

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

Test Booklet Series

TEST BOOKLET

Subject : Test 27 – GS Full Test 5
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.

DO NOT OPEN THIS TEST BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO

1. Which of the following are criticisms of the Anti-Defection Law?

1. It curbs freedom of speech and dissent within parties.
2. It strengthens party leadership at the cost of representative democracy.
3. It has effectively stopped political horse-trading and instability.

Select the correct answer:

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

✓ Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- It has reduced political dissent within parties ✓
- Horse-trading and instability still happen, e.g., recent MLAs' mass defections. ✗

2. Assertion (A): The State Legislative Council has the power to permanently block any ordinary legislation passed by the Legislative Assembly.

Reason (R): The Legislative Assembly can override the Legislative Council's recommendations after a waiting period.

Select the correct answer:

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

✓ Answer: (d) A is false, but R is true

Explanation:

- State Legislative Council can delay ordinary bills for maximum 4 months (three months + one month).
- Assembly can override after reconsideration.
- Hence, Council cannot permanently block legislation. ✗

3. What changes occur during the proclamation of a Financial Emergency under Article 360?

1. The Centre can reduce salaries and allowances of persons serving the State.
2. States are directed to reserve all financial bills for Presidential consideration.
3. Revenue sharing between Centre and States automatically gets suspended.

Select the correct answer:

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

✓ Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

4. Assertion (A): The Surat Split of 1907 weakened the national movement temporarily. Reason (R): After the split, the Extremists captured the Congress and marginalized the Moderates completely.

Select the correct answer:

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

✓ Answer: (c) A is true, but R is false

Explanation:

- Surat Split weakened the movement ✓
- After the split, Moderates retained control of the Congress, not the Extremists. ✗

5. Consider the following statements about the Surat Split of 1907:

1. The split was primarily over the selection of the Congress President.
2. The Extremists wanted Lala Lajpat Rai as President, but the Moderates proposed Rash Behari Ghosh.
3. After the split, the Extremists formed a separate political party outside the Congress.

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

✓ Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- Split was mainly over the choice of President — Extremists wanted Lala Lajpat Rai, Moderates supported Rash Behari Ghosh ✓
- Extremists did not form a separate party — they worked outside Congress but did not form a formal party ✗

6. Which of the following areas were exempted from the application of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992?

1. Scheduled Areas under the Fifth Schedule
2. Union Territories without Legislative Assemblies
3. Hill areas of Manipur covered under District Councils
4. North-Eastern States with Autonomous District Councils

Select the correct answer:

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

✓ Answer: (b) 1, 3 and 4 only

Explanation:

- Scheduled Areas (Fifth Schedule) → Exempted ✓
- Hill areas of Manipur and Autonomous Districts of Northeast → Exempted ✓
- Union Territories were not universally exempted (e.g., Delhi has Panchayati Raj Institutions).

7. Consider the following statements regarding the impeachment of the President of India:

1. The impeachment process can be initiated in either House of Parliament.
2. A two-thirds majority of the total membership of both Houses is required for impeachment.
3. The President can be impeached for violation of the Constitution.

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

✓ Answer: (d) 1, 2 and 3

Explanation:

- Either House can initiate impeachment ✓
- Two-thirds majority of total membership, not just present and voting ✓
- Grounds limited to violation of the Constitution ✓

8. Which Tamil poet mentions the Mauryas in the ancient Tamil work Akananuru?

- (a) Kapilar
- (b) Mamulanar
- (c) Avvaiyar
- (d) Ilango Adigal

✓ Answer: (b) Mamulanar

Explanation:

Mamulanar mentions Mauryas in the Akananuru in the Sangam corpus.

9. Assertion (A): The Mauryan Empire had state control over mining, metallurgy, and trade.

Reason (R): Arthashastra recommends private enterprise in critical economic sectors like mining and coinage.

Select the correct answer:

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

✓ Answer: (c) A is true, but R is false

Explanation:

Mining, metallurgy, salt production, and coinage were state-controlled under Mauryas. ✓

Private enterprise was restricted. ✗

10. Arrange the following events in the correct chronological order:

1. Construction of Barabar Caves
2. Construction of Heliodorus Pillar at Besnagar
3. Building of stone portrait of Ashoka at Kanaganahalli

Correct order is:

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

✓ Answer: (a) 1-2-3

Explanation:

- Barabar Caves → Mauryan period (Ashoka)
- Heliodorus Pillar → Sunga period (~113 BCE)
- Kanaganahalli sculpture → Later Satavahana period

11. Which of the following Fundamental Rights is/are available to non-citizens?

1. Equality before Law
2. Right against Discrimination
3. Equality of Opportunity
4. Protection of Life and Personal Liberty

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

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

Answer: C

12. Point out which from the following is not a right enumerated in the Constitution of India but has been articulated by the Supreme Court to be a Fundamental Right?

- (a) Right to Privacy
- (b) Equality before Law
- (c) Abolition of Untouchability
- (d) Right to form Association or Union

Answer: A

13. Assertion (A): India has adopted a National Cyber Security Policy to safeguard digital assets.

Reason (R): Cyber security is a subject under the Union List of the Constitution of India.

Select the correct answer:

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

✓ Answer: (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A

Explanation:

- National Cyber Security Policy (NCSP) 2013 exists, and new versions being formulated ✓
- Cyber security comes under Entry 31 (Telecommunications) — not directly listed as "cyber security" ✓

14. Which of the following statements correctly describe the Komagata Maru incident?

1. The ship carried Punjabi immigrants aiming to enter Canada but was refused entry.
2. Upon return to India, a violent clash with British authorities occurred at Budge Budge, Bengal.
3. The incident galvanized support for Ghadar Party activities abroad.

Select the correct answer:

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

✓ Answer: (d) 1, 2 and 3

Explanation:

- Komagata Maru → Punjabi immigrants refused entry to Canada ✓
- Budge Budge Riot → clash and deaths ✓
- Ghadar Party intensified after this incident ✓

15. Assertion (A): Early labour movements in India were directly linked to nationalist politics.

Reason (R): British authorities freely allowed labour unions to associate with nationalist organizations.

Select the correct answer:

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

✓ Answer: (c) A is true, but R is false

Explanation:

- Labour movements had nationalist links, especially with Gandhian politics. ✓
- But British authorities were hostile to political unionization. ✗

16. Consider the following about "Contempt of the House":

1. It has a broader scope than breach of privilege.
2. It includes acts that obstruct members or lower the dignity of the House.
3. It must necessarily involve violation of a specific legal privilege.

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

✓ Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

17. Match the following Peasant/Tribal Revolts with their leaders:

Revolt	Leader
A. Ramosi Revolt	1. Chittur Singh
B. Faraizi Movement	2. Dadu Miyan
C. Bardoli Satyagraha	3. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
D. Kittur Revolt	4. Rani Chennamma

Choose the correct code:

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

✓ Answer: (a) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4

Explanation:

- Ramosi Revolt: Chittur Singh
- Faraizi Movement: Dadu Miyan
- Bardoli Satyagraha: Sardar Patel
- Kittur Revolt: Rani Chennamma (fought Doctrine of Lapse)

18. Which of the following taxes are not shared with States under Article 270 of the Indian Constitution?

1. Corporation Tax
2. Customs Duties
3. GST
4. Income Tax (except surcharge)

Select the answer from the below codes

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

✓ Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- Corporation Tax and Customs Duties are not part of divisible pool
- Income Tax (excluding surcharge) and GST (CGST + SGST + IGST sharing) are shared.

19. Consider the following pairs related to the Home Rule Movement (1916–1918):

Person	Contribution
A. Annie Besant	Launched Home Rule League in Madras
B. Tilak	Home Rule campaign in Maharashtra & Karnataka
C. George Arundale	Organising Secretary of Besant's League
D. Mohammed Ali Jinnah	Defended Tilak in a legal case in England

Which of the pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) A, B and C only
- (b) B, C and D only
- (c) A, B, C and D
- (d) A and D only

✓ Answer: (c) A, B, C and D

Explanation:

- All are correct. Besant launched her Home Rule League in Madras; Tilak covered Maharashtra & Karnataka; Arundale was Besant's key organiser; Jinnah defended Tilak in a libel case.

20. Under Ayushman Bharat – PM-JAY, which of the following is correct?

- (a) Only BPL cardholders are eligible
- (b) It covers ₹5 lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary hospitalization
- (c) The benefits are limited to only state government hospitals
- (d) Enrollment is through annual premium payments by the beneficiary

✓ Answer: (b) It covers ₹5 lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary hospitalization

Explanation:

- PM-JAY provides cashless health insurance up to ₹5 lakh per family/year covering secondary and tertiary hospitalization across empanelled public and private hospitals, without requiring premium payment by the beneficiary.

21. The Wassenaar Arrangement, to which India was admitted in 2017, primarily deals with:

- (a) Civilian use of nuclear technology
- (b) Export controls on conventional arms and dual-use goods and technologies
- (c) Cyber surveillance mechanisms for nuclear reactors
- (d) Arbitration of nuclear liability disputes

✔ Answer: (b) Export controls on conventional arms and dual-use goods and technologies

Explanation:

• The Wassenaar Arrangement enhances transparency and responsibility in transfers of conventional arms and dual-use goods and technologies.

22. Which of the following statements is correct about Compressed Biogas (CBG)?

- (a) It is derived from thermal decomposition of coal under pressure.
- (b) It is chemically identical to natural gas and can be used in CNG vehicles.
- (c) It is produced by refining hydrogen gas from solar electrolyzers.
- (d) It has lower methane content than raw biogas.

✔ Answer: (b)

Explanation:

• CBG is purified biogas, has >95% methane, and is used in CNG-compatible vehicles and industries.

23. Consider the following pairs:

Technology	Primary Energy Source
A. Osmotic Power	1. Salinity gradient in water
B. Tidal Barrage	2. Gravitational pull of moon
C. Algal Biofuel	3. Photosynthetic algae biomass

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) A-1, B-2 only
- (b) B-2, C-3 only
- (c) A-1, B-2, C-3
- (d) A-2, B-1, C-3

✔ Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- Osmotic power: energy from difference in salinity between seawater and freshwater.
- Tidal barrage utilizes tidal movement/movement due to moon's pull.
- Algal biofuel: derived from microalgae photosynthesis.

24. Which of the following is correct regarding PM SHRI Schools?

- (a) They are elite private schools funded under PPP mode
- (b) They are model schools selected from existing government schools with NEP 2020 features
- (c) They replace all government schools under the Samagra Shiksha framework
- (d) They offer only secondary-level education through Kendriya Vidyalayas

✔ Answer: (b)

Explanation:

PM SHRI schools are existing government schools upgraded to showcase NEP 2020 principles such as experiential learning, green infrastructure, and technology integration. Not new schools, but model examples.

25. Which of the following provisions are part of the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023?

1. It empowers individuals to access, correct, and erase their personal data.
2. It establishes a Data Protection Board of India as the adjudicating authority.
3. It applies to both government and private entities handling digital personal data.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

✔ Answer: (d)

Explanation:

The DPDP Act 2023:

- Grants rights to individuals over their digital data,
- Establishes a Data Protection Board,
- Applies to all data fiduciaries, including government and private bodies.

26. Under the Paris Agreement:

1. Each country is required to submit Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).
2. The Paris Agreement legally binds countries to achieve their NDC targets.
3. It replaced the Kyoto Protocol starting 2020.

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: (c) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- NDCs mandatory (✔).
- Implementation is voluntary; no legal penalty if countries miss targets (✘).
- Replaced Kyoto post-2020 (✔).

27. Match the terms with their correct description:

Type	Description
A. Green Carbon	1. Carbon captured by terrestrial ecosystems
B. Blue Carbon	2. Carbon captured by coastal ecosystems (mangroves, seagrass)
C. Black Carbon	3. Soot emitted from biomass burning and fossil fuel combustion

Select the correct code:

- (a) A-1, B-2, C-3
- (b) A-2, B-1, C-3
- (c) A-1, B-3, C-2
- (d) A-3, B-2, C-1

✔ Answer: (a) A-1, B-2, C-3

Explanation:

Type	Meaning
Green Carbon	Forest carbon capture
Blue Carbon	Coastal ecosystems (mangroves)
Black Carbon	Soot particles

28. Which of the following statements are correct regarding earthquakes?

1. The focus (hypocenter) is the point on the Earth's surface directly above the epicenter.
2. The epicenter is the point inside the Earth where the earthquake originates.
3. The damage is usually greatest near the epicenter.

Select the correct answer:

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

✔ Answer: (c) 3 only

Explanation:

- Focus (hypocenter) = Actual origin point inside Earth (✘).
- Epicenter = Directly above focus on surface (✘).
- Maximum damage occurs near epicenter (✔).

29. Consider the following statements regarding weathering and mass wasting:

1. Weathering is a prerequisite for all types of mass wasting processes.
2. Solifluction occurs prominently in permafrost regions due to saturated soil movement.
3. Physical weathering alone can lead to soil formation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

✔ Answer: (b) 2 only

Explanation:

- Mass wasting can occur even without prior weathering, e.g., during earthquakes (✘).
- Solifluction = Movement of saturated soil in permafrost (✔).
- Chemical weathering is crucial for soil formation, not physical alone (✘).

30. Consider the following statements about tides:

1. Spring tides occur when the Sun, Moon, and Earth are aligned, leading to lower tidal ranges.
2. Tidal bores are formed when a tidal wave moves upstream into a shallow river or estuary.
3. Neap tides occur when the Sun and Moon are at right angles to each other with respect to Earth.

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: (b) 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- Spring tide = highest tides, not low tides (✗).
- Tidal bore = wave surging upstream (✓).
- Neap tide = Sun-Moon 90° angle (✓).

31. Which among the following best explains why horizontal wind movement dominates over vertical movement in the troposphere despite vertical pressure gradient being higher?

- (a) Vertical winds are balanced by the upward thrust generated by frictional forces.
- (b) Vertical winds are neutralized by the gravitational force opposing pressure gradient force.
- (c) Coriolis force acts strongly in vertical direction reducing vertical air motion.
- (d) Temperature inversions prevent vertical movement consistently across all latitudes.

✓ Answer: (b) Vertical winds are neutralized by gravitational force opposing pressure gradient force

Explanation:

- The vertical pressure gradient is huge but is balanced almost exactly by gravitational pull. Hence, no large vertical movement; winds mostly move horizontally where pressure gradients remain unbalanced.

32. If you have to travel by shortest land route from Mumbai to Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh), which one of the following sequences of states would you most likely pass through?

- (a) Maharashtra → Madhya Pradesh → Chhattisgarh → Odisha → West Bengal → Assam → Arunachal Pradesh
- (b) Maharashtra → Chhattisgarh → Odisha → Jharkhand → West Bengal → Assam → Arunachal Pradesh
- (c) Maharashtra → Madhya Pradesh → Uttar Pradesh → Bihar → West Bengal → Assam → Arunachal Pradesh
- (d) Maharashtra → Telangana → Odisha → West Bengal → Assam → Arunachal Pradesh

✓ Answer: (a) Maharashtra → Madhya Pradesh → Chhattisgarh → Odisha → West Bengal → Assam → Arunachal Pradesh

Explanation:

- From Mumbai (Maharashtra), shortest path goes north-east:
- MP → Chhattisgarh → Odisha (briefly) → West Bengal → Assam → Arunachal.

33. Consider the following statements regarding the position of women in Vijayanagara Empire:

1. Women participated actively in political and literary life.
2. Sati and child marriage were entirely abolished during Krishnadevaraya's reign.
3. Devadasi system was prevalent in association with temple culture.

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

✓ Answer: (c) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

- Women like Gangadevi and Tirumamma were important writers. ✓
- Sati and child marriage continued; they were not abolished. ✗
- Devadasi system (female dancers associated with temples) was prevalent. ✓

34. Which of the following statements best describe the contributions of Shankaracharya?

1. He promoted the doctrine of qualified non-dualism (Vishishtadvaita).
2. He established four mathas across India for the propagation of Advaita Vedanta.
3. He refuted Buddhist doctrines and consolidated Hindu thought through commentaries on Upanishads, Bhagavad Gita, and Brahmasutras.

Select the correct answer:

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

✔ Answer: (b) 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- Shankaracharya promoted pure Advaita, not Vishishtadvaita. ✘
- He established four Mathas: Sringeri, Dwarka, Puri, Jyotirmath. ✔
- Wrote commentaries consolidating Hindu thought against Buddhism. ✔

35. Consider the following statements regarding Rashtrakutas:

1. Amoghavarsha I was called the "Ashoka of South India" and authored *Kavirajamarga* in Kannada.
2. Krishna I built the famous Kailasa temple at Ellora.
3. The Rashtrakutas patronized Jainism extensively.

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

✔ Answer: (d) 1, 2 and 3

Explanation:

- Amoghavarsha I was likened to Ashoka and authored *Kavirajamarga*. ✔
- Krishna I built Kailasa temple. ✔
- Rashtrakutas patronized Jainism and Buddhism heavily. ✔

36. Which of the following supervisory functions are carried out by the RBI?

1. Conducting audit inspections of commercial banks
2. Regulating the licensing of private sector banks
3. Supervising Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs)

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

✔ Answer: (d) 1, 2 and 3

Explanation:

- RBI audits banks through on-site inspections and off-site surveillance. ✔
- RBI issues licenses for new private sector banks. ✔
- RBI also supervises and regulates NBFCs through different guidelines. ✔

37. Consider the following statements regarding Bahlol Lodi:

1. He was originally an orphan who rose to prominence due to his military prowess.
2. He founded the Lodi Dynasty and laid the foundation for a stable Sultanate after the disintegration of the Tughlaq rule.
3. He strongly favored non-Afghan nobles over Afghan ones to strengthen his hold.

Which of the above are correct?

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

✔ Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

Bahlol Lodi promoted Afghan nobles, not non-Afghans; he stabilized the Sultanate after the Tughlaq decline.

38. Consider the following statements regarding Shah Jahan's reign:

1. Shah Jahan's reign witnessed the construction of the Red Fort at Delhi.
2. He personally led military campaigns to Central Asia, including Balkh and Badakhshan.
3. The Deccan policy of Shah Jahan was completely successful.

Which of the statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
 (b) 1 and 2 only
 (c) 1, 2 and 3
 (d) 2 and 3 only
- ✔ Answer: (b) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

• Red Fort was built under Shah Jahan; Balkh campaign happened; however, his Deccan policy was only partially successful.

39. The AICTE Saraswati Scheme, launched recently, provides scholarships specifically for:

- (a) Meritorious female students pursuing engineering.
 (b) Girl students enrolled in BBA, BMS, and BCA programs.
 (c) Girls pursuing postgraduate research in STEM fields.
 (d) Rural women undergoing basic computer literacy training.

✔ Answer: (b) Girl students enrolled in BBA, BMS, and BCA programs.

Explanation:

• Saraswati Scheme targets girl students in management and computer applications (BBA, BMS, BCA). ✔

40. Match the following Directive Principles with the Ideological School they reflect:

DPSP Article	Ideological Source
A. Article 40 (Village Panchayats)	1. Gandhian Principle
B. Article 44 (Uniform Civil Code)	2. Liberal-Intellectual Principle
C. Article 48A (Environment Protection)	3. Socialist Principle

Select the correct code:

- (a) A-3, B-1, C-2
 (b) A-1, B-2, C-3
 (c) A-1, B-3, C-2
 (d) A-2, B-1, C-3
- ✔ Answer: (b) A-1, B-2, C-3

Explanation:

- Article 40 (Village Panchayat) → Gandhian ✔
 • Article 44 (UCC) → Liberal-Intellectual ✔
 • Article 48A (Environment Protection) → Socialist goal of collective welfare ✔

41. Which of the following correctly describes the process of removal (impeachment) of a judge of the Supreme Court of India?

- (a) Removal is by an order of the Chief Justice of India after an inquiry.
 (b) Removal is by the President after a two-thirds majority resolution is passed by both Houses of Parliament on proven misbehavior or incapacity.
 (c) Removal is by the President without parliamentary intervention.
 (d) Removal is by the Prime Minister and Home Minister on the advice of the Cabinet.

✔ Answer: (b) Removal is by the President after a two-thirds majority resolution is passed by both Houses of Parliament on proven misbehavior or incapacity.

Explanation:

- Removal of Supreme Court judges is detailed under Article 124(4).
 • It requires a special majority and proven misbehavior/incapacity.

42. Which of the following is correct regarding the institution of Lokayukta in Indian states?

- (a) Lokayukta is appointed by the Chief Minister with the approval of the Council of Ministers.
- (b) Lokayukta is appointed by the Governor after consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court and the Leader of Opposition.
- (c) Lokayukta is elected directly by the people in every state.
- (d) Lokayukta is a constitutional body under Article 323B of the Constitution.

✔ Answer: (b) Lokayukta is appointed by the Governor after consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court and Leader of Opposition.

Explanation:

- The Governor appoints Lokayukta based on consultations; procedure varies slightly between states but generally includes consultation with Chief Justice and Leader of Opposition.

43. Which of the following languages was NOT accorded Classical Language status in 2024?

- (a) Odia
- (b) Marathi
- (c) Bengali
- (d) Pali

✔ Answer: (a) Odia

Explanation:

- Odia was declared a Classical Language in 2014, much earlier, not in 2024. ✔
- In 2024, the following languages were newly accorded Classical status:
 - Marathi
 - Bengali
 - Assamese
 - Pali
 - Prakrit
- Therefore, Odia stands out because it already had classical status from 2014, not 2024.

44. Match the following Schedules with their Subject Matter:

Schedule	Subject
A. Second Schedule	1. Forms of Oaths and Affirmations
B. Third Schedule	2. Salaries and Allowances of Officials
C. Fifth Schedule	3. Administration of Scheduled Areas and Tribes
D. Eighth Schedule	4. List of Official (Scheduled) Languages

Select the correct match:

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

✔ Answer: (a) A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4

Explanation:

Schedule	Subject
Second Schedule	Salaries of President, Governors, Judges, etc.
Third Schedule	Forms of Oaths and Affirmations
Fifth Schedule	Administration of Scheduled Areas and Tribes
Eighth Schedule	Languages

45. Which of the following can be considered as unitary characteristics of the Indian Constitution?

1. Strong Centre with more powers than the States.
2. Single Constitution for both the Union and the States.
3. Rigid distribution of powers between the Union and the States.
4. Emergency provisions enabling concentration of powers in the Centre.

Select the correct answer:

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

✔ Answer: (b) 1, 2 and 4 only

Explanation:

Feature	Unitary?	Why
1. Strong Centre	✓	Union List wider than State List; Centre dominant in finance and legislation
2. Single Constitution	✓	Unlike US where States have their own Constitutions
3. Rigid division of powers	✗	India's division is flexible — Parliament can change State boundaries under Article 3
4. Emergency powers	✓	Centre assumes control over State subjects during emergency

46. Match the following types of emergencies with their constitutional provisions:

Type of Emergency	Article
A. National Emergency	1. Article 352
B. President's Rule (State Emergency)	2. Article 356
C. Financial Emergency	3. Article 360

Select the correct match:

- (a) A-1, B-2, C-3
- (b) A-2, B-3, C-1
- (c) A-1, B-3, C-2
- (d) A-3, B-2, C-1

✓ Answer: (a) A-1, B-2, C-3

47. Who among the following Portuguese officials captured Goa and established Portuguese supremacy in India?

- (a) Vasco da Gama
- (b) Francis de Almeida
- (c) Afonso de Albuquerque
- (d) Pedro Alvarez Cabral

✓ Answer: (c) Afonso de Albuquerque

48. Which of the following statements is correct regarding Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI)?

- (a) OCI holders enjoy voting rights in India.
- (b) OCI holders can hold constitutional posts like President or Vice-President.
- (c) OCI holders are citizens of India.
- (d) OCI holders enjoy multiple entry, multi-purpose lifelong visa to visit India.

✓ Answer: (d) OCI holders enjoy multiple entry, multi-purpose lifelong visa to visit India.

Explanation:

- OCI is not equivalent to full citizenship
- They cannot vote, hold constitutional posts, or government jobs.
- They get lifelong visa facility. ✓

49. Match the following rights under the Forest Rights Act, 2006:

Type of Right	Description
A. Individual Forest Right	1. Ownership of minor forest produce
B. Community Forest Resource Right	2. Right to protect and manage forests collectively
C. Habitat Right	3. Special protection for Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)

Select the correct code:

- (a) A-1, B-2, C-3
- (b) A-2, B-1, C-3
- (c) A-3, B-2, C-1
- (d) A-2, B-3, C-1

✓ Answer: (a) A-1, B-2, C-3

Explanation:

- Individual Forest Right → Ownership/Access to minor forest produce ✓
- Community Forest Resource → Collective management rights ✓
- Habitat Right → Special rights for PVTGs ✓

50. Consider the following about Harsha's taxation system:

1. Hiranya was a cash tax paid by merchants and farmers.
2. Bhaga was a tax on military recruitment.
3. Bali was a form of voluntary contribution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

✓ Answer: (a) 1 only

Explanation:

• Hiranya = Cash tax by merchants/farmers



• Bhaga = Land tax/share of produce, 1/6th, not military tax. ✗

• Bali = Unclear meaning, but not voluntary charity. ✗

51. Consider the following statements about Meme Coins in the cryptocurrency market:

1. Meme coins derive their value largely from community hype rather than underlying utility.
2. Dogecoin and Shiba Inu are examples of such coins.
3. Meme coins are generally regulated by central banks.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Statements 1 and 2 are correct—meme coins are driven by internet culture. Statement 3 is incorrect—most meme coins are unregulated or decentralized, not controlled by central banks.

52. With reference to the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) of the World Trade Organization (WTO), consider the following statements:

1. The WTO has agreed to restore a fully functional dispute settlement system by the end of 2024.
2. The DSB is a permanent body composed of all WTO members and has the authority to appoint dispute panels.
3. The Appellate Body currently has no functioning members, and hence cannot issue binding decisions.
4. Dispute resolution under WTO follows a single-tier procedure without provision for appeals.

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: As per MC13, WTO members agreed to restore the dispute settlement mechanism by the end of 2024.

- Statement 2 is correct: The DSB is composed of all WTO members and appoints panels.

- Statement 3 is correct: The Appellate Body has only one member, rendering it non-functional.

- Statement 4 is incorrect: WTO uses a two-tier system—panel + appellate review.

53. With reference to the World Bank, consider the following statements:

1. It is a single institution that provides short-term credit to member countries.
2. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) is a part of the World Bank Group.
3. The World Bank supports development projects in infrastructure, education, and health.
4. The World Bank and IMF are both headquartered in Geneva.

Which of the statements are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Statement 1 is incorrect—World Bank provides long-term development loans, not short-term. Statement 4 is incorrect—both are headquartered in Washington, D.C. Statements 2 and 3 are correct.

54. Consider the following statements regarding the I2U2 grouping:

1. I2U2 aims to promote joint investments in water, energy, transportation, and food security.
2. It is a military alliance focusing on Indo-Pacific deterrence strategy.
3. India hosted the first I2U2 virtual summit in 2022.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: I2U2 is focused on economic and infrastructure projects.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: It is not a military alliance.
- Statement 3 is correct: The first summit was hosted virtually by India in July 2022.

55. With reference to Cooperative Banks in India, consider the following statements:

1. Urban Cooperative Banks are regulated by both the Reserve Bank of India and the Registrar of Cooperative Societies.
2. Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) are directly regulated by the Reserve Bank of India.
3. The Banking Regulation Act was made applicable to cooperative banks through an amendment in 1966.
4. Cooperative banks can issue equity and preference shares with prior approval from the RBI.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: UCBs have dual regulation—RBI regulates banking operations; Registrar handles administration.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: PACS are not regulated by RBI, as they fall outside the Banking Regulation Act.
- Statement 3 is correct: 1966 amendment brought cooperative banks under the purview of the Act.
- Statement 4 is correct: Cooperative banks can issue equity/preference shares with RBI's prior approval.

56. Which of the following features best describe microcredit as practiced in Indian microfinance?

1. Loans are extended without collateral to low-income households.
2. Borrowers must have annual household income below a specified threshold set by RBI.
3. There is no cap on the number of lenders per borrower in the microfinance system.
4. Total loan repayment obligations must not exceed a certain portion of household income.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- Statement 3 is incorrect: Though multiple borrowings are allowed, RBI has limits on repayment burden and lenders must follow borrower verification.
- The others are correct: Microcredit is collateral-free, income capped (₹3 lakh), and total repayment capped at 50% of monthly household income.

57. The Monetary Policy Corridor is defined by which of the following?

1. Upper bound – Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) Rate
2. Operating target – Weighted Average Call Rate (WACR)
3. Lower bound – Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) Rate
4. Policy anchor – Bank Rate

Select the correct combination:

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

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- Bank Rate is not the policy anchor or part of the operating framework.
- MSF and SDF define the corridor; WACR is the operating target.

58. Consider the following statements regarding the GDP Deflator:

1. It captures inflation in both goods and services sectors including imported goods.
2. GDP deflator is available quarterly and is derived from Nominal and Real GDP.
3. It uses a fixed basket of goods and services similar to CPI.
4. GDP deflator adjusts automatically for changes in consumption patterns.

Which of the statements are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is incorrect: It covers domestically produced goods/services, not imports.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: Unlike CPI, GDP deflator does not use a fixed basket.

59. In the context of 2024–25, which of the following global events impacted the exchange rate of INR significantly?

1. Geopolitical tensions in the Red Sea region
2. Rise in US Federal Reserve interest rates
3. Sharp rise in Indian agricultural exports
4. Reduction in India's import of crude oil from Russia

Options:

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

Correct Answer: (b) 1 and 2 only

Explanation: Red Sea tensions and US Fed hikes impacted capital outflows and supply chains, weakening INR. Agricultural exports had minimal forex impact. India increased oil imports from Russia due to discounts.

60. A capital account surplus implies:

- (a) India has exported more goods than it imported
- (b) There is net inflow of financial capital into India
- (c) Forex reserves have reduced
- (d) India is importing more services

Answer: (b) There is net inflow of financial capital into India

Explanation: A surplus means more capital is coming into the country than going out.

61. The concepts of Recessionary Gap and Inflationary Gap are often used to assess the macroeconomic health of an economy like India. Consider the following statements:

1. A Recessionary Gap in India occurs when actual GDP is lower than potential GDP, often accompanied by high unemployment and low capacity utilization.
2. An Inflationary Gap in India signifies that aggregate demand exceeds potential output, leading to demand-pull inflation.
3. In 2020–21, India experienced a Recessionary Gap due to pandemic-induced contraction, while post-2022, certain sectors reflected signs of an Inflationary Gap.

Which of the above statements 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

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is true: Recessionary gaps are visible when actual output falls below capacity, like during COVID-19.
- Statement 2 is true: Inflationary gap means excess demand over sustainable output.
- Statement 3 is accurate: India witnessed a sharp GDP contraction in 2020–21 (recessionary), while recovery-led demand surges post-2022 caused inflationary pressures in select sectors, e.g., real estate, services.

62. Consider the following statements regarding Tri-Party Repo (TREPS):

1. In a tri-party repo, a third entity acts as an intermediary to manage collateral, settlement, and payment.
2. It replaced the earlier Collateralised Borrowing and Lending Obligation (CBLO) system.
3. Funds borrowed under tri-party repo are exempt from both CRR and SLR calculations.
4. Tri-party repo is a monetary policy tool used by RBI for short-term liquidity adjustments.

Which of the above statements 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

✔ Correct Answer: (b) 1, 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- TREPS involves a third-party agent, usually CCIL, to manage repo transactions.
- It replaced CBLO in 2018.
- Borrowings under tri-party repo are **not** treated like deposit liability and hence exempt from CRR/SLR computation.
- However, it is not a monetary policy tool like LAF repo; rather, it helps deepen the corporate bond market liquidity.

63. Consider the following statements regarding the Governing Council of NITI Aayog:

1. It is chaired by the Prime Minister of India.
2. It includes the Chief Ministers of all States and Union Territories with legislatures.
3. The Finance Minister and External Affairs Minister are permanent members.
4. It functions as the apex body to foster cooperative federalism in policy formulation.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

✔ Answer: (b) 1, 2 and 4 only

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: The PM chairs it.
- Statement 2 is correct: All CM-level heads of states and UTs with legislatures are members.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: Only the PM chairs it; Finance and External Affairs Ministers are not statutory permanent members.
- Statement 4 is correct: It aims to promote cooperative federalism through structured policy dialogues.

64. Match the types of poverty with their correct characteristics:

Type of Poverty	Characteristic
A. Absolute Poverty	1. Poverty measured in comparison to societal standards
B. Relative Poverty	2. Persistent poverty that lasts across generations
C. Transient Poverty	3. Temporary poverty due to shocks such as job loss or illness
D. Chronic Poverty	4. Poverty defined by a fixed minimum income threshold

Select the correct match:

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

✔ Correct Answer: (a) A-4, B-1, C-3, D-2

Explanation:

- Absolute Poverty – fixed threshold, e.g., income below which basic needs can't be met.
- Relative Poverty – based on income disparities within a society.
- Transient Poverty – short-term, often due to economic shocks.
- Chronic Poverty – long-lasting, often generational.

65. With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA), consider the following statements:

1. The PMSMA provides fixed-day assured comprehensive antenatal care to pregnant women on the 9th of every month.
2. It aims to detect and manage high-risk pregnancies by involving private sector doctors and specialists on a voluntary basis.
3. The scheme is applicable only to women in their third trimester of pregnancy.
4. One of the objectives of PMSMA is to ensure that every pregnant woman receives at least one antenatal check-up by a medical officer.

Which of the above statements are correct?

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

✓ Correct Answer: (a) 1, 2 and 4 only

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: PMSMA offers antenatal check-ups on the 9th of every month across the country.
- Statement 2 is correct: The scheme encourages private doctors to volunteer, aiming to manage high-risk pregnancies.
- Statement 3 is incorrect: The scheme covers all women in 2nd and 3rd trimesters, not just the third.
- Statement 4 is correct: Ensuring at least one antenatal check-up by a medical officer is a core goal of PMSMA.

66. Which of the following government initiatives aim to reform or support India's coal sector?

1. Coal Gasification Policy
2. Mission Coking Coal
3. Auction of Coal Blocks through Open Market
4. Allocation of captive mines for power and steel sectors

Choose the correct code:

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

✓ Answer: (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Explanation: All listed measures are part of government efforts to boost efficiency, reduce imports, and liberalize mining.

67. With reference to India's ethanol blending program, consider the following statements:

1. India achieved a 20% ethanol blending in petrol ahead of its original 2030 target.
2. The government is now considering a 30% ethanol blending target by 2030.
3. The shift towards corn-based ethanol production has led India to become a net importer of corn.

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

✓ Answer: (d) 1, 2 and 3

Explanation:

- Statement 1 is correct: India achieved its 20% ethanol blending target ahead of the original 2030 deadline.
- Statement 2 is correct: The government is contemplating increasing the ethanol blending target to 30% by 2030.
- Statement 3 is correct: The emphasis on corn-based ethanol production has turned India into a net importer of corn, impacting local industries and global supply chains.

68. Which of the following minerals were declassified from the list of atomic minerals by the MMDR Amendment Act, 2023, thereby opening them up for private sector exploration and mining?

- (a) Uranium, Thorium, Plutonium
- (b) Lithium, Beryllium, Titanium
- (c) Gold, Silver, Copper
- (d) Nickel, Cobalt, Rare Earth Elements

Answer: B. Lithium, Beryllium, Titanium

Explanation: The MMDR Amendment Act, 2023, removed six minerals—lithium, beryllium, titanium, niobium, tantalum, and zirconium—from the list of atomic minerals, thereby allowing their exploration and mining by the private sector.

69. Match the constitutional provisions to their associated financial legislation:

Article	Associated Instrument
A. 112	1. Appropriation Bill
B. 113	2. Budget Demands by Ministries
C. 114	3. Central Government's Budget

Codes:

- (a) A-3, B-2, C-1
- (b) A-2, B-3, C-1
- (c) A-1, B-2, C-3
- (d) A-2, B-1, C-3

✓ Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- Article 112: Annual Financial Statement = Budget
- Article 113: Demands for Grants
- Article 114: Appropriation Bill

70. Consider the following hypotheses for the decline of the Harappan Civilization:

1. Aryan invasion and mass killings have been strongly established through skeletal evidence.
2. Decline of long-distance trade and disappearance of artefacts like seals and weights mark cultural regression.
3. Ecological factors like desertification and changing river courses were proposed by Indian archaeologists.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

✓ Answer: (b)

Explanation: Aryan invasion theory is now largely discredited; the other two are strongly supported.

71. With reference to the Later Vedic economy, consider the following:

1. Bali changed from a voluntary gift to a compulsory tribute to the Rajan.
2. Bhaga and Sulka emerged as forms of tax and toll respectively.
3. Punch-marked coins in gold, silver, and copper were issued by the state and bore official seals.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

✓ Answer: (a)

Explanation: Statement 3 is incorrect; punch-marked coins were uniface, lacked inscriptions or official seals, and not necessarily state-issued.

72. Consider the following philosophical characteristics:

Feature	Yogachara School	Madhyamaka School
A. Key Doctrine	Cittamatra (Mind-only)	Shunyata (Emptiness)
B. Major Exponent	Asanga and Vasubandhu	Nagarjuna
C. Principal Text	Samdhinirmochana Sutra	Mula-Madhyamaka-Karika
D. Ontological View	Store Consciousness Theory	Denial of Svabhava (self-nature)

Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?

- (a) A and C only
- (b) A, B and D only
- (c) A, B, C and D
- (d) B and C only

✓ Correct Answer: (c) A, B, C and D

Explanation: Both schools are central to Mahayana Buddhism, but differ in focus — Yogachara on consciousness, Madhyamaka on emptiness.

73. In the context of cryptocurrency storage, which of the following correctly differentiates Hot Wallets and Cold Wallets?

Feature	Hot Wallet	Cold Wallet
A. Connectivity	Connected to the internet	Offline or air-gapped
B. Usage	Suitable for frequent trading	Suitable for long-term, secure holding
C. Risk	Less prone to cyberattacks	More prone to malware

Select the correct pairs:

- (a) A and B only
- (b) A, B and C
- (c) A and C only
- (d) B and C only

Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Pairs A and B are correct. Hot wallets are online and convenient for active use. Cold wallets are offline and secure. C is incorrect—cold wallets are less prone to malware/cyberattacks.

74. Consider the following pairs of inland water bodies and a bordering country:

Water Body	Country
1. Dead Sea	Lebanon
2. Aral Sea	Uzbekistan
3. Sea of Azov	Ukraine

Which of the pairs are correctly matched?

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

✓ Answer: (a) 2 and 3 only

Explanation: The Dead Sea borders Jordan, Israel, and the West Bank — not Lebanon. The Aral Sea borders Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan; the Sea of Azov is between Ukraine and Russia.

75. Which National Park in India is renowned for its mangrove forests and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site?

- (a) Bhitarkanika National Park
- (b) Sunderbans National Park
- (c) Gulf of Kutch National Park
- (d) Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary

✓ Answer: (b) Sunderbans National Park

Explanation: Sunderbans National Park, located in West Bengal, is famous for its extensive mangrove forests and is recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

76. Which Biosphere Reserve, was the first to be designated in India and spans across three states?

- (a) Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve
- (b) Agasthyamalai Biosphere Reserve
- (c) Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve
- (d) Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve

✓ Answer: (a) Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve

Explanation: The Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, established in 1986, is India's first biosphere reserve and spans across Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Karnataka.

77. A new species of pangolin, identified in Arunachal Pradesh, has been named what, reflecting its geographic origin?

- (a) *Manis pentadactyla*
- (b) *Manis crassicaudata*
- (c) *Manis indoburmanica*
- (d) *Manis javanica*

✓ Answer: (c) *Manis indoburmanica*

Explanation: The Indo-Burmese Pangolin (*Manis indoburmanica*), recently identified in Arunachal Pradesh, is considered critically endangered due to illegal wildlife trade.

78. Which invasive weed, known for causing allergic reactions and affecting crop productivity, has been managed in India through the introduction of the Mexican beetle (*Zygogramma bicolorata*) as a biological control agent?

- (a) *Parthenium hysterophorus*
- (b) *Chromolaena odorata*
- (c) *Ageratum conyzoides*
- (d) *Mikania micrantha*

✓ Answer: (a) *Parthenium hysterophorus*

Explanation: *Parthenium hysterophorus*, commonly known as Congress grass, is an invasive weed in India that causes dermatitis and respiratory issues in humans and reduces agricultural productivity. The Mexican beetle (*Zygogramma bicolorata*) has been introduced as a biological control agent to manage its spread.

79. Which of the following is a function of the Chief Wildlife Warden as per the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972?

- (a) Granting licenses for commercial trade in all wild animals
- (b) Managing and maintaining all wildlife sanctuaries within a state
- (c) Designating areas as national parks
- (d) Issuing permits for deforestation in protected areas

✔ Answer: (b) Managing and maintaining all wildlife sanctuaries within a state

Explanation: The Chief Wildlife Warden, appointed by the state government, is responsible for the control, management, and maintenance of all wildlife sanctuaries within the state, as per the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

80. Which of the following Marine National Parks in India is renowned for its coral reef ecosystems and is located in the Gulf of Mannar?

- (a) Gulf of Kutch Marine National Park
- (b) Mahatma Gandhi Marine National Park
- (c) Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park
- (d) Rani Jhansi Marine National Park

✔ Answer: (c) Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park

Explanation: The Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park, situated along the southeastern coast of Tamil Nadu, encompasses 21 islands and adjacent coral reefs. It is part of the Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve and is known for its rich biodiversity, including coral reefs, seagrasses, and mangroves.

81. Elephants have a significant impact on their ecosystems. Which of the following roles do they play that benefits other species?

- (a) Predators controlling herbivore populations
- (b) Seed dispersers facilitating forest regeneration
- (c) Pollinators of flowering plants
- (d) Controllers of insect populations

✔ Answer: (b) Seed dispersers facilitating forest regeneration

📖 Explanation: Elephants act as seed dispersers by consuming fruits and excreting seeds over large distances, aiding in forest regeneration and maintaining biodiversity.

82. Which of the following best exemplifies a Fixed Action Pattern (FAP) in animal behaviour?

- (a) A chimpanzee using a stick to extract termites from a mound.
- (b) A goose retrieving an egg that has rolled out of its nest by rolling it back with its beak.
- (c) A dog salivating at the sound of a bell after conditioning.
- (d) A parrot learning to mimic human speech through repetition.

✔ Answer: (b) A goose retrieving an egg that has rolled out of its nest by rolling it back with its beak.

📖 Explanation: Fixed Action Patterns are instinctive behavioral sequences that are relatively invariant within a species and are triggered by specific stimuli. The egg-retrieval behaviour in geese is a classic example, where the goose will roll any egg-shaped object back to its nest using a precise, unchangeable sequence of movements.

83. Consider the following statements regarding the Kigali Amendment:

1. It is an amendment to the Stockholm Convention on POPs.
2. It aims to phase down the use of HFCs due to their global warming potential.
3. India is a signatory and ratified it in 2021.

Which of the statements are correct?

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

✔ Answer: (a) 2 and 3 only

📖 Explanation: The Kigali Amendment is an update to the Montreal Protocol, not the Stockholm Convention. It aims to reduce HFC use. India ratified it in 2021.

84. Which of the following statements regarding the composition of the Finance Commission is/are correct?

1. It shall consist of a Chairman and four other members.
2. The qualifications of its members are defined in the Constitution.
3. The Parliament may determine the powers of the Commission.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Answer: (c) 1 and 3 only

Explanation: Article 280 mentions the composition and leaves qualifications and powers to be prescribed by Parliament through legislation, not within the Constitution itself.

85. Which of the following is/are implicitly ensured through the ideal of Fraternity mentioned in the Preamble?

1. Promotion of single citizenship
2. Assurance of dignity of the individual
3. Preservation of national integrity
4. Abolition of untouchability

Select the correct answer:

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

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

Explanation: Fraternity in the Preamble seeks to ensure dignity of the individual and unity & integrity of the nation. It is reinforced through single citizenship, equality, and constitutional measures like Article 17 (abolition of untouchability).

86. In light of recent political developments, which of the following statements correctly reflects the Supreme Court's interpretation of the Speaker's role under the Anti-Defection Law?

- (a) The Speaker's decision is final and not subject to judicial review.
- (b) The Speaker must decide defection petitions within a reasonable time; delay can be subject to court direction.
- (c) Only the Election Commission can recommend disqualification of legislators.
- (d) The Speaker can act suo motu to disqualify any MLA without a petition.

Answer: (b) The Speaker must decide defection petitions within a reasonable time; delay can be subject to court direction.

Explanation:

In *Keisham Meghachandra Singh v. Speaker* (2020), the Supreme Court ruled that Speakers cannot indefinitely delay decisions on disqualification petitions and can be directed by the court to act within a specific timeframe (usually 3 months).

87. Which of the following features were introduced by the Government of India Act, 1919?

1. Introduction of diarchy in provinces
2. Establishment of a bicameral legislature at the Centre
3. Grant of Dominion Status to India
4. Extension of communal representation

Select the correct answer using the code below:

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

Answer: (b) 1, 2 and 4 only

Explanation:

The Government of India Act, 1919 introduced:

- Diarchy at the provincial level (division of subjects into reserved and transferred categories),
- Bicameral legislature at the Centre (Council of State and Legislative Assembly),

- Extension of communal representation to Sikhs, Indian Christians, Anglo-Indians, and Europeans.

“Dominion Status was not granted by the 1919 Act. It was proposed later in the Simon Commission recommendations and partially discussed during the Round Table Conferences.”

88. Consider the following geographical features:

1. Punjab Plain
2. Chotanagpur Plateau
3. Indo-Gangetic Plain
4. Assam Valley

The Ganga river system predominantly flows through which of the above?

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

Answer: (c) 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

Ganga originates near the Himalayas, crosses the Chotanagpur Plateau (through tributaries like Damodar, Son) and mainly flows through the Indo-Gangetic Plain.

Punjab Plain is part of the Indus basin. Assam Valley is part of the Brahmaputra basin.

89. Which among the following features contribute to the seasonal character (non-perennial nature) of Peninsular Rivers?

1. Plateau origin and limited snow-fed sources
2. High evaporation rates due to temperature
3. Deep river valleys allowing perennial groundwater recharge

Select the correct answer:

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

Answer: (b) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- Peninsular rivers mostly depend on rainfall (no snow).
- High temperature leads to high evaporation loss.

- Deep valleys are less common; many rivers have shallower valleys.

90. Which of the following are correct about the climatic influence of the Himalayas?

1. They prevent the cold Siberian winds from entering India during winter.
2. They are responsible for causing heavy monsoonal rains in the foothill regions.
3. They allow direct intrusion of westerly disturbances without modification.

Select the correct answer:

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

Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

Himalayas act as a climatic barrier against cold Siberian winds.

They force the monsoon winds to rise, causing heavy rainfall on the southern slopes.

They modify westerly disturbances; these get deflected and weaken by the time they enter India.

91. **Match the following important gaps and passes with their associated physical features:**

Pass/Gap	Feature
1. Palghat Gap	Western Ghats
2. Bhor Ghat	Western Ghats
3. Palk Strait	Coastal Division (Between India and Sri Lanka)

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Answer: (d) 1, 2 and 3

Explanation:

- Palghat Gap: Important low mountain pass linking Tamil Nadu and Kerala.
- Bhor Ghat: Major pass connecting Mumbai to the Deccan Plateau.
- Palk Strait: Narrow sea passage between Tamil Nadu and Sri Lanka.

92. Which of the following irrigation methods is/are classified as micro-irrigation techniques?

1. Drip Irrigation
2. Sprinkler Irrigation
3. Flood Irrigation
4. Furrow Irrigation

Select the correct answer:

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

Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- Micro-irrigation includes drip and sprinkler methods — designed to deliver small quantities of water precisely.
- Flood and furrow irrigation are conventional surface methods involving large quantities and higher wastage.

93. Which of the following are considered organic fertilizers?

1. Vermicompost
2. Bone Meal
3. Rock Phosphate
4. Ammonium Nitrate

Select the correct answer:

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

Answer: (a) 1, 2, and 3 only

Explanation: Vermicompost, Bone Meal, and Rock Phosphate are organic fertilizers derived from natural sources. Ammonium Nitrate is a synthetic chemical fertilizer and not considered organic.

94. Which of the following correctly describes the Nutrient-Based Subsidy (NBS) scheme?

- (a) Subsidy given based on the total volume of fertilizer sold by companies
- (b) Subsidy linked to the content of nutrients (N, P, K, S) in the fertilizers
- (c) Subsidy provided only for nitrogen fertilizers like Urea
- (d) Fertilizers sold without any Maximum Retail Price (MRP) regulation

Answer (related to NBS Scheme):

(b) Subsidy linked to the content of nutrients (N, P, K, S) in the fertilizers

Explanation: • Under the NBS scheme, subsidy is decided per kilogram of nutrient (N, P, K, S). • Manufacturers sell fertilizers at controlled MRP based on this subsidy. • It applies to non-urea fertilizers like DAP, MOP, NPK complexes.

95. Which of the following crops are officially procured by the government at MSP for building the central pool stock?

1. Wheat
2. Rice (Paddy)
3. Maize
4. Pulses (like tur, urad)

Select the correct answer: (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1, 2 and 3 only (c) 1, 2 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: (c) 1, 2 and 4 only

Explanation: • Wheat and paddy are the major crops procured for the central pool (✓). • Pulses are now procured under separate government schemes (e.g., Price Support Scheme) and added to buffer stock (✓). • Maize is procured very selectively and is not a central pool focus (X).

96. Consider the following about pulses cultivation:

1. Pulses require less water and are often grown in rainfed conditions.
2. Pulses improve soil fertility through biological nitrogen fixation.
3. Pulses thrive best in heavy clayey soils requiring water stagnation.

Select the correct answer: (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- Pulses are drought-tolerant crops.
- They enrich soil via nitrogen-fixing bacteria in root nodules.
- Prefer well-drained light soils, not heavy clayey soils needing stagnation.

97. Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) originate from which of the following sources?

1. Pesticide manufacturing and usage
2. Open burning of municipal solid waste
3. Industrial production of refrigerants (CFCs)

Select the correct answer: (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (a) 1 and 2 only

Explanation:

- POPs like DDT originate from pesticides.
- Dioxins and Furans arise from open waste burning.
- CFCs are ozone-depleting substances, not POPs.

98. Minamata Disease, a neurological syndrome, is caused by:

(a) Lead poisoning through contaminated drinking water (b) Mercury poisoning due to consumption of contaminated fish (c) Arsenic contamination of groundwater (d) Cadmium ingestion through food chains

Answer: (b) Mercury poisoning due to consumption of contaminated fish

Explanation:

- Minamata Disease was first identified in Japan, caused by bioaccumulation of methylmercury in fish.

99. Match the interaction type with the correct feature:

Interaction Type	Key Feature
A. Amensalism	1. One species harmed, the other unaffected
B. Protocooperation	2. Mutual benefit but not obligatory
C. Obligate Mutualism	3. Essential for survival of both species

Select the correct match:

- (a) A-1, B-2, C-3
- (b) A-2, B-1, C-3
- (c) A-1, B-3, C-2
- (d) A-3, B-2, C-1

Answer: (a) A-1, B-2, C-3

100. Which of the following statements is/are correct about Biosphere Reserves (BR) in India?

1. Only sites declared by UNESCO are called Biosphere Reserves.
2. India initiated its National Biosphere Reserve Programme in 1986.
3. Biosphere Reserves include legally protected areas like National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

Select the correct answer: (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (b) 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

- Biosphere Reserves in India are declared by India itself; UNESCO only recognizes some under the MAB programme.
- The National Biosphere Reserve Programme began in 1986.
- Biosphere Reserves often integrate protected areas.