

Q1.

Underline the historical evolution of Chaturanga into modern chess. How did ancient India leverage such intellectual board games as tools of cultural exchange and diplomacy?

Word limit: 150 words

10 marks

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Q1.

Question 1 - continued

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Q2.

Critically examine how the proposed amendments to Rule 6(1) of the IAS Cadre Rules impact the federal balance between the Centre and States regarding officer deployment.

Word limit: 250 words

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Question 2 - continued

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Question 2 - continued

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Q3.

How does the state's power of unannounced inspection under the telecom laws affect the right to privacy? Critically examine in the light of the K.S. Puttaswamy judgment.

Word limit: 250 words

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Question 3 - continued

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Question 3 - continued

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Q4.

Critically examine how the delegation of compensation adjudication to administrative officers compromises the separation of powers and Article 300A. Explain.

Word limit: 150 words

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Question 4 - continued

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Q5.

Point out the governance challenges arising from the absence of a statutory Space Activities Act in India. How does this affect private investment and liability management?

Word limit: 150 words

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Question 5 - continued

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Q6.

How does India's medical diplomacy in Africa strengthen South-South cooperation amid rising geopolitical competition? Critically analyse with reference to recent humanitarian initiatives.

Word limit: 250 words

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Q6.

Question 6 - continued

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Question 6 - continued

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Q7.

Critically analyze how geopolitical sanctions target sports administrators of specific nationalities. How does this politicization impact the neutrality of global sports governing bodies like FIDE?

Word limit: 250 words

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Question 7 - continued

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Question 7 - continued

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Q8.

Critically analyse how sovereign industrial promotion schemes like the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) can be harmonized with multilateral commitments under the WTO without triggering trade disputes.

Word limit: 250 words

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Q8.

Question 8 - continued

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Question 8 - continued

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Q9.

Explain how the expanded BRICS coalition impacts global health diplomacy.
Why is South-South cooperation crucial for vaccine equity?

Word limit: 150 words

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Question 9 - continued

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Q10.

Point out the role of the International Seabed Authority (ISA) in regulating deep-sea exploitation. How do geopolitics influence exploration contract allocations in international waters?

Word limit: 150 words

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Q10.

Question 10 - continued

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Q11.

Critically discuss how the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan resolves institutional silos in infrastructure planning and logistics coordination in India.

Word limit: 250 words

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Q11.	Question 11 - continued	Do not write in this margin.
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Q11.

Question 11 - continued

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Q12. Distinguish between front-end wafer fabrication and back-end OSAT processes. Why is prioritising OSAT facilities considered a more viable entry point for India's semiconductor ambitions? Explain.

Word limit: 150 words

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Q12.

Question 12 - continued

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Q13.

Explain how metal-air battery chemistry overcomes the safety hazards of organic electrolytes. Why are aqueous nanofluids considered a breakthrough for stabilizing these systems?

Word limit: 150 words

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Question 13 - continued

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Q14.

Critically analyse the environmental challenges, especially ultra-pure water consumption and hazardous waste management, associated with semiconductor fabrication units. How can sustainable green-fab designs mitigate these ecological risks?

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Question 14 - continued

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Question 14 - continued

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Q15.

How can India institutionalize a community-led integrated forest fire management system? Analyze in the light of increasing domestic sub-mountainous wildfire incidents.

Word limit: 250 words

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Question 15 - continued

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Question 15 - continued

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Q16. Critically examine why the high water-footprint of hydrogen electrolysis poses an environmental challenge, and how water-stressed states can resolve this ecological trade-off.

Word limit: 250 words

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Question 16 - continued

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Question 16 - continued

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Q17. How does the BBNJ Treaty address marine biodiversity conservation in areas beyond national jurisdiction? Critically examine the challenges India faces in its implementation.

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Question 17 - continued

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Q18.

Why does the expanding Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) escalate disaster risks during forest fires? With suitable examples, examine key mitigation strategies.

Word limit: 150 words

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Question 18 - continued

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Q19.

Analyse how the proliferation of low-cost unmanned aerial vehicles and hypersonic threats has redefined India's air defence requirements. What strategies should be adopted?

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Question 19 - continued

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Question 19 - continued

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Q20. Explain how an Integrated Air and Missile Defence (IAMD) architecture operates. Why is the integration of multi-layered missile systems crucial for modern aerospace security?

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Question 20 - continued

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