- **Statement 3 – Incorrect:** The **western coast** is *not* a low sedimentary coast; large river deltas are absent.
- **Statement 4 – Correct:** The **eastern coast** is dominated by **depositional features** such as the deltas of the Ganga, Godavari, Krishna, and Kaveri.

📌 **Core Concept Tested:**
👉 *West Coast = Erosional & Rocky*
👉 *East Coast = Depositional & Deltaic*

67. Arrange the following peninsular plateaus from West to East:

1. Malwa Plateau
2. Bundelkhand Plateau
3. Hazaribagh Plateau

4. Meghalaya Plateau

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

✅ **Answer Key**

Correct Answer: (a) 1-2-3-4

🧭 **Explanation (West → East ordering):**

- **Malwa Plateau (1)** – Westernmost, located in western Madhya Pradesh.
- **Bundelkhand Plateau (2)** – Lies east of Malwa, spanning parts of MP and UP.
- **Hazaribagh Plateau (3)** – Further east, in Jharkhand (Chotanagpur Plateau region).
- **Meghalaya Plateau (4)** – Easternmost, in northeastern India.

68. Match the following:

Pass	Location
A. Zoji La	1. Ladakh range
B. Banihal	2. Zaskar
C. Photu La	3. Great Himalayas
D. Khardung La	4. Pir Panjal

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

	A	B	C	D
(a)	1	3	2	4
(b)	3	4	2	1
(c)	1	3	4	2
(d)	2	3	1	4

✅ **Answer Key**

Correct Answer: (b)

- **Zoji La** lies on the **Great Himalayas**, linking the Kashmir Valley with Ladakh.
- **Banihal Pass** cuts through the **Pir Panjal** range.
- **Photu La** is part of the **Zaskar** range.
- **Khardung La** is located in the **Ladakh range**.

69. With reference to the general characteristics of **Peninsular rivers in India**, consider the following statements:

1. They largely follow a **fixed course** owing to the hard crystalline rocks of the Peninsular Plateau.
2. They exhibit **limited meandering** compared to Himalayan rivers.
3. Most of them are **seasonal (non-perennial)**, depending primarily on monsoonal rainfall.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

✅ **Correct Answer: (d) 1, 2 and 3**

🧠 **Brief Explanation:**

- Peninsular rivers flow over **hard, resistant rock**, giving them relatively fixed courses.
- Due to **low gradients and mature topography**, large meanders are generally absent.
- Being **rain-fed**, most Peninsular rivers are **non-perennial**, unlike snow-fed Himalayan rivers.

70. Which of the following statements is/ are correct regarding the Himalayan Fold Mountains?

1. They are the oldest mountain ranges in the world.
2. They are located in the regions of high seismic activity and convergent plate boundary.
3. They are formed generally by the sedimentary rocks and contain fossils which are marine in nature.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) None of the above

✅ **Answer Key**

Correct Answer: (b) 2 and 3 only

🧠 **Brief Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 – Incorrect** ❌
  The Himalayas are **geologically young fold mountains**, not the oldest. The **Aravallis** are among the oldest mountain systems.
- **Statement 2 – Correct** ✔
  The Himalayas lie along a **convergent plate boundary** (Indian Plate colliding with the Eurasian Plate) and are part of a **high seismic activity zone**.
- **Statement 3 – Correct** ✔
  The Himalayas are largely composed of **folded sedimentary rocks**, many of which contain **marine fossils**, indicating their origin from the **Tethys Sea deposits**.

Hence, the correct option is **(b) 2 and 3 only**.

71. This River flows in a rift valley and is a west flowing river. It rises in Satpura ranges, in Madhya Pradesh. The basin of the river covers parts of Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra. Which of the following rivers is mentioned here?

a) Narmada
b) Sabarmati
c) Mahanadi
d) Tapi

✅ **Correct Answer: (D) TAPI**

72. Consider the following statements:

1. The states of Assam and West Bengal does not have border with Nepal.
2. The longitude that passes through Haryana also passes through Kerala.
3. Maharashtra state has a border with 5 Indian states.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer

✅ **c) 2 only**

Answer Explanation"
1. Assam don't border with Nepal
3. Maharashtra shares boundary with 6 states.

73. In the context of rainfall in India, consider the following statements:

1. There is an increase in rainfall generally from east to west in the Northern Plains.
2. The Coromandel coast receives most of its rain during October and November.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect ?

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

Correct Answer

✅ **a) 1 only**

Statement 1 ❌ Incorrect
Rainfall in the Northern Plains **decreases from east to west**, not increases.
West Bengal and Bihar receive much more rainfall than Punjab and Rajasthan due to progressive loss of monsoon moisture.

Statement 2 ✓ Correct
The Coromandel Coast (Tamil Nadu coast) receives major rainfall from the **Northeast Monsoon** during October–November.
It lies in the rain shadow during the Southwest Monsoon and thus depends mainly on retreating monsoon rains.

74. Which of the following rivers lie completely within Indian territory?

1. Beas
2. Ravi
3. Kishanganga

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer

✅ **d) 1 and 3 only**

75. Which of the following rivers is not a west flowing river?

(a) Sabarmati
(b) Mahi
(c) Sharavathi
(d) Kabini

76. With reference to the **Arunachal Himalayas**, consider the following statements:

1. The region is marked by deep river gorges carved by rivers originating in the Tibetan Plateau and flowing towards the Brahmaputra plains.
2. Rivers such as the **Kameng, Subansiri, Dihang (Siang), Dibang, and Lohit** drain the Arunachal Himalayas and ultimately join the Brahmaputra River system.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

✅ **Answer Key: (c) Both 1 and 2**
Brief Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Arunachal Himalayas are highly dissected by antecedent rivers flowing **north to south**, forming deep gorges before entering the plains.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Kameng, Subansiri, Dihang, Dibang, and Lohit

are major Himalayan tributaries feeding the Brahmaputra.

77. The northern plains are formed by the Alluvial deposits brought by the rivers the Indus, the Ganga, and the Brahmaputra and can be divided into Tarai, the Bhabar and the Alluvial plains. In this context which of the following is the correct sequence of the Tarai, the Bhabar and the Alluvial plains from the north toward the south?

(a) Bhabar-Alluvial- Tarai
(b) Bhabar- Tarai -Alluvial
(c) Tarai- Bhabar-Alluvial
(d) None of the above

✅ **Correct Answer: (b) Bhabar – Tarai – Alluvial**

- **Bhabar** lies **immediately south of the Shiwaliks** (northernmost), consisting of coarse pebbles where rivers disappear underground.
- **Tarai** lies **south of the Bhabar**, a marshy belt where streams re-emerge, leading to dense vegetation.
- **Alluvial Plains** (Bhangar and Khadar) lie **further south**, formed by fine sediments deposited by rivers.

👉 Hence, from **north to south**, the correct sequence is:
Bhabar → Tarai → Alluvial Plains ✔

78. With reference to the historical geography of **ancient South India**, consider the following statements:

1. The **Palghat (Palakkad) Gap** served as an important east–west corridor facilitating long-distance trade, including **Indo-Roman commercial contacts** in ancient times.
2. The **Raichur Doab**, a highly fertile interfluvial region, rose to political and economic prominence primarily under the **Chola dynasty**.
3. The **Kaveri delta** functioned as the core territorial base of the **Satavahana** political authority.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 only
b) 1 and 3 only
c) 2 and 3 only
d) 3 only

✅ **Correct Answer: a) 1 only**
Brief Answer Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct**: The Palghat Gap historically linked the Malabar Coast with the Tamil interior and was crucial for **ancient trade**, including Indo-Roman exchange networks.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect**: The Raichur Doab was contested mainly by the **Chalukyas, Rashtrakutas, Vijayanagara rulers, and Bahmani Sultanate**, not the Cholas.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect**: The **Satavahanas** were primarily based in the **Deccan (Godavari–Krishna region)**, while the **Kaveri delta** was the heartland of the **Cholas**, not the Satavahanas.

79. With reference to the islands of India, consider the following statements:

1. A larger number of Indian islands are located in the Arabian Sea compared to the Bay of Bengal.
2. Islands located in the Arabian Sea are predominantly coral in origin.
3. The Lakshadweep Islands are separated from the Maldives by the **Nine Degree Channel**.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 and 3 only
b) 2 only
c) 1 and 2 only
d) 2 and 3 only

✅ **Correct Answer: (b) 2 only**

Brief Answer Explanation

- **Statement 1 – Incorrect** ❌
  The **majority of Indian islands lie in the Bay of Bengal**, mainly the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The Arabian Sea has fewer islands (Lakshadweep group).
- **Statement 2 – Correct** ✅
  The **Arabian Sea islands (Lakshadweep)** are **coral atolls**, formed on submerged volcanic ridges.
- **Statement 3 – Incorrect** ❌
  Lakshadweep is separated from the Maldives by the **Eight Degree Channel**, not the Nine Degree Channel.

80. With reference to the river systems of North-Eastern India, match the following rivers with the State in which they primarily flow or originate:

List I (River)	List II (State)
P. Doyang	1. Tripura
Q. Imphal	2. Meghalaya
R. Gumti	3. Nagaland
S. Myntdu	4. Manipur

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

	P	Q	R	S
a)	3	4	1	2
b)	4	3	2	1
c)	3	1	4	2
d)	2	4	1	3

✅ Correct Answer: (a)

P-3, Q-4, R-1, S-2

Brief Answer Explanation
Doyang River → Nagaland (P-3) Major river of Nagaland; tributary of the Dhansiri.
Imphal River → Manipur (Q-4) Flows through the Imphal Valley; also called the Manipur River.
Gumti River → Tripura (R-1) Important river of Tripura; Dumbur Dam is built on it.
Myntdu River → Meghalaya (S-2) Prominent river of the Jaintia Hills region in Meghalaya.

81. With reference to the Himalayan mountain system, consider the following statements:

1. The altitude of the permanent snowline is higher in the Western Himalayas than in the Eastern Himalayas.
2. The Western Himalayas, on average, are higher in elevation compared to the Eastern Himalayas.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
a) 1 only
b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2
d) Neither 1 nor 2

✅ **Correct Answer: (c) Both 1 and 2**

Brief Answer Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct**:
  The Western Himalayas experience relatively **drier and colder conditions**, leading to less snowfall. As a result, the **snowline occurs at a higher altitude** compared to the Eastern Himalayas, where heavy monsoonal precipitation lowers the snowline.
- **Statement 2 is correct**:
  The Western Himalayas contain some of the **highest average elevations** of the Himalayan system, including major peaks and extensive high-altitude plateaus, whereas the Eastern Himalayas are comparatively lower but more rugged and dissected.

82. The **Aravalli Range** represents one of the most ancient mountain systems of the Indian subcontinent and has distinct geological and climatic significance. In this context, consider the following statements:

1. The Aravalli Range predates the Himalayas and is believed to have been comparable in height to the present-day Himalayas during its geological youth.
2. The Aravalli system extends from Gujarat to the Delhi region, and its highest peak, **Guru Shikhar**, is located in Rajasthan.
3. The Aravalli Range acts as a major orographic barrier to the southwest monsoon, causing heavy rainfall across Rajasthan.
4. The Aravallis are endowed with significant mineral wealth such as zinc, lead, copper, and marble, making them important to India's mining sector.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1, 2 and 4 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

✅ **Correct Answer: (a) 1, 2 and 4 only**

Brief Answer Explanation

- **Statement 1 – Correct:** The Aravallis are among the oldest fold mountains and were once much higher before prolonged erosion reduced their elevation.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** The range extends from Gujarat through Rajasthan up to Delhi; **Guru Shikhar (Mount Abu)** is its highest peak.
- **Statement 3 – Incorrect:** The Aravallis do **not** effectively block the southwest monsoon because they run parallel to its direction, contributing to aridity in Rajasthan rather than heavy rainfall.
- **Statement 4 – Correct:** The Aravalli region is rich in minerals such as zinc

(Zawar mines), lead, copper, and marble.

83. Consider the following statements regarding the **Khijadiya Bird Sanctuary**:

1. It is a unique wetland in **Gujarat** that features a mosaic of both **freshwater lakes** and **coastal saltwater marshlands**.
2. The sanctuary is strategically located at the **watershed of the Ruparel River and Kalindri Creek**.
3. Its ecosystem—comprising **mangroves and marine vegetation**—serves as a vital habitat for hundreds of **migratory and resident bird species**.
4. It is situated in the **Sundarbans region** of West Bengal and is the primary habitat for the **Royal Bengal Tiger**.

Which of the statements above are accurate?
(A) 1 and 2 only **(B)** 1, 2, and 3 only **(C)** 2, 3, and 4 only **(D)** 1, 3, and 4 only"

Answer Key: (B) 1, 2, and 3 only
Explanation
The Khijadiya Bird Sanctuary (a **Ramsar Site**) is famous for its rare ecological "double" personality, but it has nothing to do with tigers or the Sundarbans.

- **Statement 1 is Correct:** Located in the Jamnagar district of **Gujarat**, it was formed by a reclamation bund (check dam) that separates freshwater (from rain and the Ruparel river) on one side and saltwater (from the Gulf of Kutch) on the other.
- **Statement 2 is Correct:** The sanctuary area encompasses the meeting points and watersheds of the **Ruparel River** and **Kalindri Creek**.
- **Statement 3 is Correct:** Because it has both marine and freshwater environments, it supports over **300 species of birds**. The mangroves provide nesting grounds, while the mudflats and lakes provide diverse feeding grounds.
- **Statement 4 is Incorrect:** This is a "distractor" statement. The **Sundarbans** are in West Bengal (thousands of miles away from Gujarat), and Khijadiya is a **Bird Sanctuary**, not a Tiger Reserve.

84. Consider the following statements :

1. It is referred to as Charmanyavati in the Mahabharata and is believed to have originated from the blood of sacrificed animals.
2. It is known for its deep ravines and badlands, formed due to severe soil erosion.
3. A wildlife sanctuary named after the river is located at the tri-junction of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh.
4. The sanctuary is famous for the conservation of endangered Gharial, the Red-Crowned Roofed Turtle, and the endangered Gangetic Dolphin.

The river mentioned with above explanation is
(a) Chandrabhaga River
(b) Chenab River
(c) Chambal River
(d) Chaliyar River

Answer : (c) Chambal River

85. Shola forests and grasslands are unique ecosystems found in the Western Ghats. Regarding these ecosystems, consider the following statements:

1. Shola forests are typically found in high-altitude regions of the Western Ghats, interspersed with montane grasslands.
2. These forests play a crucial role in water conservation by acting as natural reservoirs for several rivers originating in the Western Ghats.
3. The dominant vegetation in Shola forests consists of tall deciduous trees, which shed their leaves seasonally to adapt to the cold climate.
4. Shola grasslands are home to several endemic species such as the Nilgiri Tahr and the Palani Laughingthrush.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(A) 1, 2, and 4 only
(B) 1 and 3 only
(C) 2 and 4 only
(D) 1, 2, 3, and 4

Answer:
Correct Option: (A) 1, 2, and 4 only

Explanation:
• Statement 1 is correct: Shola forests are found in the higher altitudes (above 1500 meters) of the Western Ghats, especially in Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Karnataka. They exist as patches of stunted evergreen forests amidst vast grasslands.
• Statement 2 is correct: These forests act as natural water reservoirs, as they capture moisture from mist and rainfall, feeding numerous rivers such as the Bhavani, Moyar, and Kabini.
• Statement 3 is incorrect: The dominant vegetation in Shola forests consists of evergreen species, not deciduous trees. The

trees are short, twisted, and adapted to cool and moist conditions, forming a dense canopy.
• Statement 4 is correct: The Shola grasslands are home to many endemic species, including the Nilgiri Tahr (an endangered mountain goat species) and the Palani Laughingthrush (a bird species found in the Palani Hills).
Thus, the correct answer is (A) 1, 2, and 4 only.

86. Match the following

List I (River)	List II (Source)
A. Ganga	1. Amarkantak
B. Son	2. Gaumukh
C. Godavari	3. Mahabaleshwar
D. Krishna	4. Trimbakeshwar

Codes

	A	B	C	D
(a)	1	2	4	3
(b)	2	1	3	4
(c)	4	3	1	2
(d)	2	1	4	3

Answer Explanation
The correct answer is **(d) A–2, B–1, C–4, D–3**. Here's how each river is correctly matched with its source:

- **Ganga → Gaumukh (A–2):** The Ganga originates from the **Gangotri Glacier** at **Gaumukh** in Uttarakhand.
- **Son → Amarkantak (B–1):** The Son River rises from the **Amarkantak Plateau** in Madhya Pradesh, the same region that gives rise to the Narmada.
- **Godavari → Trimbakeshwar (C–4):** The Godavari originates near **Trimbakeshwar** in the Western Ghats of Maharashtra.
- **Krishna → Mahabaleshwar (D–3):** The Krishna River rises near **Mahabaleshwar** in the Western Ghats of Maharashtra.

87. The Eastern Ghats, though less continuous than the Western Ghats, have unique geological, ecological, and climatic characteristics. Consider the following statements regarding the Eastern Ghats:
1. The Eastern Ghats are older than the Western Ghats and have undergone extensive erosion over time.
2. Unlike the Western Ghats, the Eastern Ghats do not have any designated Biosphere Reserves.
3. The Eastern Ghats are home to important rivers such as the Godavari, Krishna, and Mahanadi, which cut through the range.
4. The highest peak in the Eastern Ghats is Arma Konda, located in Andhra Pradesh.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(A) 1, 3, and 4 only
(B) 2 and 4 only
(C) 1 and 3 only
(D) 1, 2, 3, and 4

Answer:
Correct Option: (A) 1, 3, and 4 only

Explanation:
• Statement 1 is correct: The Eastern Ghats are geologically older than the Western Ghats and have been heavily eroded over time, making them more fragmented.
• Statement 2 is incorrect: The Eastern Ghats contain designated Biosphere Reserves, such as the Simlipal Biosphere Reserve in Odisha and the Seshachalam Biosphere Reserve in Andhra Pradesh.
• Statement 3 is correct: Major rivers like the Godavari, Krishna, and Mahanadi flow through the Eastern Ghats, carving deep valleys.
• Statement 4 is correct: Arma Konda (1,680 meters), located in Andhra Pradesh, is the highest peak in the Eastern Ghats.
Thus, the correct answer is (A) 1, 3, and 4 only.

88. Identify the specific Indian river being described:

1. Its source is located at the **Amarkantak Plateau** within the Anuppur district.
2. It flows through a **rift valley**, which is a sunken block of the Earth's crust nestled between parallel faults (the Vindhya and Satpura ranges).
3. It holds the title of the **largest river in Peninsular India that flows westward**.
4. It eventually empties its waters into the **Arabian Sea** via the Gulf of Khambhat.

Which river matches all these points?
(a) Narmada (b) Son (c) Johilla (d) Tapi"

Answer: (a) Narmada
The Explanation
The Narmada is a unique geographical feature of the Indian landscape. Here is why it fits every description:

- **The Rift Valley:** Most peninsular rivers flow east toward the Bay of Bengal because the land tilts that way. However, the **Narmada** (and the Tapi) flows west because it is "trapped" in a structural rift valley created by tectonic activity.

- **The Source:** It originates from the **Amarkantak Hill** in Madhya Pradesh. Interestingly, the **Son** river also rises nearby, but it flows north to join the Ganga, unlike the Narmada which heads west.
- **The Scale:** While the Tapi also flows west, the Narmada is significantly longer and carries a larger volume of water, making it the **largest west-flowing river** of the peninsula.
- **The Destination:** It travels through Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Gujarat before reaching the **Gulf of Khambhat**.

89. Which of the following states or Union Territories exhibits the greatest range of forest types—including Tropical Evergreen, Semi-evergreen, Deciduous, Pine, and Temperate forests—all within its borders?
a) Arunachal Pradesh
b) Kerala
c) Andaman and Nicobar Islands
d) Madhya Pradesh"

Answer: a) Arunachal Pradesh
Why this is the correct choice:
The deciding factor in this question is the **altitudinal gradient** (the change in height above sea level). Arunachal Pradesh is the only option listed that transitions from sea-level-like heat to Himalayan heights.

- **Arunachal Pradesh:** Its location in the Eastern Himalayas allows it to host **Tropical** forests in the foothills and **Pine/Temperate** forests in the higher reaches. It is one of the few places where you can find such a diverse "vertical" distribution of flora.
- **Kerala:** Primarily features Tropical Evergreen, Semi-evergreen, and Moist Deciduous forests. It lacks the high-altitude sub-alpine environment needed for Pine forests.
- **Andaman and Nicobar:** These islands are dominated by Tropical Evergreen, Semi-evergreen, and Mangrove forests. Being islands with limited elevation, they do not support Pine or Temperate vegetation.
- **Madhya Pradesh:** While it has the largest forest cover in India, it is mostly **Tropical Deciduous** (Teak and Sal). It lacks the heavy rainfall for true Evergreen belts and the altitude for Pine/Temperate forests.

90. The Western Ghats, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, exhibit unique geological, ecological, and climatic characteristics. Consider the following statements regarding the Western Ghats:

1. The Western Ghats are older than the Himalayas and were formed due to volcanic activity during the Cretaceous period.
2. The Ghats act as a climatic divide, resulting in heavy rainfall on the windward side and a rain shadow effect on the leeward side.
3. The biodiversity of the Western Ghats is lower than that of the Eastern Ghats due to higher human intervention and deforestation.
4. The Silent Valley National Park in Kerala, located in the Nilgiri Hills, is an example of a tropical evergreen forest ecosystem.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(A) 1, 2, and 4 only
(B) 1 and 3 only
(C) 2 and 4 only
(D) 1, 2, 3, and 4

Answer:
Correct Option: (A) 1, 2, and 4 only

Explanation:

• Statement 1 is correct: The Western Ghats are indeed older than the Himalayas and are believed to have been formed during the breakup of the Gondwana supercontinent. The region has a basaltic composition due to Deccan Traps volcanic activity.

• Statement 2 is correct: The Western Ghats significantly influence the monsoons, creating a climatic divide. The western slopes receive heavy rainfall, whereas the eastern side experiences a rain shadow effect, leading to semi-arid conditions.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The biodiversity of the Western Ghats is much higher than that of the Eastern Ghats. The Western Ghats are one of the eight "hottest" biodiversity hotspots in the world, with a rich variety of endemic species.

• Statement 4 is correct: The Silent Valley National Park in Kerala, part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, is an undisturbed tropical rainforest ecosystem known for its rich biodiversity. Thus, the correct answer is (A) 1, 2, and 4 only.

91. A woman travelling in India encounters forests consisting of species of Deodar and Birch trees. After travelling a distance she notices a change in vegetation and encounters Teak, Sal, Bamboo etc. Still further she comes across species of palms and agar. In which State of India is the woman travelling?

a) Maharashtra
b) Assam
c) West Bengal
d) Odisha

✅ **Answer Key: (c) West Bengal**

Brief Explanation:

- **Deodar and Birch** trees are typical of **Himalayan temperate forests**, found in the **Darjeeling–Kalimpong** region of **north West Bengal**.
- Moving southward, **Teak, Sal, and Bamboo** indicate **tropical deciduous forests**, common in the **Chota Nagpur fringe and central plains** of the state.
- Further south and east, **palms and agar (agarwood)** are characteristic of **tropical evergreen and littoral/mangrove vegetation**, especially in the **Sundarbans delta**.

92. **With reference to the Eastern Ghats and Western Ghats, consider the following statements:**

1. Both the Eastern Ghats and Western Ghats cover approximately the same geographical area in India.
2. The Eastern Ghats are more continuous and structurally uniform than the Western Ghats.
3. The Western Ghats traverse fewer Indian states compared to the Eastern Ghats.
4. The Eastern Ghats extend farther north compared to the Western Ghats.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

a) 1 and 4 only
b) 1 and 3 only
c) 2 and 3 only
d) 1 only

✅ **Correct Answer: (a) 1 and 4 only**

Brief Explanation:

- **Statement 1** is correct: Both ranges cover roughly **160,000 sq km**.
- **Statement 2** is incorrect: The **Eastern Ghats are discontinuous and fragmented**, unlike the Western Ghats.
- **Statement 3** is incorrect: **Western Ghats traverse six states**, while Eastern Ghats traverse five.
- **Statement 4** is correct: The **Eastern Ghats extend north of the Mahanadi**, farther north than the Western Ghats' Satpura-linked origin.

93. **With reference to the river systems of India, consider the following statements:**

1. The drainage system of the Peninsular Plateau evolved much earlier than the Himalayan river system.
2. Rivers of the Peninsular region generally exhibit straighter courses with limited meandering, while Himalayan rivers display pronounced meanders, especially in their plains course.
3. Rivers of the Peninsular region are predominantly perennial in nature.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

a) **1 and 3 only**
b) **2 and 3 only**
c) **1 and 2 only**
d) **1, 2 and 3**

✅ **Correct Answer: (c) 1 and 2 only**

🧠 **Brief Explanation**

- **Statement 1 – Correct:** The Peninsular drainage system is geologically older, having evolved on an ancient and stable landmass, unlike the relatively young Himalayan system.
- **Statement 2 – Correct:** Peninsular rivers generally flow over hard rock beds with fewer meanders, whereas Himalayan rivers show strong meandering in the plains due to softer alluvium.
- **Statement 3 – Incorrect:** Most Peninsular rivers are **seasonal**, being largely dependent on monsoon rainfall; only a few are perennial due to glacier or supplementary sources.

94. With reference to the general alignment and orientation of major hill ranges in India, consider the following statements:

1. The **Sahyadri Hills** extend predominantly in a **north–south direction** along the western margin of the western edge of the Deccan tableland.
2. The **Satpura Range** extends largely in an **east–west direction**, acting as a watershed between the Narmada and Tapi rivers.
3. The **Aravalli Range** shows a **north-east to south-west alignment**, making it

one of the oldest fold mountain systems in India.

4. The **Purvanchal Range** extends in a **north–south direction** along India's eastern border with Myanmar.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

✅ **Correct Answer: (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4**

🧠 **Brief Explanation (Exam-oriented):**

- **Statement 1 – Correct** ✔
  The Sahyadris (Western Ghats) run **north–south**, parallel to the western coast.
- **Statement 2 – Correct** ✔
  The Satpura Range runs **east–west**, forming the watershed between the Narmada and Tapi rivers.
- **Statement 3 – Correct** ✔
  The Aravalli Range extends in a **NE–SW direction** and is among the **oldest mountain systems** in India.
- **Statement 4 – Correct** ✔
  The Purvanchal Hills (Patkai–Naga–Lushai ranges) extend broadly in a **north–south direction** along the India–Myanmar border.

95. Natural vegetation density in India is strongly influenced by **slope orientation**, **monsoon exposure**, and **orographic rainfall**. With reference to this, consider the following areas:

1. **Southern slopes of the Himalayas**
2. **Northern slopes of the Himalayas**
3. **Western slopes of the Western Ghats**
4. **Eastern slopes of the Western Ghats**
5. **Eastern slopes of the Aravalli Range**
6. **Western slopes of the Aravalli Range**

Which of the above areas are characterised by **relatively thicker natural vegetation**?

a) **1, 3 and 5 only**
b) **1, 4 and 6 only**
c) **2, 3 and 6 only**
d) **1, 3, 4 and 5**

✅ **Correct Answer: (a) 1, 3 and 5 only**

🧠 **Brief Explanation (Exam-oriented):**

- **Southern slopes of the Himalayas (1)** ✔
  Windward to the Southwest Monsoon → heavy rainfall → dense forests.
- **Northern slopes of the Himalayas (2)** ✘
  Rain-shadow region → sparse vegetation.
- **Western slopes of the Western Ghats (3)** ✔
  Directly face the Arabian Sea branch → very heavy rainfall → evergreen forests.
- **Eastern slopes of the Western Ghats (4)** ✘
  Leeward side → comparatively drier.
- **Eastern slopes of the Aravalli (5)** ✔
  Receive relatively better rainfall than western slopes → thicker vegetation.
- **Western slopes of the Aravalli (6)** ✘
  Adjacent to the Thar Desert → arid conditions.

96. With reference to major river valley projects in India, consider the following statements:

1. The **Gandak Project** is a **joint project between India and Nepal**, with benefits accruing to Bihar and Uttar Pradesh.
2. The **Kosi Project** is an **international river project between India and Nepal** aimed at flood control, irrigation, and hydropower generation in Bihar.
3. The **Hirakud Project** is built across the **Mahanadi River in Odisha** and is among the **longest earthen dams in the world**.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

a) **1 and 2 only**
b) **2 and 3 only**
c) **1 and 3 only**
d) **1, 2 and 3**

✅ **Correct Answer: (d) 1, 2 and 3**

🧠 **Brief Explanation (UPSC-oriented):**

- **Statement 1 – Correct** ✔
  The **Gandak Project** is an **Indo–Nepal joint project**, though irrigation benefits extend to **Bihar and Uttar Pradesh**.
- **Statement 2 – Correct** ✔
  The **Kosi Project** is also an **Indo–Nepal collaboration**, not with Bangladesh—a common UPSC trap.
- **Statement 3 – Correct** ✔
  The **Hirakud Dam** on the **Mahanadi** is one of the **longest earthen dams** in the world (not the longest mainstream dam).

97. The Aravalli range passes through which of the following states:

1. Haryana

2. Rajasthan
3. Gujarat
4. Maharashtra

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

✅ **Answer Key Correct Answer: (d) 1, 2 and 3 only**

98. "These are locally known by different names such as Sahyadri in Maharashtra, Nilgiri hills in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and Anaimalai hills and Cardamom hills in Kerala". The region in this quotation is:

(a) Western Ghats
(b) Eastern Ghats
(c) Deccan Plateau
(d) Central Highlands

✅ **Answer Key**

Correct Answer: (a) Western Ghats

99. Consider the following statements:

1. The western coastal plains are emergent whereas the eastern coastal plains are submergent.
2. The western coast consists of recent tertiary alluvial deposits, whereas the eastern coast is dominated by lagoons.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

✅ **Answer Key**

Correct Answer: (a) 1 only

- **Statement 1 – Correct** ✔
  The **western coastal plains** of India are largely **emergent**, while the **eastern coastal plains** are **submergent**, as evidenced by features like **deltas, lagoons, and estuaries** on the east coast.
- **Statement 2 – Incorrect** ❌
  The **western coast is not dominated by recent Tertiary alluvial deposits**; it is relatively **rocky and narrow**, with erosional features.
  While **lagoons** are indeed prominent on parts of the **eastern coast**, especially along the Coromandel Coast, this statement incorrectly contrasts lithology and geomorphic dominance.

100. **Which of the following pairs of mountain passes and the regions they connect are correctly matched?**

Pass	**Connecting regions**
1. Thal Ghat	Mumbai – Nashik
2. Bhor Ghat	Mumbai – Pune
3. Pal (Palakkad) Ghat	Coimbatore – Kozhikode
4. Haldighati	Udaipur – Chittorgarh

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

✅ **Revised Answer Key**

Correct Answer: d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

🔍 **Corrected Brief Explanation**

1. **Thal Ghat** → Connects **Mumbai and Nashik** ✔
2. **Bhor Ghat** → Connects **Mumbai and Pune** ✔
3. **Palakkad (Pal) Ghat** → Connects **Coimbatore and Kozhikode** ✔
4. **Haldighati** → Lies in the Aravalli range, associated with the **Udaipur–Chittorgarh region** ✔