

**Answer & Explanation for G.S. Comprehensive Test-1 held on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

Q1. Place the following Indian Philosophical schools in chronological order:

1. Dvaita
2. Advaita
3. Vishista-advaita
4. Shuddha-dvaita

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: C

Exp: None

Q2. Which of the following describes a Private Member's Bill in the Parliament of India?

- A. A Bill introduced by any member of the House other than the members of the party (or coalition) that has formed the government.
- B. A Bill introduced by any member of the House who is not a Minister.
- C. A Bill that has been introduced in the House without a recommendation from the President.
- D. A Bill certified by the Presiding Officer of the House of the Parliament as a Private Member's Bill.

Answer: B

Exp: None

Q3. Consider the following statements about Subsidiary Alliance System during the Company rule:

1. The English Governor Lord Wellesley was the first to lend European troops to Indian princes at the expense of the latter.
2. The Nawab of Bengal was the first Indian ruler to accept Subsidiary Alliance with the East India Company.

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: D

Exp: The French Governor General Joseph Dupleix was the first who had lent European troops to Indian princes at the expense of the latter.

The Nizam of Hyderabad was the first Indian ruler to accept Subsidiary Alliance with the East India Company in 1798.

Q4. The amount of solar radiation reaching a place, on a particular latitude, varies through the year because of which of the following reason(s)?

1. Seasonal changes in the angle of incidence of the rays on the surface of the Earth.
2. Changes in the length of day.
3. Changes in distance from the Sun.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: D

Exp: The axis of the Earth is inclined to the ecliptic plane at an angle of  $66\frac{1}{2}^\circ$  giving rise to different seasons and varying lengths of day and night.

In the course of a year, the Earth's revolution around the Sun with its axis inclined at  $66\frac{1}{2}^\circ$  to the ecliptic plane changes the apparent altitude of the mid-day Sun.

During seasonal changes there is a change in the distance of a particular place from the Sun.

Therefore, the amount of solar radiation reaching a place on a particular latitude varies throughout the year due to all the above given factors.

Q5. Ballast Water discharge by ships has become a cause of concern for countries all over the world. Which of the following is/are impact(s) of ballast water discharge?

1. Introduction of invasive species in native ecosystem.
2. Spread of diseases.
3. Oil spills.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: D

Exp: Ballast water is water carried in ships' ballast tanks to improve stability, balance and trim. It is taken up or discharged when cargo is unloaded or loaded, or when a ship needs extra stability in foul weather. When ships take on ballast water, plants and animals that live in the ocean are also picked up. Discharging this ballast water releases these organisms into new areas where they can become invasive species because of lack of competition.

Release of Ballast water can also spread diseases. For example: A form of cholera, *Vibrio cholerae*, previously reported only in Bangladesh apparently arrived via ballast water in Peru in 1991, killing more than 10,000 people over the following three years.

Many times oil tankers carry additional Ballast water in their cargo tanks. It results into oil spills.

Q6. A rise in general level of price may be caused by

1. An increase in the money supply.
2. A decrease in the aggregate level of output.
3. An increase in the effective demand.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: D

Exp: A rise in general level of price (i.e. inflation) is a result of too much money chasing too few goods in an economy. All three situations given above may cause inflation.

Q7. Which of the following is/are NOT the fundamental duty(ies) of citizens under the Indian Constitution?

1. To secure opportunities for the healthy development of children.
2. To protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India.
3. To prohibit the consumption of intoxicating drinks and drugs which are injurious to health.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: C

Exp: Statement (1) is a Directive Principle of State Policy under Article 39(f).

Statement (3) is also a directive principle under Article 47.

Fundamental duty regarding children is to provide opportunities for education to his child or ward between the age of six and fourteen years. This duty was added by the 86<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Act, 2002.

Q8. In which of the following sessions the Indian National Congress adopted a Resolution on Fundamental Rights and Economic Policy?

- A. Lahore session of 1929.
- B. Nagpur session of 1920.
- C. Tripuri session of 1938.
- D. Karachi session of 1931.

Answer: D

Exp: A Resolution on Fundamental Rights and Economic Policy was adopted in the Karachi Session of 1931. The President of this session was Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Gandhi-Irwin pact was also endorsed by the Congress in this session.

Q9. Consider the following statements regarding stem cells:

- 1. Embryonic stem cells as well as adult stem cells can be used in various stem cell therapies.
- 2. Induced pluripotent stem cells (i-PSCs) are a type of stem cell that can be generated directly from adult cells.

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: C

Exp: Stem cells are undifferentiated biological cells that can be differentiated into specialised cells and can divide to produce more stem cells. They are found in multi-cellular organisms. In mammals, there are two broad types of stem cells: embryonic stem cells, and adult stem cells. Both stem cells can be used in stem cell therapies like bone marrow transplantation. Induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) are a type of pluripotent stem cells that can be generated directly from adult cells. Shinya Yamanaka and John Gurdon received 2012 Nobel prize for the discovery that adult stem cells can be reprogrammed to become pluripotent.

Q10. Which of the following are depositional landforms?

- 1. Moraines
- 2. Horns and Serrated ridges
- 3. Outwash plains

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: C

Exp: The Moraines are made up of the pieces of rock that are shattered by front action, imbedded in the glaciers and brought down the valley.

The Horns and Serrated ridges are erosional landforms created by glaciers.

Outwash plains are made up of fluvio-glacial deposits washed out from the terminal moraines by the streams and channels of the stagnant ice mass.

Q11. With reference to the 'Samba crop' sometimes seen in the news, consider the following statements:

1. It is a rice variety grown in parts of North East India and some parts of Myanmar.
2. It is a rice grown between August and January.

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: B

Exp: Samba crop is a variety of rice grown in Tamil Nadu. It was in news during Cauvery water dispute between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

Q12. Consider the following statements about Clean Environment Cess:

1. It is a cess imposed on the selling price of the vehicles and is calculated on the basis of their polluting nature.
2. Its proceeds go to the National Clean Environment Fund (NCEF) which is used to finance projects related to sustainable development.

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: B

Exp: Carbon tax has been renamed as CEC since the Union Budget 2016-17 and it is a tax imposed on coal. It has increased over the years with the recent increase being from Rs. 200 to Rs. 400 per tonne.

Q13. Consider the following statements regarding the regulation of media in India:

1. The license for broadcasting units or companies in India is issued under the Telegraph Act of 1885.
2. The Press Council of India prescribes professional standards for print as well as electronic media.

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: A

Exp: In India there is no law which addresses broadcasting units or companies. One can apply for a license under the Telegraph Act of 1885.

The Press Council of India prescribes and enforces professional standards for the print media only.

The News Broadcasting Standards Authority, an independent body set up by the News Broadcasters Association, has laid down the Code of Ethics and Broadcasting Standards.

Q14. Consider the following statements about the colonisation of India:

1. The colonial era in India began with the establishment of a Portuguese trading centre in Kerala.
2. The Portuguese were also the last colonial power to leave 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: C

Exp: Portuguese India, was a state of the Portuguese Overseas Empire, founded six years after the discovery of a sea route between Portugal and the Indian subcontinent to serve as the governing body of a string of Portuguese fortresses and colonies overseas.

The first Portuguese Viceroy, Francisco de Almeida, established his headquarters in Cochin (Kochi).

The Governor of Portuguese India signed the Instrument of Surrender on 19 December 1961, ending 450 years of Portuguese rule in India.

The French rule in India ended between 1954 to 1956.

Q15. Consider the following statements about physiography of India:

1. India's Eastern Ghats and Western Ghats meet at the Annamalai hills.
2. The Meghalaya and Karbi Anglong Plateau are the extension of the main peninsular plateau.
3. The western coastal plains are example of an emergent coast.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Exp: India's Eastern Ghats and Western Ghats meet at the Nilgiri hills.

The Meghalaya and Karbi Anglong Plateau are the extension of the main peninsular plateau (i.e. Deccan plateau). Due to the force exerted by the north-eastward movement of the Indian plate at the time of the Himalayan origin, a huge fault was created between the Rajmahal hills and the Meghalaya plateau.

The western coastal plains are an example of submerged coastal plain while the eastern coastal plains are example of an emergent coast.

Q16. Consider the following statements about Deen Dayal Upadhyaya –Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY):

1. This scheme has its roots in the Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana launched in 1999.
2. Under the Scheme, the placement in wage employment is mandated for a minimum 75 per cent of all successful candidates.

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: C

Exp: The Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) is the flagship placement linked skill training programme under the Ministry of Rural Development.

DDU-GKY has its roots in the Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY). SGSY was formed by restructuring of the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) in 1999.

DDU-GKY is a pioneer in standards-led delivery of skilling in India. The scheme is undertaken through the public-private partnership (PPP) route by Project Implementing Agencies (PIA).

PIAs are mandated to assure placement to 75% of candidates trained by them.

The focus of the programme is on rural youth from poor families in the age group of 15 to 35 years.

Q17. Which of the following is/are NOT the objectives of Make in India campaign?

1. Job creation and skill enhancement.
2. Achieving high quality standards.



3. Minimising the impact on environment.
4. Boosting service sector in India.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: C

Exp: Make in India is the government's flagship campaign intended to boost the domestic manufacturing industry and attract foreign investors to invest into the Indian economy.

Manufacturing currently contributes just over 15% to the national GDP. The aim of this campaign is to grow this to a 25% contribution as seen with other developing nations of Asia. In the process, the government expects to generate jobs, attract much foreign direct investment, and transform India into a manufacturing hub preferred around the globe. Skill development, achieving high quality standards and minimising the impact on environment are the other important objectives of Make In India campaign.

Q18. Which of the following substances can be used for storage of large digital data for long durations?

1. DNA
2. Diamond
3. Mini magnets

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: C

Exp: All the three substances can be used for storage of large data for longer durations.

Q19. Which of the following works do not belong to Mahatma Jyotiba Phule?

1. Tritiya Ratna
2. Riddles in Hinduism
3. Ishara
4. Harijan

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: C

Exp: Among Phule's notable published works are:

- *Tritiya Ratna*, 1855
- *Brahmananche Kasab*, 1869
- *Powada : Chatrapati Shivajiraje Bhosle Yancha*, [English: Life Of Shivaji, In Poetical Metre], June 1869
- *Powada: Vidyakhatyatil Brahman Pantoji*, June 1869
- *Manav Mahamand* (Muhammad) (Abhang)
- *Gulamgiri*, 1873
- *Shetkarayacha Aasud* (Cultivator's Whipcord), July 1881
- *Ishara*, October 1885

Riddles in Hinduism is written by Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar.

Harijan was the English newspaper started by Mahatma Gandhi in 1933.

Q20. What is the correct sequence of occurrence of the following countries in Indian Ocean as one proceeds from North to South?

1. Maldives
2. Yemen
3. Mauritius
4. Seychelles

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: C

Exp:



Q21. The 2016 Ramon Magsaysay Award was given to Bezwada Wilson for his work in which of the following areas?

- A. Fighting against women and child trafficking and prostitution
- B. Protection of rights of indigenous tribals in Eastern India
- C. Eradication of the evil practice of manual scavenging and 'asserting the inalienable right to a life of human dignity.'
- D. Subaltern social ecology and protection of biodiversity.

Answer: C

Exp: Bezwada Wilson is an Indian activist and one of the founders and National Convenor of the Safai Karmachari Andolan, an Indian human rights organisation that has been campaigning for the eradication of manual scavenging.

Q22. Which of the following is/are instruments of qualitative credit control in monetary policy?

1. Bank rate
2. Open Market Operations
3. Consumer Credit Regulation
4. Rationing of credit
5. Margin requirements

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: D

Exp: Bank rate and open market operations are instruments of quantitative credit control.

*Qualitative Method:*

The qualitative or selective methods of credit control are adopted by the Central Bank in its pursuit of economic stabilisation and as part of credit management.

*(i) Margin Requirements:*

Changes in margin requirements are designed to influence the flow of credit against specific commodities. The commercial banks generally advance loans to their customers against some security or securities offered by the borrower and acceptable to banks.

More generally, the commercial banks do not lend up to the full amount of the security but lend an amount less than its value. The margin requirements against specific securities are determined by the Central Bank. A change in margin requirements will influence the flow of credit.

A rise in the margin requirement results in a contraction in the borrowing value of the security and similarly, a fall in the margin requirement results in expansion in the borrowing value of the security.

*(ii) Credit Rationing:*

Rationing of credit is a method by which the Central Bank seeks to limit the maximum amount of loans and advances and, also in certain cases, fix ceiling for specific categories of loans and advances.

*(iii) Regulation of Consumer Credit:*

Regulation of consumer credit is designed to check the flow of credit for consumer durable goods. This can be done by regulating the total volume of credit that may be extended for purchasing specific durable goods and regulating the number of instalments through which such loan can be spread. Central Bank uses this method to restrict or liberalise loan conditions accordingly to stabilise the economy.

Q23. Consider the following statements related to the Anti-Defection Law in India:

1. The anti-defection law is applicable to both elected as well as nominated members of the Parliament.
2. The Speaker or Chairman of a House of the Parliament is empowered to make rules to give effect to the provisions of the Tenth Schedule.
3. If the Speaker or Chairman of a House of the Parliament voluntarily gives up membership of his party he does not attract disqualification under anti-defection law.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

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

Answer: D

Exp: The Anti-Defection law is applicable to elected members, nominated members as well as independent members of the Parliament. A nominated member of a House of the Parliament becomes disqualified for being a member of the House if he joins any political party after the expiry of six months from the date on which he takes his seat in the House.

Statement (2) is correct.

Statement (3) is an exemption provided under the law in view of the dignity and impartiality of the office of the Speaker of the Chairman of the House as the presiding officer.

Q24. Consider the following statements:

1. Raja Ram Mohan Roy arranged for the first inter-caste marriage in modern India under the Brahmo Samaj.
2. Debendranath Tagore enunciated the basic tenets of Brahmo Samaj in his book Brahma dharma.

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: B

Exp: The first recorded inter-caste marriage in modern India took place on 4 February 1889. On this date, Yashwant and Radha (alias Laxmi) were betrothed. Yaswant was the adopted son of Jyotiba and Savitribai Phule.

Q25. Consider the following statements regarding biomes of the world:

1. Savanna biome has the shortest growing period.
2. Taiga is the largest biome in the world.
3. Temperate forests have the highest species diversity.

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

Exp: Tundra biome has the shortest growing season (less than 3 months).

Taiga is the largest biome in the world. It is also known as Coniferous forest or Boreal forest. Taiga forest lies between 55 degree north and 70 degree north hemisphere. It forms an almost continuous belt across southern Canada, northern Europe and Russia. Tropical rainforests have the highest species diversity.

Q26. Consider the following statements regarding Global Initiative of Academic Networks (GIAN):

1. The scheme will facilitate short-term teaching and research programmes by foreign academics in Indian Universities.
2. One component of this scheme is student exchange programme with foreign universities.

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: A

Exp: The Global Initiative for Academic Networks (GIAN) Programme is aimed at tapping the talent pool of scientists and entrepreneurs internationally to encourage their engagement with the Institutes of higher education in India. It will augment the country's existing academic resources, accelerate the pace of quality reform, and elevate India's scientific and technological capacity to global excellence.

The scheme will facilitate short term teaching and research programmes by foreign academics in Indian universities. Currently, Student Exchange Programme is not the component of GIAN Scheme.

Q27. Consider the following statements about National Pension System (NPS):

1. This pension scheme is available for all citizens of India including the unorganised sector workers.
2. This scheme is now renamed as Pradhan Mantri Atal Pension Yojana with minimum contribution of Rs. 1000 per year.

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: A

Exp: The National Pension Scheme is a contribution-linked pension scheme which offers a large variety of investment options to employees.

The NPS was launched on 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2004 and was aimed at individuals newly employed with the Central government, but not including those in the armed forces. From the year 2009, the NPS was made open to every Indian citizen between the age of 18 and 60 years.

The Pradhan Mantri Atal Pension Yojana is a new scheme.

Q28. Recently the Government introduced a Bill to amend the Citizenship Act, 1955 to exempt minority citizens of which of the following countries from being tagged as illegal migrants and making them eligible for citizenship?

1. Pakistan
2. Bangladesh
3. Afghanistan
4. Sri Lanka
5. Myanmar

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: B

Exp: The proposed amendment to the Citizenship Act, 1955 seeks to amend the definition of illegal immigrant.

The proposed Bill amends the existing definition of illegal immigrants to exclude minority religious individuals i.e. Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, Parsis and Christians from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Bangladesh from the ambit of being an illegal immigrant.

Q29. Consider the following statements about Champaran Satyagraha:

1. It was the first satyagraha of Mahatma Gandhi in India.
2. Nationalist leaders like Rajendra Prasad and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel joined Mahatma Gandhi during the Champaran Satyagraha.

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: A

Exp: The first Satyagraha movement inspired by Gandhiji occurred in Champaran district of Bihar and the Kheda district of Gujarat from 1917 to 1918. Champaran Satyagraha was the first to be started, but the word Satyagraha was used for the first time in Anti-Rowlatt Act agitation.

Rajendra Prasad joined Mahatma Gandhi during Champaran Satyagraha while Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel joined Mahatma Gandhi during Kheda Satyagraha in Gujarat.

Q30. Match List-I with List-II and select the correct answer using the code given below:

	List-I (Rock System in India)		List-II (Major Mineral Deposits)
A.	Dharwar	1.	Coal
B.	Vindhyan	2.	Manganese
C.	Gondwana	3.	Red Sandstone
D.	Archean	4.	Silver

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

Answer: A  
Exp: None

Q31. The term 'plea bargaining' is seen sometimes in news. Consider the following statements in this regard:

1. Under plea bargaining the accused admits guilt without a trial, in return he is given a lighter punishment.
2. Plea bargaining in India is available only for civil offences and not for criminal offences.
3. Wider use of plea bargaining will greatly reduce the burden on judiciary.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Exp: Under Plea bargaining the accused admits guilt without a trial. In return he is given a lighter punishment. Plea bargaining is available for both civil and criminal cases where maximum imprisonment is 7 years. But it is not available in case of socio-economic offences such as sati and offences against women and children below 14 years age. Wider use of plea bargaining will greatly reduce the burden on judiciary.

Q32. In case of bankruptcy/liquidation of a company what will be the sequence of claims given to various forms of investors?

- A. Bonds - Preference shares - Debentures - Shares
- B. Shares - Preference shares - Debentures - Bonds
- C. Bonds - Debentures - Preference shares - Shares
- D. Debentures - Bonds - Shares - Preference shares

Answer: A

Exp: Bonds represent debt while Shares represent equity. Equity represents a claim on future profits and the value of a stock can rise rapidly for a growing, profitable company. Likewise, the price of stock can drop to zero in the event of a bankruptcy. Bonds, on the other hand, only pay a pre-determined interest payment and their prices are bound by interest rates, and not by a company's profitability. If a bankruptcy occurs, bondholders must be repaid from a liquidation in full before any shareholders are paid anything. The upshot for investors is that bonds are therefore lower risk investments Preference Shares are shares of a company's stock issued to preferential shareholders or stakeholders. Much like common stock, preference shares represent ownership in a company. Unlike common stock, preference shares normally do not carry any voting power but give the holder of the preference shares claim on a specific quarterly dividend amount and precedence over common stock in the event of a company liquidation.

Debentures are a corporate or government bond not secured by any specific assets or property. This means a debenture is riskier than a secured debt instrument but garners a higher interest rate payment to offset the risk. In the event of a liquidation, the holder of a debenture bond is viewed as a general creditor and must wait to be repaid until all the secured creditors have been repaid. But debentures are more secure than shares (Stocks).

Differences Between Preference Shares and Debentures

The main difference between preference shares and debentures is the former is an equity security giving its owner preferential rights, while the latter is a debt instrument that gives its owner fewer rights but a higher interest rate to offset the risk. The secondary difference is preference shares protect the holder in the event of a liquidation, while debentures do the opposite of protecting the holder.

Q33. Consider the following statements regarding presidential elections in India:

1. All Members of both the Houses of Parliament can participate in this election but in case of States, only members of the State Legislative Assembly can participate.
2. Where a State Legislative Assembly is dissolved due to imposition of President's Rule, the members are still qualified to vote in the presidential election.
3. Disputes related to presidential elections come under original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Exp: In presidential elections, only elected members of both the Houses of Parliament can participate in this election. In case of States and Union Territories of Delhi and Puducherry the elected members of legislative assemblies can participate.

Where a State Legislative Assembly is dissolved, the members of the State Legislative Assembly cease to be qualified to vote in the Presidential election.

Statement (3) is correct.

Q34. Arrange the following events in chronological order:

1. The Hunter Education Commission
2. The Wood's Despatch
3. The Sadler University Commission
4. Wardha Scheme of basic education.
5. Sergeant Plan of education.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1-2-3-4-5
- B. 2-3-1-5-4
- C. 2-5-3-1-4
- D. 2-1-3-4-5

Answer: D

Exp: The Wood's Despatch 1854

The Hunter Education Commission 1882-83

The Sadler University Commission 1917-19

Wardha Scheme of basic education 1937

Sergeant Plan of education 1944

Q35. Which of the following parts of the Constitution of India cannot be amended by the Parliament of India?

1. Part III
2. Part XI
3. Part XV
4. Third Schedule

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: D

Exp: The Parliament can amend any or all the parts of the Constitution, subject to the condition that it does not violate the basic structure of the Constitution.

Q36. Consider the following statements regarding Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA):

1. In India EIA has been made mandatory for all projects.



2. In the areas covered under the Panchayats (Extension to the Schedule Areas) Act, 196, Gram Sabha is empowered to undertake EIA – for new projects.

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: D

Exp: In India, EIA has not been made mandatory for all projects. There are several projects with significant environmental impacts that are exempted from the notification either because they are not listed in Schedule – 1, or their investments are less than what is provided for in the notification.

In the areas covered under the Panchayat (Extension to the Schedule Areas) Act, 1996, Gram Sabha has the power to prevent alienation of land in the Scheduled Areas, but it cannot undertake EIA. EIA is conducted by an expert panel.

Q37. Consider the following statements regarding Municipal Bonds in India:

- 1. The Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation was the first Municipal Corporation to issue municipal bonds.
- 2. Municipal bond market in India is regulated by SEBI.

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: C

Exp: A municipal bond is a bond issued by a local government or their agencies to finance its capital expenditure. In India the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation was the first municipal corporation to issue these bonds in 1998.

The municipal bond market in India is regulated by SEBI.

Q38. Consider the following statements about Ease of Doing Business among Indian States:

- 1. This index for Indian States is prepared by the World Bank in association with Centre's Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion.
- 2. Andhra Pradesh and Telangana have jointly topped the ranking for year 2016.

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: C

Exp: The Ease of Doing Business Index is an index created by the World Bank Group. This index for Indian states is prepared by the World Bank in association with Centre's Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion.

Andhra Pradesh and Telangana have jointly topped the Ease of Doing Business ranking for 2015-16 while Gujarat has slipped to the third position in the list prepared by the World Bank and DIPP.

Q39. Consider the following statements about Estimates Committee:

- 1. All members of Estimates Committee are from the Lok Sabha only.
- 2. It is also known as continuous economy committee.
- 3. The members of Estimates Committee are nominated by the Speaker of Lok Sabha from among its members every year.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only



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

Answer: B

Exp: The Estimates Committee has 30 members, all are from Lok Sabha. These members are elected by the Lok Sabha every year from amongst its members according to the principle of proportional representation by means of a single transferable vote, though the Chairman of the Committee is appointed by the Speaker from amongst its members.

The function of the Committee is to examine the estimates included in the budget and suggest 'economies' in public expenditure. Hence, it has been described as a 'continuous economy committee'.

Q40. What was the objective of Montagu's Declaration of August 1917?

- A. Declaring the policy of increasing association of Indians in every branch of administration.
- B. Appointing a Commission to enquire into the working of the system of government.
- C. The enlargement of the size of the legislature as well as their functions.
- D. None of the above

Answer: A

Exp: Increasing association of Indians in every branch of administration, and the gradual development of self-governing institutions with a view to the progressive realization of responsible governments in India as an integral part of the British Empire.

Q41. Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?

	(Geographic feature)		(Location)
1.	Pamir Knot	:	Kazakhstan
2.	Zagros Mountains	:	Saudi Arabia
3.	Lake Victoria	:	Rwanda

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: D

Exp: Pamir knot is a unique geographical feature in the Pamir Mountains. It refers to the convergence of some of the world's major mountain ranges, including the Tian Shan, Karakoram, Kunlun Shan, Hindukush and Pamir Systems.

While a number of countries claim to be home to the Pamir knot, it is actually centred in the Gorno-Badakh Shan autonomous region of eastern Tajikistan.

The Zagros Mountains form the largest mountain range in Iran, Iraq and south-eastern Turkey.

Lake Victoria is Africa's largest lake by area and the world's second largest fresh water lake by area. While Nile originates from lake Victoria. This lake is divided among three countries – Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania.

Q42. Consider the following statements about Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD) payment service:

- 1. This service does not require smartphone and an internet data connection to do mobile transactions.
- 2. There is no need to link bank account to the mobile number to avail this service.

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: C

Exp: USSD (Unstructured Supplementary Service Data) is a Global System for Mobile (GSM) communication technology that is used to send text between a mobile phone and an application program in the network. Applications may include prepaid roaming or mobile chatting. USSD is similar to Short Messaging Service (SMS), but, unlike SMS, USSD transactions occur during the session only. With SMS, message can be sent to a mobile phone and stored for several days if the phone is not activated or within range.

Q43. The Annual Financial Statement is prepared by which of the following?

- A. The Department of Financial Services
- B. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs
- C. The Department of Revenue
- D. The Department of Economic Affairs.

Answer: D

Exp: The Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) is the nodal agency of the Union Government to formulate and monitor country's economic policies and programmes having a bearing on domestic and international aspects of economic management.

A principal responsibility of this Department is the preparation and presentation of the Union Budget (including Railway Budget) to the parliament and budget for the state Governments under President's Rule and union territory administrations.

The Department of Revenue functions under the overall direction and control of the Secretary (Revenue). It exercises control in respect of matters relating to all the Direct and Indirect Union Taxes through two statutory Boards namely, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) and the Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC).

Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has a mandate to review economic trends on a continuous basis, as also the problems and prospects, with a view to evolving a consistent and integrated economic policy framework for the country. It also directs and coordinates all policies and activities in the economic field including foreign investment that require policy decisions at the highest level. Matters regarding fixation of prices of agricultural products as well as reviewing progress of activities related to rural development including those concerning small and marginal farmers are in CCEA's competence.

Q44. Which of the following amounts to the defeat of the Government in the Parliament?

- 1. Non-passage of 'Motion of Thanks' in either House of the Parliament.
- 2. Amendment(s) to the Annual Financial Statement by the Rajya Sabha.
- 3. Passing of the Censure Motion in the Lok Sabha

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: A

Exp: The first session after each general election and the first session of every Fiscal Year is addressed by the President. This address of the President is discussed in both the Houses of Parliament on a motion called the 'Motion of Thanks'.

This motion must be passed in the House otherwise, it amounts to the defeat of the government.

Statement (2) is incorrect as the Rajya Sabha cannot amend Annual Financial Statement (i.e. Budget).

If Censure motion is passed in the Lok Sabha, the Council of Ministers need not resign from the office.

Q45. Which of the following school of Indian art is known for its characteristic painting known as 'Bani Thani'?

- A. Bundi

B. Kishangarh  
 C. Chamba  
 D. Basholi  
 Answer: B  
 Exp: None

Q46. Consider the following statements:

1. Wind energy has been the predominant contributor to renewable energy growth in India.
2. Hydro and renewable power resources, now contribute more than coal in India's installed power capacity.

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: A

Exp: Wind energy has been the predominant contributor to renewable energy growth in India accounting for 28 GW of the renewable installed capacity, making India the 5<sup>th</sup> largest wind power producer in the world.

India's installed power capacity (2016): Sectoral Distribution - Coal-61%; Hydro-14%; Renewable-14% and Nuclear-2%.

Q47. Which of the following chemical weapons is/are an organophosphorous compound?

1. Sarin gas
2. Vx nerve agent
3. Mustard gas

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: B

Exp: Organophosphorus compounds are organic compounds containing phosphorus. They are used primarily in pest control as an alternative to chlorinated hydrocarbons that persist in the environment. These compounds are highly effective insecticides, though some are also lethal to humans at minuscule doses (nerve gas) and include some of the most toxic substances ever created by man, including Sarin and Vx nerve agents.

Sulfur mustard, commonly known as mustard gas, is the prototypical substance of the sulfur-based family of cytotoxic and vesicant chemical warfare agents known as the sulfur mustards which have the ability to form large blisters on exposed skin and in the lungs.

Q48. Consider the following statements about All India States Peoples Conference:

1. The first session of the organisation was held in Bombay in December 1927.
2. Jawaharlal Nehru presided the first session of the Conference in 1927.

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: A

Exp: The All India States Peoples' Conference (AISPC) was a conglomeration of political movements in the princely states of the British Indian Empire.. The first session of the organisation was held in Bombay in December 1927.

The Conference eventually got affiliated to the Indian National Congress and Jawaharlal Nehru became its president in 1939. The Conference dissolved itself on 25 April 1948, all its constituents merging into the Congress.

Q49. Consider the following rivers:

1. Manas
2. Teesta
3. Subansiri
4. Barak

Which of the above are tributaries of Brahmaputra?

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

Answer: A

Exp: The important left bank tributaries of Brahmaputra are Dibang, Lohit, Dhansiri and Kolang, while the right bank tributaries include Kameng, Manas, Teesta, Subansiri, Raidak and Jaldhaka.

The Barak river is one of the major rivers of South Assam and is a part of the Surma-Meghna river system. This system is one of the three river complex that form the Gangetic delta, the largest on the Earth.

Q50. Consider the following statements about Jal Marg Vikas project:

1. This project is being developed between Varanasi and Haldia to provide a fairway with 3 metre depth with World Bank assistance.
2. The main purpose of the project is to develop commercial navigation on the river.

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: C

Exp: Both statements are correct.

Q51. Consider the following statements about Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB):

1. This bank was proposed by China as a reaction to slow pace of reforms and governance in global institutions like IMF.
2. India is one of the founding member of AIIB - along with Japan.
3. China is the largest shareholder in the AIIB followed by India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Exp: India is the founding member of AIIB but Japan is not. China's share holding is 30.34% and it has retained 26.06% of the voting rights. India is second largest shareholder with a stake of 8.52% and voting share of 7.5%.

Q52. Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?

	(Vitamin Deficiency)		(Disease)
1.	Vitamin C	:	Scurvy
2.	Vitamin B <sub>1</sub>	:	Rickets
3.	Vitamin D	:	Beri beri



Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: A

Exp: Vitamin D deficiency causes rickets while Beri beri is caused due to deficiency of Vitamin B<sub>1</sub>.

Q53. Consider the following statements regarding legislative procedure in State Legislature:

1. There is no mechanism of joint sitting of both Houses of the Parliament to resolve the disagreement between the two Houses over a bill.
2. The State Legislative Council can detain or delay an ordinary Bill for a period of maximum four months.

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: C

Exp: Both statements are correct. In case of second statement, if the Legislative Council does not take any action on the Bill for three months, then the Legislative Assembly may pass the Bill again and transmit the same to the Council. If the Council does not pass the Bill within one month, then the Bill is deemed to have been passed by both the Houses.

Thus, the Council can detail or delay the Bill for a period of four months.

Q54. Which of the following rock edicts of Emperor Ashoka contains the name Ashoka in it instead of Devanampiyee Piyadassi?

- A. The Girnar rock edict
- B. The Junagarh rock edict
- C. The Maski minor rock edict
- D. The Kalinga rock edict at Dhauri

Answer: C

Exp: Maski is a village and an archaeological site in the Raichur district of the State of Karnataka. It lies on the bank of the Maski river which is a tributary of the Tungabhadra. Maski derives its name from Mahasangha or Masangi. The site came into prominence with the discovery of a minor rock edict of Emperor Ashoka by C. Beadon in 1915. It was the first edict of Emperor Ashoka that contained the name Ashoka in it instead of the earlier edicts that referred him as Devanampiyee Piyadassi. This edict was important to conclude that many edicts found earlier in the Indian sub-continent in the name of Devanampiyee Piyadassi, all belonged to Emperor Ashoka.

Q55. Which of the following groups will be negatively affected by Rupee depreciation in India?

1. Gold importers
2. Indian students studying in the USA
3. Foreign tourists in India
4. Receivers of remittances in India

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: B



Exp: Rupee depreciation will negatively impact any entity which demands dollars or purchases dollars by spending rupees. With rupee depreciation, one needs more rupees to buy every dollar.

Q56. Identify the national park from the description given in following statements:

1. The National Park is the northern-most tip of the natural teak forest in India.
2. Part of this National Park will be submerged under water due to Ken-Betwa river linking project.
3. This National Park is also a Tiger Reserve.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. Bandhavgarh National Park
- B. Bandipur National Park
- C. Kanha National Park
- D. Panna National Park

Answer: D

Exp: None

Q57. Which among the following countries is/are not the member of Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)?

1. Myanmar
2. Cambodia
3. Thailand
4. Nepal
5. Malaysia

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: C

Exp: The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is an international organisation involving a group of countries in South Asia and South East Asia. These are: Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bhutan and Nepal.

Q58. Despite increase in per capita income in India the portion of income spend on food is decreasing. This can be explained by which of the following?

- A. The Lorenz Curve
- B. The Law of Diminishing Returns
- C. The Engel's Law
- D. The Laffer Curve

Answer: C

Exp: Engel's law is an observation in economics stating that as income rises, the proportion of income spent on food falls, even if absolute expenditure on food rises.

Q59. Consider the following statements about the independence of Supreme Court:

1. The Chief Justice of India can appoint officers and servants of the Supreme Court without any interference from Executive.
2. The Chief Justice of India can also prescribe their conditions of service.
3. The salaries, allowances and pensions of the staff of Supreme Court are also charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: D

Exp: All the statements are correct. These provisions are made to protect independence of the Supreme Court.

Q60. Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?

	(Functionary)		(Function)
1.	Waqai-navis	:	Official news writer
2.	Mir Bakshi	:	Head of the Revenue Department
3.	Barid	:	Intelligence Officer

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

A. 1, 2 and 3

B. 2 only

C. 1 and 3

D. None of the above

Answer: C

Exp: The head of the military was called the mir bakshi, appointed from among the leading nobles of the court. The mir bakshi was in charge of intelligence gathering, and also made recommendations to the emperor for military appointments and promotions.

In the Mughal empire, the Dewan served as the chief revenue officer of a province.

Q61. Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?

	(Initiative)		(Sector)
1.	Blue Revolution	:	Fishery production
2.	Golden Revolution	:	Horticulture
3.	Grey Revolution	:	Fertiliser
4.	Round Revolution	:	Potato

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

A. 1, 2, 3 and 4

B. 1, 3 and 4 only

C. 1 and 3 only

D. 1 only

Answer: A

Exp: None

Q62. Consider the following statements about Bharat Net project:

1. The project aims to provide on demand, affordable broadband connectivity of 2 mbps to 20 mbps for all households.

2. The entire project is being funded by Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).

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: C

Exp: Bharat Net is a project of national importance to establish, by 2017, a highly scalable network infrastructure accessible on a non-discriminatory basis, to provide on demand, affordable broadband connectivity of 2 Mbps to 20 Mbps for all households and on demand capacity to all institutions, to realise the vision of Digital India, in partnership with States and the private sector.

The entire project is being funded by Universal service Obligation Fund (USOF), which was set up for improving telecom services in rural and remote areas of the country. The objective

is to facilitate the delivery of e-governance, e-health, e-education, e-banking, Internet and other services to the rural India.

Q63. Despite high demands what is/are the reason(s) behind low production of pulses in India?

1. Distorted minimum support price (MSP) policy of the Government.
2. Pulses in India are mainly grown in rainfed areas and on less fertile land.

Ban on exports of pulses.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: B

Exp: Distorted MSP policy of the government and procurement policy in favour of cereals is one reason behind low productivity of pulses.

Because of this policy, farmers tend to grow cereals on more fertile and irrigated lands while pulses are mainly grown in rainfed areas – and on less fertile land.

Q64. Consider the following statements about the office of Mayor in Municipal Corporation:

1. In some Municipal Corporations in India, Mayor is directly elected by the people.
2. In some of the States the Mayor is elected for a one year renewable term.

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: C

Exp: In most of the Municipal Corporations the Mayor is elected by Councillors. But in some Municipal Corporations like Shimla and Kolkata, Mayor is directly elected by the people.

Q65. Consider the following statements:

1. Large sea surface with temperature higher than 26-27° C.
2. Presence of Coriolis force.
3. High variation in vertical wind speed.
4. A pre-existing low pressure.
5. Upper convergence above sea level system.

Which of the above is/are correct conditions for origination of tropical cyclones?

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

Answer: B

Exp: Low/Small variation in vertical wind speed is an essential condition for formation of tropical cyclone. Also upper air divergence is necessary.

Q66. Moral Hazard problem in the context of Universal Basic Income refers to

- A. Possibility of spending income for wasteful expenditures
- B. Possibility of transferring income in the accounts of fake beneficiaries in the absence of JAM trinity
- C. Possibility of discouraging the beneficiaries to look for jobs due to unconditional nature of income
- D. Possibility of giving such income in the hands of rich due to universal nature of income

Answer: C

Exp: None

Q67. Consider the following statements about Soil health:

1. Soil organic carbon is supposed to be the key nutrient for maintaining good soil health.
2. The rate of decomposition of organic matter in the soil depends on its nitrogen content.
3. The soil health cards provided to farmers will indicate soil fertility as well as soil productivity.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Exp: The presence of optimum population of microflora and fauna i.e. the presence of natural habitants of soil such as rodents, millipeds, earthworms, bacteria, fungi, etc is supposed to be responsible for good soil health. The food of micro fauna is the soil organic matter (i.e. soil organic carbon). Therefore statement (1) is correct.

The rate of decomposition of organic matter depends on its nitrogen content i.e. C:N ratio. The ideal C:N ratio is 10:1 where the C:N ratio is narrow(less), the decomposition is faster but where the C:N ratio is wide (more), the material decomposes very slowly but, to accelerate the rate Nitrogen(N) from the fertilizers can be added.

The soil tests indicate soil fertility but it does not indicate soil productivity. Soil productivity is an economic concept and signifies the capability of soil to produce specified plant under well defined system of management inputs and environmental conditions. Therefore, statement (3) is incorrect.

Q68. Consider the following personalities:

1. Mahatma Gandhi
2. Muhammad Ali Jinnah
3. Jawaharlal Nehru
4. S. Subramania Iyer

Which of them were associated with the Indian Home Rule League?

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

Answer: D

Exp: Between 1916 and 1918 when the First World War was beginning, prominent Indians like Joseph Baptista, Muhammad Ali Jinnah, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, G.S. Khaparde, Sir S. Subramania Iyer and the leaders of the Theosophical Society Annie Besant decided to organise a national alliance of leagues across India, specifically to demand Home Rule or Self Government within the British Empire for all of India.

Tilak founded the first Home Rule League at the Bombay Provincial Congress at Belgaum in April 1916, then after this Annie Besant founded Second League at Adyar Madras in September 1916. Jawaharlal Nehru joined Annie Besant's league.

The All India Home Rule League elected Mahatma Gandhi as its president in 1920. After that within a year it merged into the Indian National Congress.

Q69. Match List-I with List-II and select the correct answer using the code given below:

	List-I (Rock cut caves)		List-II (Religion)
A.	Barabar caves	1.	Ajivikas
B.	Karle caves	2.	Jainism
C.	Udayagiri caves	3.	Buddhism
D.	Udayagiri-Khandagiri caves	4.	Brahminism

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



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

Answer: A

Exp: None

Q70. Consider the following statements regarding the cultural history of Assam:

1. Vaishnavite saint Sankardeva started Bhagvatic religious movement Ekasarana Dharma in Assam.
2. Sankardeva was a contemporary of Guru Nanak and Meera Bai.
3. Sankardeva devised new forms of music known as Borgeet and theatrical performance Ankia Naat.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Exp: Srimant Sankardeva (1449-1568) was saint, scholar, poet, playwright, social-religious reformer of Assam.

Q71. Consider the following regions in India:

1. Higher altitudes in Himalayas
2. Marshy regions
3. High rainfall regions

Which of these regions, in general will have soils with acidic pH?

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

Answer: D

Exp: Acidic pH in soils is because of two reasons – (1) Leaching (as it removes base generating cations); and (2) Incomplete decomposition of organic matter (which may take place under anaerobic conditions (Marshy regions) or because of lack of heat (higher altitudes).

Q72. In water purifiers which of the following organisms is/are commonly used to breakdown the organic matter?

1. Bacteria
2. Fungi
3. Yeasts
4. Algae

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: C

Exp: The biological processes in water purification involve biodegradation. Organisms such as bacteria, fungi, yeasts, and algae are commonly used to breakdown the organic matters.

Q73. A company in Information Technology sector retrenches some software engineers due to increasing automation the sector. These engineers are facing the problem of

- A. Structural Unemployment
- B. Frictional Unemployment



- C. Cyclical Unemployment  
D. Seasonal Unemployment

Answer: A

Exp: Technological development like automation of a sector is a structural change in the sector and hence unemployment is structural in nature.

Q74. Which of the following statements regarding Election Commission of India (ECI) is/are correct?

1. The Constitution does not prescribe qualifications for the Election Commissioners.
2. The Constitution does not specify the tenure of its members.
3. The Constitution debars the retiring Election Commissioners from any further appointment by the government.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1, 2 and 3
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. None of these

Answer: B

Exp: There are some flaws in provisions related to the Election Commission of India (ECI). The Constitution has not prescribed the qualifications for the members of the Election Commission.

The Constitution has not prescribed the term of the members of the Election Commission.

The Constitution has not debarred the retiring Election Commissioners from any further appointment by the government.

Q75. Anekantavada and Syadavada are important principles of which of the following religion?

- A. Jainism
- B. Buddhism
- C. Jainism and Buddhism
- D. Vedic Hinduism

Answer: A

Exp: Anekantavada refers to the principles of pluralism and multiplicity of viewpoints, or vantage points, the notion that reality is perceived differently from diverse points of view, and that no single point of view is the complete truth, yet taken together they comprise the complete truth. It is one of the most important and fundamental doctrine of Jainism.

Syadavada is the Jain doctrine of epistemological relativism. It means all judgements are conditional, holding good only in certain conditions, circumstances, or senses, expressed by the word 'syat' (sanskrit: 'may be').

Q76. Consider the following pairs:

	List-I (National parks)		List-II (Location)
1.	Balphakram National Park	:	Meghalaya
2.	Clouded Leopard National Park	:	Tripura
3.	Dachigam National Park	:	Jammu and Kashmir

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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

Answer: D

Exp: Balpakram National Park is a national park ranging from under 200 to over 800 meters above sea level, near the Garo Hills in Meghalaya, India. It is often compared to the Grand Canyon National Park of United States. It is home to the barking deer and the golden cat.

Commonly seen animals include wild water buffalo, red panda, elephant and eight species of cats including tiger and marbled cat.

Clouded Leopard National Park is a national park in the Sipahijola Wildlife Sanctuary Tripura, India. It is India's first dedicated wildlife park to Clouded Leopards (a vulnerable wild cat found in the Indian Himalayan foothills of northeast India). The Clouded Leopard Park is also home to four species of primate monkey including Phayre's langur.

Dachigam National Park is located 22 kilometers from Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir. It covers an area of 141 km<sup>2</sup>. The park has been a protected area since 1910, first under the care of the Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir and later under the observation of the concerned government authorities. It was initially created to ensure clean drinking water supply for the city of Srinagar. It was finally upgraded and declared a National Park in the year 1981. The main animal species that Dachigam is most famous for is the hangul, or the Kashmir stag.

Q77. Consider the following statements about Indian Astronomical Observatory, Ladakh:

1. It is India's first dedicated multi-wavelength space observatory.
2. It is operated by the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore.
3. It is currently the highest optical telescope in the world.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Exp: The Indian Astronomical Observatory (IAO) is located near Leh in Ladakh. It is one of the world's highest sites for optical, infrared and gamma-ray telescopes. It is operated by the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bengaluru.

Atacama Observatory is the highest observatory in the world.

Astrosat is India's first dedicated multi-wavelength space observatory.

Q78. After the Second World War, USA played a major role in establishing the present global world order. Which of the following organisation is NOT a part of this order?

1. World Bank
2. WTO
3. Asian Development Bank
4. North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO)
5. Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: C

Exp: Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) is not a part of the USA established world order. It is mainly an initiative of China and Russia. The SCO is primarily centred on its member nations, majorly the central Asian nations, often describing the main threats it confronts such as terrorism, separatism and extremism.

Q79. The Inner Line Permit (ILP) was in news recently. Consider the following statements regarding it:

1. It is a special permit required to enter certain restricted areas in the country, even for citizens of India.
2. It is being criticised on grounds that it violates fundamental rights provided in the Indian Constitution to move freely throughout the territory of India.

3. Presently this system is in force in states of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Nagaland and Mizoram.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: A

Exp: Statement (1) is correct.

The Inner Line Permit (ILP) does not violate fundamental right to move freely throughout the territory of India as the State can impose reasonable restrictions on this freedom on two grounds namely, the interests of general public and the protection of interests of any Scheduled tribe.

Presently, the ILP is required by Indian citizens to enter Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Mizoram.

Q80. Which of the following is secreted by human cells just to resist the immediate invasion of viruses and indirectly check the multiplication of abnormal cells?

- A. Interferon
- B. Insulin
- C. Estrogen
- D. Somatostatin

Answer: A

Exp: Interferons (IFNs) are a group of signalling proteins made and released by host cells in response to the presence of several pathogens, such as viruses, bacteria, parasites, and also tumour cells. In a typical scenario, a virus-infected cell will release interferons causing nearby cells to heighten their anti-viral defenses.

Insulin is a peptide hormone produced by beta cells of the pancreatic islets. It regulates the metabolism of carbohydrates, fats and protein by promoting the absorption of, especially, glucose from the blood into fat, liver and skeletal muscle cells.

Estrogen is the primary female sex hormone as well as a medication. It is responsible for the development and regulation of the female reproductive system and secondary sex characteristics.

Somatostatin, also known as growth hormone-inhibiting hormone (GHIH), is a peptide hormone that regulates the endocrine system and affects neurotransmission and cell proliferation via interaction with G protein-coupled somatostatin receptors and inhibition of the release of numerous secondary hormones. Somatostatin inhibits insulin and glucagon secretion.

Q81. Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?

	List-I (Defence System)		List-II (Origin)
1.	Barak-8 missiles	:	USA
2.	MICA missiles	:	France
3.	INS Arihant	:	Russia

& RAVI

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1, 2 and 3
- B. 2 only
- C. 3 only
- D. None of these

Answer: B

Exp: Barak-8 also known as LR-SAM is an Indo-Israeli; surface-to-air missile designed to defend against any type of airborne threat including aircraft, anti-ship missiles as well as cruise missiles out to a maximum range of 70 km.

The MICA is an anti-air multi-target, all weather, fire-and-forget short and medium range missile system. Its country of origin is France.

INS Arihant is India's first indigenously constructed nuclear submarine.

Q82. Which of the following musical instruments did not originate in India?

- A. Sarangi and flute
- B. Veena and Tabla
- C. Rabab and Violin
- D. Tanpura and Shehnai

Answer: C

Exp: Rabab originated in Afghanistan and Violin originated in Italy.

Q83. Consider the following statements regarding Paris Agreement on Climate Change:

1. The agreement is considered to be world's first universal climate agreement with all countries sharing the responsibility of reducing Green House Gases (GHG) emission.
2. While the agreement is legally binding, the emissions reductions that each country has committed to (i.e. Intended National Determined Contributions (INDCs) are not.

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: C

Exp: The Paris Agreement on Climate Change is the first universal and comprehensive plan to combat climate change. The agreement seeks to limit global warming to 'well below' 2° C. While the Paris Agreement is legally binding, the emission reductions that each country has committed to are not. Instead, the agreement seeks to create a transparent system that will allow the public to monitor how well each country is doing in meeting it's goals.

Q84. Recently the Prime Minister announced a task force for Olympics. Consider the following statements regarding this:

1. The task force will prepare the roadmap for the next three Olympics.
2. The task force will also provide strategy to link sports with education.
3. The suggestions of the task force will be applied to Asian Games and Commonwealth Games also.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Exp: The Prime Minister announced the setting up of a task force for Olympics just days after the end of the Rio Olympics where India won just two medals. The task force will prepare the blueprint for the country's success at the next three games.

The task force will also recommend ways to improve the coaching standards and sports infrastructure in the country. The suggestions of task force will be applied to Asian games and Commonwealth games also.

Q85. Which of the following can be said to be essentially the parts of 'maximum Governance, minimum Government'?

1. Promoting cashless economy
2. Increasing government's role in providing goods and services to people.
3. Strengthening local self governing bodies in all States.
4. Downsizing the administration.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:



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

Answer: D

Exp: 'Maximum Governance and minimum government' is the motto of present government. It implies more efficient allocation of resources and effective implementation of government programmes.

Statement 1, 3 and 4 are essential components of this vision. Cashless economy will promote greater transparency.

Strengthening local self governing bodies will enhance people's participation and result into decentralisation of power.

Downsizing refers to reducing the manpower in administration. It will reduce the size of Government.

Q86. Consider the following statements about Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) of banks:

1. In India, a loan is classified as NPA, if the interest or any instalment remains unpaid for a period of more than 30 days.
2. In India, infrastructure, metals and textile sector are largest contributors to the stressed loans.

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: B

Exp: In India, a loan is classified as NPA, if the interest or any instalment remains unpaid for a period of more than 90 days.

In case it is delayed for 30 days, then it is included in Special Mention Account-1 (SMA-1).

Q87. The 'Aichi targets' sometimes seen in news are related to which of the following?

- A. Global hunger and poverty reduction.
- B. Disaster risk reduction.
- C. Understanding the causes of biodiversity loss and reducing loss of biodiversity.
- D. Conservation and protection of marine eco-system.

Answer: C

Exp: In the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) held in 2010, in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, Japan adopted a revised and updated strategic plan for biodiversity, including the Aichi Biodiversity Targets for the 2011-2020 period.

This plan provides a set of 20 ambitious yet achievable targets collectively known as Aichi Targets.

Q88. The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) is

- A. An agency of the United Nations to regulate internet.
- B. A private sector, non-profit corporation to manage internet protocol numbers and Domain names.
- C. An inter-governmental agency dealing with assignment of internet protocol numbers and Domain names.
- D. A global movement for net neutrality.

Answer: B

Exp: The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Number (ICANN) is a non-profit organisation responsible for coordinating the maintenance and procedures of several databases related to the namespaces of the internet, ensuring the network's stable and secure operation.

Q89. Consider the following statements about Public Finance in India:

1. The indirect taxes promote inequality in the distribution of income.
2. Tax expenditure refers to expenditures incurred by the Government in the collection of taxes.
3. Less than 3% of India's total population pays income tax.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Exp: The indirect taxes promote inequality in the distribution of income as poor bear more burden of indirect taxes.

Tax expenditure, as the world indicate, does not relate to the expenditures incurred by the Government in the collection of taxes. Rather it refers to the opportunity cost of taxing at concessional rates or the opportunity cost of giving exemptions, deductions, rebates etc. to the tax payers. Tax expenditure is also known as revenue foregone.

In India only 2.7% of population and only 5.9% of people in the working age-group pay income taxes.

Q90. Who among the following were prominent members of the Nirguna cult of Bhakti Marg?

1. Kabir
2. Nanak
3. Ravidas
4. Mirabai

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: B

Exp: In Bhakti Movement, the God can be experienced in two aspects – as Nirguna and Saguna.

Nirguna is the eternal all pervading and omnipresent divine consciousness Saguna is the manifestation of god in form.

Kabir, Nanak and Ravidas' ideas belong to the Nirguna philosophy within the Bhakti movement.

Q91. Consider the following statements regarding coral reefs:

1. In coral reefs, corals and zooxanthellae are in symbiotic relationship.
2. Here, corals produce nutrients through photosynthesis.
3. Though majority of coral reefs are found in tropical and sub-tropical water, there are also deep water corals in colder regions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: C

Exp: Zooxanthellae is microscopic algae which lives on coral. Zooxanthellae assist the coral in nutrient production through its photosynthetic activities. These activities provide the coral with fixed carbon compounds for energy, enhance calcification and mediate elemental nutrient flux.

During coral bleaching, the corals commonly lose 60-90% of their zooxanthellae and each zooxanthellae may lose 50-80% of its photo-synthetic pigments.

Q92. Gilt Funds denote

- A. Funds collected by selling government securities
- B. Value of government securities bought by banks
- C. Mutual Funds investing in government securities
- D. Mutual Funds investing in precious metals like gold

Answer: C

Exp: None

Q93. The Shadanga i.e. six limbs of Indian art in ancient India are associated with which of the following art form?

- A. Painting
- B. Sculpture
- C. Dance and drama
- D. Music

Answer: A

Exp: Shadanga i.e. the six limbs of Indian art is associated with Paintings. These include:

- (1) Roopa means outer form or appearance of the subject.
- (2) Pramanani means accuracy and precision of measurement and structure.
- (3) Bhava means the feelings on forms.
- (4) Lavanya Yojanam means blending grace in an artistic representation.
- (5) Sadrisyam means the resemblance.
- (6) Varnakabhangam means an artistic way of making use of the brush and colours.

Q94. Consider the following statements about Lonar crater lake:

- 1. It has an alkaline environment.
- 2. It is the only impact crater on the earth in basaltic rock.
- 3. It is known for the presence of spirulina species – a protein rich food.
- 4. It provides a rich supply of fish.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Answer: A

Exp: The lake is in the Buldhana district of Maharashtra. Its colour is pale-green to dark green – due to the highly dense algal population with predominating spirulina. Because of the hyper alkalinity and salinity, fish or similar aquatic life is not found in the Crater Lake.

Q95. Consider the following statements:

- 1. The actual amount of water vapour present in air, which is expressed in grams per cubic metre is called Relative humidity.
- 2. Relative humidity is measured by Hygrometer.

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: B

Exp: Relative humidity is the ratio between amount of water vapour and the total amount the air can hold at a given temperature. It is expressed as a percentage. It is measured by hygrometer.

Q96. Consider the following statements regarding general distribution of rainfall in the world:

1. In general, as we proceed from equator towards poles, rainfall decreases steadily.
2. The coastal areas receive greater amount of rainfall than the interior of continents.

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: C

Exp: Both the statements are correct.

Q97. Which of the following rate (s) is/are not determined by RBI?

1. Call Money Rate
2. Marginal Cost of Funds based Lending Rate
3. Base Rate
4. Bank Rate

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: C

Exp: Call Money Rate is market-determined through the demand and supply of inter-bank short-term loans. MCLR and Base Rate are the benchmark minimum lending rates decided by the banks mainly on the basis of their cost of funds. Bank Rate is the rate at which RBI is ready to rediscount commercial bills produced by the commercial banks and is decided by the RBI.

Q98. Consider the following statements with respect to earthquakes:

1. The magnitude scale relates to the energy released during the earthquake.
2. The magnitude scale is known as Mercalli scale.
3. The intensity scale takes into account the visible damage caused by the earthquake.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B

Exp: The magnitude scale measures the energy released. It is expressed in numbers from 0-10. The magnitude scale in Richter Scale and intensity scale is Mercalli Scale. The range of intensity scale is 1-12.

Q99. In the context of Indo-Islamic architecture the term "Pietra dura" refers to which of the following?

- A. Perforated stone or latticed screen with an ornamental pattern.
- B. A visual art related to writing
- C. The high and low relief carving to give a three-dimensional look.
- D. A pictorial mosaic work using semi-precious stones.

Answer: D

Exp: *Pietra dura*, also called as parchinkari in Indo-Islamic architecture, is a term for the inlay technique of using cut and fitted, highly polished coloured stones to create images. It is considered a decorative art.

Q100. Which of the following instrument(s) can be used to raise funds by the Indian companies from the foreign capital markets?



1. American Depository Receipts
2. Foreign Currency Convertible Bonds
3. Foreign Currency Exchangeable Bonds
4. Indian Depository Receipts

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: C

Exp: Through ADRs, an Indian Company can issue their shares at US Stock Exchange allowing them to raise funds from US investors. FCCBs and FCEBs are both bonds issued by an Indian company to the foreign investors. IDRs are shares issued by foreign companies on Indian share markets and allow them to raise funds from India.



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