

SOLUTION – CIVIL SERVICES (PRELIMINARY) EXAMINATION 2014

Paper-1 (General Studies)

1. In medieval India, the designations 'Mahattara' and 'Pattakila' were used for__:

- [A]military officers
- [B]village headmen
- [C]specialists in Vedic rituals
- [D]chiefs of craft guilds

Answer: village headmen

Mahattaras or Mahattam & Pattakila or Patel were the village headmen.

2. Lichens, which are capable of initiating ecological succession even on a bare rock, are actually a symbiotic association of __:

- [A]algae and bacteria
- [B]algae and fungi
- [C]bacteria and fungi
- [D]fungi and mosses

Answer: algae and fungi

A lichen is a composite organism consisting of a fungus (the mycobiont) and a photosynthetic partner (the photobiont or phycobiont) (usually algae) growing together in a symbiotic relationship.

3. If you travel through the Himalayas, you are likely to see which of the following plants naturally growing there?

1. Oak
2. Rhododendron
3. Sandalwood

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- [A]1 and 2 only
- [B]3 only
- [C]1 and 3 only
- [D]1, 2 and 3

Answer:1 and 2 only

4. Which of the following are some important pollutants released by steel industry in India?

1. Oxides of sulphur
2. Oxides of nitrogen
3. Carbon monoxide
4. Carbon dioxide

Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

Answer: 1, 2, 3 and 4

In steel furnace, coke reacts with iron ore, releasing iron and generating CO and CO₂ gases. Due to use of coal, pollutants such as SO_x and NO_x are released, thus all are correct options.

5. Which of the following Kingdoms were associated with the life of the Buddha?

1. Avanti
2. Gandhara
3. Kosala
4. Magadha

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer:1, 3 and 4

Correct answer of this question will be 1, 3 & 4. We have read that Pasenadi (Prasenajit), king of Kosala, was the Buddha's contemporary and is frequently mentioned in Pali texts. Kosala and Magadha were linked through matrimonial ties. Buddha wandered through the towns and villages in the kingdoms of Kosala and Magadha teaching his philosophy.

During the times of Buddha, the king of Avanti was Chandpajota. He sent his son Mahakacchana, along with seven others to invite Buddha to Avanti. Buddha preaches them and all of them attain arhatship. Buddha asked Mahakacchana to return and represent him. Gandhara is not directly associated with the life of Buddha. It was expansion of Maurya Empire that Gandhara received much Buddhist influence, notably during the reign of Asoka.

6. Every year, a month long ecologically important campaign/festival is held during which certain communities/tribes plant saplings of fruit-bearing trees. Which of the following are such communities/tribes?

- [A]Bhutia and Lepcha
- [B]Gond and Korku
- [C]Irula and Toda
- [D]Sahariya and Agariya

Answer: Gond and Korku

This question is based upon recent trends in Gond and Korku tribes in Madhya Pradesh of planting fruit tree saplings coinciding with Hari jiroti festival.

7. The sales tax you pay while purchasing toothpaste is a __:

- [A]Tax imposed by the Central Government
- [B]Tax imposed by the Central Government but collected by the State Government
- [C]Tax imposed by the State Government but collected by the Central Government
- [D]Tax imposed and collected by the State Government

Answer:Tax imposed and collected by the State Government

Taxes on toothpaste come under CST Act, which is administered by State Government. Sales Tax is paid to the Sales Tax Authority in the state from where the goods are moved, i.e. the state from where the movement of goods begin.

8. What does venture capital mean?

- [A]A short-term capital provided to industries
- [B]A long-term start-up capital provided to new entrepreneurs
- [C]Funds provided to industries at times of incurring losses
- [D]Funds provided for replacement and renovation of industries

Answer: A long-term start-up capital provided to new entrepreneurs

9. The main objective of the 12th Five-Year Plan is __:

- [A]inclusive growth and poverty reductions
- [B]inclusive and sustainable growth
- [C]sustainable and inclusive growth to reduce unemployment
- [D]faster, sustainable and more inclusive growth

Answer: faster, sustainable and more inclusive growth

10. With reference to Balance of Payments, which of the following constitutes/constitute the Current Account?

1. Balance of trade
2. Foreign assets
3. Balance of invisibles
4. Special Drawing Rights

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Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

Answer: 1 and 3

11. The terms 'Marginal Standing Facility Rate' and 'Net Demand and Time Liabilities', sometimes appearing in news, are used in relation to __:

- [A]banking operations
- [B]communication networking
- [C]military strategies
- [D]supply and demand of agricultural products

Answer: banking operations

12. What is/are the facility/facilities the beneficiaries can get from the services of Business Correspondent (Bank Saathi) in branchless areas?

1. It enables the beneficiaries to draw their subsidies and social security benefits in their villages.
2. It enables the beneficiaries in the rural areas to make deposits and withdrawals.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- [A]1 only
- [B]2 only
- [C]Both 1 and 2
- [D]Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: Both 1 and 2

13. In the context of Indian economy; which of the following is/are the purpose/purposes of 'Statutory Reserve Requirements'?

1. To enable the Central Bank to control the amount of advances the banks can create
2. To make the people's deposits with banks safe and liquid
3. To prevent the commercial banks from making excessive profits
4. To force the banks to have sufficient vault cash to meet their day-to-day requirements

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, 3 and 4

Answer: 1 only

Statutory Reserves Requirements include Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) and Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR). First statement is correct. Second statement is incorrect because of the term 'liquid' in that. Third statement is obviously incorrect. Fourth statement is partially correct for SLR but does not stand correct for CRR so it is incorrect.

14. Recently, a series of uprisings of people referred to as 'Arab Spring' originally started from:

- [A]Egypt
- [B]Lebanon
- [C]Syria
- [D]Tunisia

Answer: Tunisia

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15. Consider the following countries:

1. Denmark
2. Japan
3. Russian Federation
4. United Kingdom
5. United States of America

Which of the above are the members of the 'Arctic Council'?

- [A] 1, 2 and 3
[B] 2, 3 and 4
[C] 1, 4 and 5
[D] 1, 3 and 5

Answer: 1, 3 and 5

The members of Arctic Council are Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden, and the United States.

16. Consider the following pairs :

Region often in news	Country
1. Chechnya	Russian Federation
2. Darfur	Mali
3. Swat Valley	Iraq

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: 1 only

17. With reference to Agni-IV Missile, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is a surface-to-surface missile
2. It is fuelled by liquid propellant only.
3. It can deliver one-tonne nuclear warheads about 7500 km away

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- [A] 1 only
[B] 2 and 3 only
[C] 1 and 3 only
[D] 1, 2 and 3

Answer: 1 only

18. With reference to two nonconventional energy sources called 'coalbed methane' and 'shale gas', consider the following statements:

1. Coalbed methane is the pure methane gas extracted from coal seams, while shale gas is a mixture of propane and butane only that can be extracted from fine-grained sedimentary rocks.
2. In India, abundant Coalbed methane sources exist, but so far no shale gas sources have been found.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- [A] 1 Only
[B] 2 Only
[C] Both 1 & 2
[D] Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: Neither 1 nor 2

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19. With reference to 'Changpa' community of India, consider the following statements :

1. They live mainly in the State of Uttarakhand.
2. They rear the Pashmina goats that yield a fine wool.
3. They are kept in the category of Scheduled Tribes.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- [A] 1 only
[B] 2 and 3 only
[C] 3 only
[D] 1, 2 and 3

Answer: 2 and 3 only

20. In India, cluster bean (Guar) is traditionally used as a vegetable or animal feed, but recently the cultivation of this has assumed significance. Which one of the following statements is correct in this context?

- [A] The oil extracted from seeds is used in the manufacture of biodegradable plastics
[B] The gum made from its seeds is used in the extraction of shale gas
[C] The leaf extract of this plant has the properties of anti-histamines
[D] It is a source of high quality biodiesel

Answer: The gum made from its seeds is used in the extraction of shale gas

Guargum is used in the "fracking" or hydraulic fracturing process used for the extraction of the shale oil gas. The fracking process involves injecting a fracturing fluid, almost always water, at high pressure, to create channels in rock formations, which allow the oil or gas to move into larger pools, from which they can be extracted.

21. The Partition of Bengal made by Lord Curzon in 1905 lasted until__:

- [A] the First World War when Indian troops were needed by the British and the partition was ended.
[B] King George V abrogated Curzon's Act at the Royal Darbar in Delhi in 1911
[C] Gandhiji launched his Civil Disobedience Movement
[D] the Partition of India, in 1947 when East Bengal became East Pakistan

Answer: King George V abrogated Curzon's Act at the Royal Darbar in Delhi in 1911

22. The 1929 Session of Indian National Congress is of significance in the history of the Freedom Movement because the__:

- [A] attainment of Self-Government was declared as the objective of the Congress
[B] attainment of Poorna Swaraj was adopted as the goal of the Congress
[C] Non Cooperation Movement was launched
[D] decision to participate in the Round Table Conference in London was taken

Answer: attainment of Poorna Swaraj was adopted as the goal of the Congress

23. With reference to the famous Sattriya dance, consider the following statements :

1. Sattriya is a combination of music, dance and drama.
2. It is a centuries-old living tradition of Vaishnavites of Assam.
3. It is based on classical Ragas and Talas of devotional songs composed by Tulsidas, Kabir and Mirabai

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: 1 and 2 only

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The Sattriya dance form was introduced in the 15th century A.D by the great Vaishnava saint and reformer of Assam, Mahapurusha Sankaradeva as a powerful medium for propagation of the Vaishnava faith. Sankaradeva introduced this dance form by incorporating different elements from various treatises, then prevalent dance forms and local folk dances combined with his own rare outlook. Sattriya dance is a clear indication of the influence of the former on the latter. Other visible influences on Sattriya dance are those from Assamese folk dances namely Bihu, Bodos etc Many hand gestures and rhythmic syllables are strikingly similar in these dance forms.

24. Chaitra 1 of the national calendar based on the Saka Era corresponds to which one of the following dates of the Gregorian calendar in a normal year of 365 days?

[A] 22 March (or 21st March)

[B] 15th May (or 16th May)

[C] 31st March (or 30th March)

[D] 21st April (or 20th April)

Answer: 22 March (or 21st March)

25. With reference to the Indian history of art and culture, consider the following pairs:

Famous work of sculpture

Site

1. A grand image of Buddha's Mahaparinirvana with numerous celestial musicians above and the sorrowful figures of his followers below :

Ajanta

2. A huge image of Varaha Avatar (boar incarnation) of Vishnu, as he rescues Goddess Earth from the deep and chaotic waters, sculpted on rock :

Mount Abu

3. "Arjuna's Penance" / "Descent of Ganga" sculpted on the surface of huge boulders :

Mamallapuram

Which of the pairs given above is/ are correctly matched?

[A] 1 and 2 only

[B] 3 only

[C] 1 and 3 only

[D] 1, 2 and 3

Answer: 1 and 3 only

The second statement is about Udaygiri

26. The Ghadr (Ghadar) was a __?

[A] revolutionary association of Indians with headquarters at San Francisco

[B] nationalist organization operating from Singapore

[C] militant organization with headquarters at Berlin

[D] communist movement for India's freedom with head-quarters at Tashkent

Answer: revolutionary association of Indians with headquarters at San Francisco

27. With reference to India's culture and tradition, what is 'Kalaripayattu'?

[A] It is an ancient Bhakti cult of Shaivism still prevalent in some parts of South India

[B] It is an ancient style bronze and brasswork still found in southern part of Coromandel area

[C] It is an ancient form of dance-drama and a living tradition in the northern part of Malabar

[D] It is an ancient martial art and a living tradition in some parts of South India

Answer: It is an ancient martial art and a living tradition in some parts of South India

Kalaripayattu is an Indian martial art from Kerala. It is one of the most ancient fighting systems that are even practiced today. It was originally practised in Kerala and some parts of Karnataka. Today it is practiced in Kerala, Tamil Nadu as well as Karnataka and some parts of Sri Lanka.

28. Consider the following pairs:

1. Garba : Gujarat

2. Mohiniattam : Odisha

3. Yakshagana : Karnataka

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

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[A]1 only

[B]2 and 3 only

[C]1 and 3 only

[D]1, 2 and 3

Answer:1 and 3 only

The second pair is incorrect. Mohiniattam:

1. is based on the legend of the Hindu mythological seductress Mohini, who tempted Shiva.
2. is patterned on bharatanatyam with elements of kathakali.
3. uses Malayalam songs with Carnatak music
4. It is not a common dance in Odisha.

29. With reference to Buddhist history, tradition and culture in India, consider the following pairs :

Famous shrine

Location

1. Tabo monastery and temple complex : Spiti Valley
2. Lhotsava Lhakhang temple, Nako : Zanskar Valley
3. Alchi temple complex : Ladakh

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

[A]1 only

[B]2 and 3 only

[C]1 and 3 only

[D]1, 2 and 3

Answer: 1, 2 and 3

30. Consider the following statements:

1. 'Bijak' is a composition of the teachings of Saint Dadu Dayal.
2. The Philosophy of Pushti Marg was propounded by Madhvacharya.

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: Neither 1 nor 2

The hallmark of Kabir's works consists of his two line couplets (Doha), which reflect his deep philosophical thinking. His writings include Bijak, Sakhi Granth, Kabir Granthawali and Anurag Sagar.

31. A community of people called Manganiyars is well-known for their __:

[A]martial arts in North-East India

[B]musical tradition in North-West India

[C]classical vocal music in South India

[D]pietra dura tradition in Central India

Answer:musical tradition in North-West India

The word 'Manganiyar' means those who ask for alms. These people are singers and instrumentalists of Rajasthan.

32. What was/were the object/objects of Queen Victoria's Proclamation (1858)?

1. To disclaim any intention to annex Indian States
2. To place the Indian administration under the British Crown
3. To regulate East India Company's trade with India

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

[A]1 and 2 only

[B]2 only

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[C]1 and 3 only

[D]1, 2 and 3

Answer:1 and 2 only

33. Ibadat Khana at Fatehpur Sikri was__:

[A]the mosque for the use of Royal Family

[B]Akbar's private chamber prayer

[C]the hall in which Akbar held discussions with scholars of various religions

[D]the room in which the nobles belonging to different religions gathered to discuss religious affairs

Answer: The hall in which Akbar held discussions with scholars of various religions

Correct answer is C. It was a place to gather spiritual leaders of different religious grounds so as to conduct a discussion on the teachings of the respective religious leaders .

34. In the context of food and nutritional security of India, enhancing the 'Seed Replacement Rates' of various crops helps in achieving the food production targets of the future. But what is/are the constraint/ constraints in its wider / greater implementation?

1. There is no National Seeds Policy in place.

2. There is no participation of private sector seed companies in the supply of quality seeds of vegetables and planting materials of horticultural crops.

3. There is a demand-supply gap regarding quality seeds in case of low value and high volume crops.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

[A]1 and 2

[B]3 only

[C]2 and 3

[D]None

Answer:3 only

35. With reference to 'Eco-Sensitive Zones', which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Eco-Sensitive Zones are the areas that are declared under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972

2. The purpose of the declaration of Eco-Sensitive Zones is to prohibit all kinds of human activities, in those zones except agriculture

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

[A]1 only

[B]2 only

[C]Both 1 and 2

[D]Neither 1 nor 2

Answer:Neither 1 nor 2

The ESZ does not come under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Even Environment Protection Act, 1986 does not mention the word "Eco-sensitive Zones". The section 3(2)(v) of the Act, says that Central Government can restrict areas in which any industries, operations or processes or class of industries, operations or processes shall not be carried out or shall be carried out subject to certain safeguards Besides the section 5 (1) of this act says that central government can prohibit or restrict the location of industries and carrying on certain operations or processes on the basis of considerations like the biological diversity of an area, maximum allowable limits of concentration of pollutants for an area, environmentally compatible land use, and proximity to protected areas. Thus, all kinds of human activities are not restricted.

36. Consider the following statements:

1. Animal Welfare Board of India is established under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

2. National Tiger Conservation Authority is a statutory body.

3. National Ganga River Basin Authority is chaired by the Prime Minister.

Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?

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[A]1 only

[B]2 and 3 only

[C]2 only

[D]1, 2 and 3

Answer:2 and 3 only

First statement is incorrect. Animal Welfare Board of India was set up in accordance with Section 4 of The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act,1960. Second and third are correct statements.

37. Consider the following pairs:

Vitamin Deficiency disease

1. Vitamin C Scurvy

2. Vitamin D Rickets

3. Vitamin E Night blindness

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

[A]1 and 2 only

[B]3 only

[C]1, 2 and 3

[D]None

Answer:1 and 2 only

38. There is some concern regarding the nanoparticles of some chemical elements that are used by the industry in the manufacture of various products. Why?

1. They can accumulate in the environment, and contaminate water and soil.

2. They can enter the food chains.

3. They can trigger the production of free radicals.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

[A]1 and 2 only

[B]3 only

[C]1 and 3 only

[D]1, 2 and 3

Answer:1, 2 & 3

All statements are correct in this question, which is based on fundamentals of Nanotoxicology.
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nanotoxicology>

39. Which of the following organizations brings out the publication known as 'World Economic Outlook'?

[A]The International Monetary Fund

[B]The United Nations Development Programme

[C]The World Economic Forum

[D]The World Bank

Answer:The International Monetary Fund

40. With reference to Union Budget, which of the following, is/are covered under Non-Plan Expenditure?

1. Defence -expenditure

2. Interest payments

3. Salaries and pensions

4. Subsidies

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

[A]1 only

[B]2 nd 3 only

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[C]1, 2, 3 and 4

[D]None

Answer:1, 2, 3 and 4

Non-plan revenue expenditure is accounted for by interest payments, subsidies (mainly on food and fertilisers), wage and salary payments to government employees, grants to States and Union Territories governments, pensions, police, economic services in various sectors, other general services such as tax collection, social services, and grants to foreign governments.

41. Which of the following have coral reefs?

1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands

2. Gulf of Kachchh

3. Gulf of Mannar

4. Sunderbans

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

[A]1, 2 and 3 only

[B]2 and 4 only

[C]1 and 3 only

[D]1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer:1, 2 and 3 only

Major reef formations in India are restricted to the Gulf of Mannar, Palk bay, Gulf of Kutch, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Lakshadweep islands. While the Lakshadweep reefs are atolls, the others are all fringing reefs.

42. In India, the problem of soil erosion is associated with which of the following?

1. Terrace cultivation

2. Deforestation

3. Tropical climate

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

[A]1 and 2 only

[B]2 only

[C]1 and 3 only

[D]1, 2 and 3

Answer:2 only

Terrace cultivation brings down the soil erosion.

43. The seasonal reversal of winds is the typical characteristic of__:

[A]Equatorial climate

[B]Mediterranean climate

[C]Monsoon climate

[D]All of the above climates

Answer: Monsoon climate

The monsoon climate is characterized by seasonal reversal of wind direction associated with alternating periods of rainfall.

44. With reference to the cultural history of India, the term 'Panchayatan' refers to __:

[A]an assembly of village elders

[B]a religious sect

[C]a style of temple construction

[D]an administrative functionary

Answer:a style of temple construction

In Panchayatan architecture, main shrine is built on a rectangular plinth with four smaller subsidiary shrines at the four corners (hence the name, panchayatana).

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45. Consider the following rivers:

1. Barak
2. Lohit
3. Subansiri

Which of the above flows / flow through Arunachal Pradesh?

- [A]1 only
[B]2 and 3 only
[C]1 and 3 only
[D]1, 2 and 3

Answer:2 and 3 only

46. Consider the following pairs :

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Wetlands | : Confluence of rivers |
| 1. Harike Wetlands | : Confluence of Beas and Satluj/Sutlej |
| 2. Keoladeo Ghana National Park | :Confluence of Banas and Chambal |
| 3. Kolleru Lake | :Confluence of Musi and Krishna |

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:1 only

The second pair is incorrect. It is on Gambhiri and Banganga. Third is also incorrect.

47. Which one of the following pairs does not form part of the six systems of Indian Philosophy?

- [A]Mimamsa and Vedanta
[B]Nyaya and Vaisheshika
[C]Lokayata and Kapalika
[D]Sankhya and Yoga

Answer:Lokayata and Kapalika

48. Consider the following pairs :

- | Hills | Region |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. Cardamom Hills | Coromandel Coast |
| 2. Kaimur Hills | Konkan Coast |
| 3. Mahadeo Hills | Central India |
| 4. Mikir Hills | North-East India |

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- [A]1 and 2
[B]2 and 3
[C]3 and 4
[D]2 and 4

Answer:3 and 4

49. Which one of the following Schedules of the Constitution of India contains provisions regarding anti-defection?

- [A]Second Schedule
[B]Fifth Schedule
[C]Eighth Schedule

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[D]Tenth Schedule

Answer:Tenth Schedule

50. The most important strategy for the conservation of biodiversity together with traditional human life is the establishment of __?

[A]biosphere reserves

[B]botanical gardens

[C]national parks

[D]wildlife sanctuaries

Answer: Biosphere reserves

51. Turkey is located between__:

[A]Black Sea and Caspian Sea

[B]Black Sea and Mediterranean Sea

[C]Gulf of Suez and Mediterranean Sea

[D]Gulf of Aqaba and Dead Sea

Answer: Black Sea and Mediterranean Sea

52. What is the correct sequence of occurrence of the following cities in South-East Asia a one proceeds from south to north ?

1. Bangkok

2. Hanoi

3. Jakarta

4. Singapore

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

[A]4-2-1-3

[B]3-2-4-1

[C]3-4- 1-2

[D]4-3-2-1

Answer: 3-4- 1-2

53. The scientific view is that the increase in global temperature should not exceed 2 °C above pre-industrial level. If the global temperature increases beyond 3°C above the pre-industrial level, what can be its possible impact/impacts on the world?

1. Terrestrial biosphere tends toward a net carbon source

2. Widespread coral mortality will occur.

3. All the global wetlands will permanently disappear.

4. Cultivation of cereals will not be possible anywhere in the world.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

[A]1 only

[B]1 and 2 only

[C]2, 3 and 4 only

[D]1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer:1 and 2 only

The third and fourth statements are not correct in this question.

54. The national motto of India, 'Satyameva Jayate' inscribed below the Emblem of India is taken from__:

[A]Katha Upanishad

[B]Chandogya Upanishad

[C]Aitareya Upanishad

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[D]Mundaka Upanishad

Answer:Mundaka Upanishad

55. In the Constitution of India, promotion of international peace and security is included in the__:

[A]Preamble to the Constitution

[B]Directive Principles of State Policy

[C]Fundamental Duties

[D]Ninth Schedule

Answer: Directive Principles of State Policy

56. What are the benefits of implementing the 'Integrated Watershed Development Programme'?

1. Prevention of soil runoff

2. Linking the country's perennial rivers with seasonal rivers

3. Rainwater harvesting and recharge of groundwater table

4. Regeneration of natural vegetation

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

[A]1 and 2 only

[B]2, 3 and 4 only

[C]1, 3 and 4 only

[D]1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer:1, 3 and 4 only

57. Which of the following are associated with 'Planning' in India?

1. The Finance Commission

2. The National Development Council

3. The Union Ministry of Rural Development

4. The Union Ministry of Urban Development

5. The Parliament

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

[A]1, 2 and 5 only

[B]1, 3 and 4 only

[C]2 and 5 only

[D]1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Answer:2 and 5 only

58. Which of the following is / are the function/function(s) of the Cabinet Secretariat?

1. Preparation of agenda for Cabinet Meetings

2. Secretarial assistance to Cabinet Committees

3. Allocation of financial resources to the Ministries

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

[A]1 only

[B]2 and 3 only

[C]1 and 2 only

[D]1, 2 and 3

Answer:1 and 2 only

59. Consider the following statements:

A Constitutional Government is one which

1. places effective restrictions on individual liberty in the interest of State Authority

2. places effective restrictions on the Authority of the State in the interest of individual liberty

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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: 2 only

The first statement is not correct. To be very precise, Constitutional Government is one which places effective restrictions on individual liberty *in the interest of liberty of other individuals*. Effective restrictions on individual liberty in the interest of State Authority would lead to Authoritarianism.

60. Which of the following are the discretionary powers given to the Governor of a State?

1. Sending a report to the President of India for imposing the President's rule

2. Appointing the Ministers

3. Reserving certain bills passed by the State Legislature for consideration of the President of India

4. Making the rules to conduct the business of the State Government

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

[A] 1 and 2 only

[B] 1 and 3 only

[C] 2, 3 and 4 only

[D] 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: 1 and 3 only

Article 166 says: Governor shall make rules for the more convenient transaction of the business of the Government of the State, and for the allocation among Ministers of the said business in so far as it is not business with respect to which the Governor is by or under this Constitution required to act in his discretion. This implies that fourth is not a correct statement.

61. If the interest rate is decreased in an economy, it will __:

[A] decrease the consumption expenditure in the economy

[B] increase the tax collection of the Government

[C] increase the investment expenditure in the economy

[D] increase the total savings in the economy

Answer: increase the investment expenditure in the economy

62. Consider the following statements :

1. The President shall make rules for the more convenient transaction of the business of the Government of India, and for the allocation among Ministers of the said business.

2. All executive actions of the Government of India shall be expressed to be taken in the name of the Prime Minister.

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: 1 only

63. Consider the following statements regarding a No-Confidence Motion in India:

1. There is no mention of a No-Confidence Motion in the Constitution of India.

2. A Motion of No-Confidence can be introduced in the Lok Sabha only.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct?

[A] 1 only

[B] 2 only

[C] Both 1 and 2

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[D] Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: Both 1 and 2

The first statement is correct because No Confidence Motion is governed by Rule 198 of Lok Sabha. The article 75 in constitution mentions that the Council of Ministers has to be collectively responsible to Lok Sabha. Second statement is also correct.

64. With reference to Neem tree, consider the following statements:

1. Neem oil can be used as a pesticide to control the proliferation of some species of insects and mites.
2. Neem seeds are used in the manufacture of biofuels and hospital detergents.
3. Neem oil has applications in pharmaceutical industry.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

[A] 1 and 2 only

[B] 3 only

[C] 1 and 3 only

[D] 1, 2 and 3

Answer: 1, 2 and 3

65. Which one of the following is the process involved in photosynthesis?

[A] Potential energy is released to form free energy

[B] Free energy is converted into potential energy and stored

[C] Food is oxidized to release carbon dioxide and water

[D] Oxygen is taken, and carbon dioxide and water vapour are given out

Answer: Free energy is converted into potential energy and stored

66. In addition to fingerprint scanning, which of the following can be used in the biometric identification of a person?

1. Iris scanning

2. Retinal scanning

3. Voice recognition

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

[A] 1 only

[B] 2 and 3 only

[C] 1 and 3 only

[D] 1, 2 and 3

Answer: 1, 2 and 3

67. Which of the following statements is / are correct regarding vegetative propagation of plants?

1. Vegetative propagation produces clonal population.

2. Vegetative propagation helps in eliminating the virus.

3. Vegetative propagation can be practiced most of the year.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

[A] 1 only

[B] 2 and 3 only

[C] 1 and 3 only

[D] 1, 2 and 3

Answer: 1 and 3 only

First statement is correct. Second statement is incorrect as virus and virus-like diseases spread through vegetative propagules like tubers, rhizomes. Third statement is correct. While seed propagation is limited by the fruiting time; vegetative propagation does not have the same limitation. Vegetative propagation can be practiced throughout the year, but it is less productive in adverse season.

68. Which of the following pair is/are correctly matched?

Spacecraft

Purpose

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1. Cassini-Huygens : Orbiting the Venus and transmitting data to the Earth
2. Messenger : Mapping and investigating the Mercury
3. Voyager 1 and 2 : Exploring the outer solar system

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

[A]1 only

[B]2 and 3 only

[C]1 and 3 only

[D]1, 2 and 3

Answer:2 and 3 only

69. Region Well-known for the production of

1. Kinnaur : Areca nut

2. Mewat : Mango

3. Coromandel : Soya bean

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

[A]1 and 2 only

[B]3 only

[C]1, 2 and 3

[D]None

Answer:None

70. Which of the following is/are the example/examples of chemical change?

1. Crystallization of sodium chloride

2. Melting of ice

3. Souring of milk

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

[A]1 and 2 only

[B]3 only

[C]1, 2 and 3

[D]None

Answer:3 only

Soring of milk Lactic acid production

71. The power of the Supreme Court of India to decide disputes between the Centre and the States falls under its:

[A]Advisory jurisdiction

[B]Appellate jurisdiction

[C]Original jurisdiction

[D]Writ jurisdiction

Answer: Original jurisdiction

72. Consider the following techniques/phenomena:

1. Budding and grafting in fruit plants

2. Cytoplasmic male sterility

3. Gene silencing

Which of the above is/are used to create transgenic crops?

[A]1 only

[B]2 and 3

[C]1 and 3

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[D]None

Answer:2 and 3

The technique of gene silencing has been used in transgenic plants to switch off certain genes. Similarly, nucleic acid based gene silencing has also been used.

73. Consider the following statements :

1. Maize can be used for the production of starch.
2. Oil extracted from maize can be a feedstock for biodiesel.
3. Alcoholic beverages can be produced by using maize.

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:1, 2 and 3

74. Among the following organisms, which one does not belong to the class of other three?

[A]Crab

[B]Mite

[C]Scorpion

[D]Spider

Answer:

Ticks and mites are in Phylum Arthropoda but their class is not insecta but Arachnida. Thus, Ticks and mites are actually Arachnids. Scorpiones also fall within the class Arachnida. Spider make the largest order of arachnids. Crab is a crustacean.

75. The power to increase the number of judges in the Supreme Court of India is vested in_:

[A]President of India

[B]Parliament

[C]Chief Justice of India

[D]Law Commission

Answer: Parliament

76. Consider the following towns of India :

1. Bhadrachalam
2. Chanderi
3. Kancheepuram
4. Karnal

Which of the above are famous for the production of traditional sarees / fabric?

[A]1 and 2 only

[B]2 and 3 only

[C]1, 2 and 3

[D]1, 3 and 4

Answer:2 and 3 only

77. Consider the following pairs :

National Highway

1. NH 4

2. NH 6

3. NH 15

Cities connected

: Chennai and Hyderabad

: Mumbai and Kolkata

: Ahmadabad and Jodhpur

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

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[A]1 and 2 only

[B]3 only

[C]1, 2 and 3

[D]None

Answer:None

78. Consider the following international agreements:

1. The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

2. The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

3. The World Heritage Convention

Which of the above has / have a bearing on the biodiversity?

[A]1 and 2 only

[B]3 only

[C]1 and 3 only

[D]1, 2, 3

Answer:1, 2, 3

One of the criteria in selecting the Natural World Heritage Sites is as follows:

"is an outstanding example representing significant on-going ecological and biological processes in the evolution and development of terrestrial, fresh water, coastal and marine ecosystems, and communities of plants and animals"

Desertification, along with climate change and the loss of biodiversity, were identified as the greatest challenges to sustainable development during the 1992 Rio Earth Summit. UNCCD is particularly committed to encouraging the participation of local people in combating desertification and land degradation. Since land, climate and biodiversity are intimately connected; UNCCD also has a bearing on Biodiversity in context to an integrated approach and the best possible use of natural resources.

79. Consider the following statements regarding 'Earth Hour' :

1. It is an initiative of UNEP and UNESCO.

2. It is a movement in which the participants switch off the lights for one hour on a certain day every year.

3. It is a movement to raise the awareness about the climate change and the need to save the planet.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct?

[A]1 and 3 only

[B]2 only

[C]2 and 3 only

[D]1, 2 and 3

Answer:2 and 3 only

80. Which one of the following is the correct sequence of a food chain?

[A]Diatoms-Crustaceans-Herrings

[B]Crustaceans-Diatoms-Herrings

[C]Diatoms-Herrings-Crustaceans

[D]Crustaceans-Herrings-Diatoms

Answer:Diatoms-Crustaceans-Herrings

81. What are the significances of a practical approach to sugarcane production known as 'Sustainable Sugarcane Initiative'?

1. Seed cost is very low in this compared to the conventional method of cultivation.

2. Drip irrigation can be practiced very effectively in this.

3. There is no application of chemical/ inorganic fertilizers at all in this.

4. The scope for intercropping is more in this compared to the conventional method of cultivation.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

[A]1 and 3 only

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[B]1, 2 and 4 only

[C]2, 3 and 4 only

[D]1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer:1, 2 and 4 only

Third statement is incorrect.

82. If a wetland of international importance is brought under the 'Montreux Record', what does it imply?

[A]Changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring or are likely to occur in the wetland as a result of human interference.

[B]The country in which the wetland is located should enact a law to prohibit any human activity within five kilo metres from the edge of the wetland

[C]The survival of the wetland depends on the cultural practices and traditions of certain communities living in its vicinity and therefore the cultural diversity therein should not be destroyed

[D]It is given the status of 'World Heritage Site'

Answer: Changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring or are likely to occur in the wetland as a result of human interference.

83. Which one of the following pairs of islands is separated from each other by the 'Ten Degree Channel'?

[A]Andaman and Nicobar

[B]Nicobar and Sumatra

[C]Maldives and Lakshadweep

[D]Sumatra and Java

Answer: Andaman and Nicobar

84. Consider the following pairs :

Programme/ Project

Ministry

1. Drought-Prone Area Programme

: Ministry of Agriculture

2. Desert Development Programme

: Ministry of Environment and Forests

3. National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas

: Ministry of Rural Development

Which of the above pairs:

[A]1 and 2 only

[B]3 only

[C]1, 2 and 3

[D]None

Answer: None

85. With reference to Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS), consider the following statements :

1. It is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

2. It strives to conserve nature through action-based research, education and public awareness.

3. It organizes and conducts nature trails and camps for the general public.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

[A]1 and 3 only

[B]2 only

[C]2 and 3 only

[D]1, 2 and 3

Answer:2 and 3 only

86. With reference to 'Global Environment Facility', which of the following statements is/are correct?

[A]It serves as financial mechanism for 'Convention on Biological Diversity' and 'United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change'

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[B]It undertakes scientific research on environmental issues at global level

[C]It is an agency under OECD to facilitate the transfer of technology and funds to underdeveloped countries with specific aim to protect their environment.

[D]Both (a) and (b)

Answer:Both (a) and (b)

Several GEF projects have incorporated research components to find solutions to problems of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use. GEF has a Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) which provides strategic scientific and technical "advice" to the GEF on its strategy and programs.

87. With reference to technologies for solar power production, consider the following statements:

1.'Photovoltaics' is a technology that generates electricity by direct conversion of light into electricity, while 'Solar Thermal' is a technology that utilizes the Sun's rays to generate heat which is further used in electricity generation process.

2. Photovoltaics generates Alternating Current (AC), while Solar Thermal generates Direct Current (DC).

3. India has manufacturing base for Solar Thermal technology, but not for Photovoltaics.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct?

[A]1 only

[B]2 and 3 only

[C]1, 2 and 3

[D]None

Answer:1 only

88. Consider the following languages :

1. Gujarati

2. Kannada

3. Telugu

Which of the above has/have been declared as 'Classical Language / Languages' by the Government?

[A]1 and 2 only

[B]3 only

[C]2 and 3 only

[D]1, 2 and 3

Answer:2 and 3 only

89. Consider the following pairs

1. Dampa Tiger Reserve : Mizoram

2. Gumti Wildlife Sanctuary : Sikkim

3. Saramati Peak : Nagaland

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:1 and 3 only

90. With reference to a conservation organization called "Wetlands International", which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is an intergovernmental organization formed by the countries which are signatories to Ramsar Convention.

2. It works at the field level to develop and mobilize knowledge, and use the practical experience to advocate for better policies.

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Select the correct answer using the code given below:

[A] 1 only

[B] 2 only

[C] Both 1 and 2

[D] Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: 2 only

First statement is not correct because Wetlands International is (the only) global non-governmental organisation (NGO) dedicated to wetlands.

91. With reference to a grouping of countries known as BRICS, consider the following statements:

1. The First Summit of BRICS was held in Rio De Janeiro in 2009.

2. South Africa was the last to join the BRICS grouping.

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: 2 only

First summit was held in Yekaterinburg. Second statement is correct.

92. Consider the following diseases

1. Diphtheria

2. Chickenpox

3. Smallpox

Which of the above diseases has/have been eradicated in India?

[A] 1 and 2 only

[B] 3 only

[C] 1, 2 and 3

[D] None

Answer: 3 only

The country eradicated smallpox in 1980 following a successful sustained immunization campaign.

93. Which of the following phenomena might have influenced the evolution of organisms?

1. Continental drift

2. Glacial cycles

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

[A] 1 only

[B] 2 only

[C] Both 1 and 2

[D] Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: Both 1 and 2

94. Other than poaching, what are the possible reasons for the decline in the population of Ganges River Dolphins?

1. Construction of dams and barrages on rivers

2. Increase in the population of crocodiles in rivers

3. Getting trapped in fishing nets accidentally

4. Use of synthetic fertilizers and other agricultural chemicals in crop-fields in the vicinity of rivers

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

[A] 1 and 2 only

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[B]2 and 3 only

[C]1, 3 and 4 only

[D]1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer:1, 3 and 4 only

95. The Radcliffe Committee was appointed to:

[A]solve the problem of minorities in India

[B]give effect to the Independence Bill

[C]delimit the boundaries between India and Pakistan

[D]enquire into the riots in East Bengal

Answer: delimit the boundaries between India and Pakistan

96. Brominated flame retardants are used in many household products like mattresses and upholstery. Why is there some concern about their use?

1. They are highly resistant to degradation in the environment.

2. They are able to accumulate in humans and animals.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

[A]1 only

[B]2 only

[C]Both 1 and 2

[D]Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: Both 1 and 2

97. Consider the following :

1. Bats

2. Bears

3. Rodents

The phenomenon of hibernation can be observed in which of the above kinds of animals?

[A]1 and 2 only

[B]2 only

[C]1, 2 and 3

[D]Hibernation cannot be observed in any of the above

Answer:1, 2 and 3

98. Which one of the following is the largest Committee of the Parliament?

[A]The Committee on Public Accounts

[B]The Committee on Estimates

[C]The Committee on Public Undertakings

[D]The Committee on Petitions

Answer: The Committee on Estimates

99. Which of the following adds/add carbon dioxide to the carbon cycle on the planet Earth?

1. Volcanic action

2. Respiration

3. Photosynthesis

4. Decay of organic matter

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

[A]1 and 3 only

[B]2 only

[C]1, 2 and 4 only

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[D]1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer:1, 2, 3 and 4

100. If you walk through countryside, you are likely to see some birds stalking alongside the cattle to seize the insects, disturbed by their movement through grasses. Which of the following is/are such bird/birds?

1. Painted Stork
2. Common Myna
3. Black-necked Crane

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

[A]1 and 2

[B]2 only

[C]2 and 3

[D]3 only

Answer:2 only

The common birds doing so are Myna and The Cattle Egret.