

10 PM Current Affairs Quiz Weekly Compilation

For UPSC CSE Prelims

[1st Week] June, 2024

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Art & Culture and Ancient India

Q.1) A puppet show is composed of characters with detailed costume, interchangeable heads with various expressions, and elaborate movements that illustrate emotions and actions. Which one of the following types of puppetries has been described above?

- a) String puppets
- b) Shadow puppets
- c) Rod puppets
- d) Glove puppets

Q.2) It is an ancient local custom practiced in some parts of India, in which a married man can legitimize an affair with a married woman by formally providing financial support for her. This practice is known as:

- a) Samarthya
- b) Anubandh
- c) Murdhaprishtha
- d) Nata Pratha

Geography

Q.3) The island country Samoa is located in which one of the following oceans?

- a) Atlantic Ocean
- b) Indian Ocean
- c) Arctic Ocean
- d) Pacific Ocean

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. Odisha is the largest producer of iron ore in India.
2. Limestone is produced from bauxite ore.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Volcanic eruption cools the Earth's surface temporarily by creating particles that reflect sunlight back into space.

Statement-II: Volcanoes eruption releases smoke containing sulfur dioxide.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

1. Stratosphere is a dry layer of the atmosphere where clouds and rain don't form.
2. Water vapor in the atmosphere helps in building the ozone layer.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Q.7) In the geographical context, the 'Carnian Pluvial Episode' is primarily known for causing:

- a) A massive volcanic eruption and global cooling.
- b) A period of widespread glaciation and ice sheets.
- c) An extended period of intense global rainfall.
- d) The extinction of dinosaurs and the rise of mammals.

Polity

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. The primary demand of the Telangana movement that led to the formation of the state was lesser political representation for Telangana within Andhra Pradesh.
2. Gentlemen's Agreement was signed to safeguard the interests of Telangana during its merger with Andhra Pradesh in 1956.
3. Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014 led to the formation of Telangana.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.9) Consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution of India states that no person shall be deprived of their property except by the authority of law.
2. The right to property is a Constitutional right as well as human right.
3. The fundamental right to property was removed by the 42nd Amendment Act of 1976.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.10) Consider the following pairs:

Rights-----Provided by

1. Right to Work-----Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)
2. Right to Education-----Article 22 of the Indian Constitution
3. Right to Food-----National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013
4. Right to Health-----Article 47 of the Indian Constitution

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- a) Only one pair
- b) Only two pairs
- c) Only three pairs
- d) All four pairs

Q.11) Which one of the following features best illustrates the federal structure of the Indian Constitution?

- a) Supremacy of the Parliament
- b) A written constitution with a division of powers
- c) Single citizenship
- d) Emergency powers of the Union

Q.12) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) is a quasi-judicial body.
- 2. Under the Companies Act 2013, the NCLT has power to freeze the assets of a company.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The President of India has absolute discretion to dissolve the Lok Sabha in certain situations.
- 2. The power to dissolve the Lok Sabha reflects the principle of Parliamentary sovereignty of the Indian government.
- 3. When the Lok Sabha is dissolved before its term ends, it results in postponement of all ongoing legislative processes.
- 4. When the Lok Sabha is dissolved, its members immediately lose their representative character.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Acts & Policies

Q.14) Consider the following pairs:

Initiatives/Programmes-----Features

- 1. MISHTI Programme-----Focuses on individual and community behaviour change for environmental sustainability
- 2. Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE) initiative-----Provides financial and technical assistance for mangrove conservation and restoration
- 3. Puneet Sagar Abhiyaan-----Involves cleaning and awareness campaigns for water bodies
- 4. GRIHA III compliance-----Provides a rating system for the environmental performance of buildings

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Q.15) Which one of the following is the primary objective of the "Apashisht Mukta Sainya Abhiyan" (AMSA)?

- a) Promote the use of electric vehicles in the Indian Army
- b) Make the Indian Army landfill-free by March 2027
- c) Construct new green buildings for the Indian Army
- d) Implement hydrogen fuel cell technology in the Indian Army

Q.16) Which one of the following is the primary purpose of the ABHA (Ayushman Bharat Health Account)-based Scan and Share service?

- a) Enable digital registration for patients at hospital OPDs
- b) Create a unified health record for patients
- c) Facilitate online consultations with doctors
- d) Provide access to health insurance schemes

International Relations/Organizations

Q.17) The 'Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion' is presented by which one of the following organizations?

- a) World Health Organization (WHO)
- b) United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- c) International Labour Organization (ILO)
- d) World Bank

Q.18) Which one of the following is the primary objective of the 'eMigrate project'?

- a) Promote tourism in India.
- b) Automate the emigration process and protect Indian workers from exploitation.
- c) Facilitate international trade.
- d) Enhance diplomatic relations with other countries.

Q.19) Consider the following statements:

1. World Health Assembly (WHA) serves as the decision-making body of the World Health Organization (WHO).
2. World Health Assembly approves the appointment of the WHO Director-General.
3. The WHA is composed of delegations from all WHO member states.
4. WHA implements health programs in member states.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Q.20) Consider the following statements:

1. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN).
2. The Human Development Report is published by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Q.21) In the context of the World History, the 'D-Day' refers to the:

- a) Signing of the German surrender document ending World War II.
- b) Invasion of Normandy in France by Allied forces during World War II.
- c) Bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki by the United States.
- d) Landing of Soviet troops on the beaches of Normandy in France.

Q.22) Which one of the following international treaties regulates the use of white phosphorus in warfare, especially its use against civilians?

- a) Geneva Conventions
- b) Framework on Certain Standardized Military Arms
- c) Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons
- d) Biological Weapons Convention

Q.23) Which one of the following countries is NOT a member of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF)?

- a) India
- b) China
- c) Japan
- d) Australia

Q.24) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: India's universities' rankings among G20 nations have decreased recently in the QS World University Rankings.

Statement-II: India's expenditure on education is relatively low compared to global standards.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

Q.25) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The European Parliament (EP) is a key legislative body within the European Union (EU).
- 2. Elections for the European Parliament are held every four years.
- 3. There is no uniform electoral procedure across the EU.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.26) With reference to the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries Plus (OPEC+), consider the following statements:

- 1. The Declaration of Cooperation (DoC) serves as a framework for cooperation and coordination between OPEC and non-OPEC countries within OPEC+.
- 2. Canada is the observer state of OPEC+.
- 3. OPEC+ decisions can significantly influence global oil prices by coordinating supply cuts or increases.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.27) Consider the following:

1. Increased Transaction Costs
2. Enhanced Financial Transparency
3. Economic Integration

How many of the above are the benefits of integrating India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) with the UAE's payment infrastructure?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Economy

Q.28) For which one of the following reasons, many governments maintain their gold reserves in foreign vaults, such as the Bank of England?

- a) Save storage fees
- b) Enhance economic sovereignty
- c) Reduce dependence on foreign entities
- d) Mitigate risks associated with geopolitical tensions

Q.29) Consider the following statements:

1. India currently imports coking coal from Australia.
2. Mongolia has one of the largest copper mines in the world.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Q.30) Consider the following statements:

1. Virtual Payment Address (VPA) in the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is a unique identifier for online shopping.
2. National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) manages the Immediate Payment Service (IMPS).

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Q.31) Consider the following statements:

1. The maximum investment allowed by overseas instruments in Indian securities is capped at 10% of their net assets.
2. A feeder fund pool capital from investors and invest it in a master fund.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Q.32) With reference to the advance estimate of major agricultural crops, how many of the following statements are correct?

1. The primary purpose of the advance estimates of agricultural crops is to estimate the production of various crops for planning and policy-making.
2. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare releases the advance estimates of major agricultural crops in India.
3. Advanced estimates rely heavily on final harvest data from previous years.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.33) The primary purpose of a 'benchmark index' is to:

- a) Track the performance of individual companies
- b) Measure the overall health of a stock market
- c) Predict future stock market movements
- d) Identify undervalued stocks for investment

Q.34) Consider the following statements:

1. Pharmaceuticals form the India's largest export category.
2. India's overall exports have risen in recent years.
3. Netherlands is among top five exports destination of India.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.35) Consider the following statements:

1. Variable Rate Reverse Repo (VRRR) is the rate at which banks lend money to each other.
2. VRRR helps in absorbing excess liquidity from the banking system.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Q.36) Which one of the following is the primary functions of a 'Clearing Corporation' in the financial markets?

- a) Regulating the stock exchanges
- b) Facilitating the settlement of trades
- c) Issuing new securities
- d) Providing investment advice

Q.37) Consider the following statements regarding the Indian toy industry:

1. The India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) has granted Indian toys zero-duty access to the UAE market.
2. The increase in Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on imported toys has encouraged domestic production by making imported toys more expensive.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Q.38) Consider the following:

1. Stock Exchanges
2. Clearing Corporations
3. Commercial Banks
4. Insurance Companies

How many of the above are part of Market Infrastructure Institutions (MIIs)?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Q.39) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to leave the repo rate unchanged. Which one of the following this likely indicate about the current economic situation?

- a) The economy is experiencing high inflation and the RBI wants to control it by tightening credit.
- b) The economy is facing a slowdown and the RBI wants to stimulate growth by making credit cheaper.
- c) The RBI believes the current economic conditions are stable and there's no need for immediate monetary policy adjustments.
- d) The RBI is waiting to see the impact of previous policy changes before taking further action.

Q.40) Consider the following statements:

1. The central government in India is primarily responsible for collecting major taxes such as personal income tax (PIT).
2. The Goods and Services Tax (GST) is collected only by the central government.
3. The devolution of resources from the Centre to the states is set at 51%.
4. The central government sets the terms of reference for the Finance Commission.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Q.41) It is a mechanism designed to facilitate cross-border transaction between India and other countries using their respective local currencies without the need for an intermediary currency like the US Dollar. Which one of the following frameworks helps in facilitating this?

- a) Regional Trade Facilitation (RTF) Framework
- b) Digital Payment Integration (DPI) Framework
- c) Local Currency Settlement (LCS) Framework
- d) Cross-Border Currency Harmonization (CBCH) Framework

Q.42) Consider the following statements:

1. UPI Lite was introduced to enable small value payments in a quick and seamless manner through an on-device wallet.
2. The UPI Lite auto-replenishment facility will be incorporated into Real-Time Payments (RTP) Framework.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Q.43) The primary objective of the Digital Payments Intelligence Platform proposed by the RBI is to:

- a) Increase the transaction limits for digital payments.
- b) Mitigate payment fraud risks and enhance the safety of digital transactions.
- c) Promote the use of cryptocurrencies in digital payments.
- d) Standardize global trade regulations.

Environment

Q.44) Consider the following statements regarding Hoolock Gibbon:

1. It is the only ape native to India.
2. It swings through the rainforest canopy.
3. The western hoolock is categorized as Vulnerable in IUCN List of Threatened Species.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.45) Consider the following statements:

1. Heat generated from air conditioners and other machinery adds to the Urban Heat Island (UHI) Effect.
2. The World Health Organization considers a wet-bulb temperature of around 30°C to be near the limits of human survivability.
3. In India, a heatwave in coastal areas is declared when the maximum temperature departure is 4.5°C or more from normal.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Q.46) Which one of the following best explain the 'altruism' in nature?

- a) It is a behaviour that benefits the individual at the expense of the group.
- b) It is a behaviour that benefits other organisms at a cost to the individual performing the behaviour.
- c) It is a behaviour that ensures the survival of the fittest individuals in a population.
- d) It is a behaviour that is only observed in human societies and not in animals.

Q.47) Consider the following statements with reference to the World Environment Day:

1. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) leads the global celebrations of World Environment Day.
2. The theme for World Environment Day 2024 is 'Ecosystem Restoration'.
3. Saudi Arabia is hosting the global celebrations for World Environment Day 2024.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.48) Match the following with their statutory status:

Organizations/Schemes-----Statutory Status

1. National Board for Wildlife-----Statutory body under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972
2. National Tiger Conservation Authority-----Statutory body under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, and amended in 2006
3. Project Elephant-----Centrally Sponsored Scheme under the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change

Which of the pairs are correctly matched?

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

Q.49) Consider the following statements:

1. Informal recycling workers are responsible for recycling a majority of plastics.
2. The Global Plastics Treaty is a significant attempt to establish a legally binding agreement aimed at reducing and eliminating plastic pollution.
3. The International Alliance of Waste Pickers (IAWP) aims to promote recycling technologies for waste management.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.50) With reference to the *Thismia malayana* plant, which of the following statements are correct?

1. It is a plant found in temperate forest.
2. These plants do not perform photosynthesis.
3. Its flowers are pollinated by fungus and other small insects.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Q.51) Consider the following statements:

1. Particulate matter (PM) is a mixture of tiny solid particles and liquid droplets floating in the air.
2. The “Air of the Anthropocene” project is an international effort that combines art and science to show air pollution in a visual way using light painting.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Science & Technology

Q.52) Which one of the following best describes the ‘Dark Web’?

- a) A part of the internet accessible through standard web browsers and search engines.
- b) A network of websites that are intentionally hidden and accessible only with specific software, configurations, or authorization.
- c) A section of the internet used solely for legal activities and research purposes.
- d) The entirety of the internet including all public and private networks.

Q.53) Which one of the following is the primary purpose of multinational military exercises like ‘Red Flag’ and ‘RIMPAC’?

- a) Disaster relief training
- b) Show of force and regional dominance
- c) Improving interoperability between allied forces
- d) Testing new weaponry and military technology

Q.54) With reference to Nipah virus-like particles (NiV-VLPs), consider the following statements:

1. These particles can be used to develop antibodies and antiviral drugs in a safer lab environment.
2. The VLPs are contagious and harmful as the Nipah Virus.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Q.55) Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient (API), seen in the news recently, is

- a) Used to provide a pleasant taste or color to the medication.
- b) A packaging material for drugs.
- c) A substance responsible for the therapeutic effect of a drug.
- d) Used to extend the shelf life of the medication.

Q.56) Consider the following statements:

1. A protein is a large, complex molecule that is a key building block of life.
2. Recombinant proteins are naturally occurring protein in specific types of bacteria.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Q.57) Consider the following statements regarding the Parallel RANS Solver for Aerospace Vehicle Aero-thermo-dynamic Analysis (PraVaHa):

1. It is a software designed to simulate external and internal flows on aerospace launch vehicles.
2. It is designed to utilize single-core processor of computer architecture.
3. It simulates airflow under perfect gas and real gas conditions.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.58) Which one of the following statements best describes the primary function of the Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya app?

- a) Sell e-books directly to users.
- b) Provide access to a vast collection of digital learning resources.
- c) Manage the inventory of physical libraries across India.
- d) Offer online courses and certifications.

Q.59) Consider the following:

1. Running Army Goodwill Schools
2. Conducting infrastructure development projects
3. Organizing national integration tours
4. Providing direct financial aid to families

How many of the above are part of 'Operation Sadbhavana'?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) All four

Q.60) A gene that promotes altruistic behaviour that benefits both the recipient and the organism is referred to as:

- a) Kin selection gene
- b) Reciprocal altruism gene
- c) Green beard gene
- d) Selfish gene

Q.61) Consider the following statements:

- 1. Rabies is a zoonotic disease.
- 2. Rabies is a bacterial infection that mainly affects the respiratory system.
- 3. Rabies can be prevented through vaccination.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.62) Consider the following statements:

- 1. The objective of China's Chang'e-6 mission is to map the lunar surface in high resolution.
- 2. Chang'e-6 targeted moon's South Pole-Aitken Basin for its landing and sample collection.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Q.63) Milgromian Dynamics (MOND) is a proposed alternative to Newtonian gravity that explains:

- a) The behaviour of objects at very high velocities near the speed of light.
- b) The motion of galaxies and galactic clusters where gravity seems stronger than expected.
- c) The trajectory of spacecraft during interplanetary travel.
- d) The formation of black holes and other extreme gravity phenomena.

Q.64) Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: India has maximum number of cases of Tuberculosis in the world.

Statement-II: A significant portion of the Indian population lives in poor conditions.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

- a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

Q.65) Consider the following statements:

1. Biopharmaceuticals are produced using non-living systems like chemical reactors, synthetic polymers, or inorganic catalysts.
2. National Biopharma Mission aims to make India a hub for affordable and effective biopharmaceutical products.
3. India leads in the production of biosimilars in the world.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Q.66) Consider the following statements:

1. Phenome India project aims to create India-specific risk prediction models for cardio-metabolic diseases.
2. Phenome India project has been launched by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Q.67) Consider the following statements:

1. Cancer is a genetic disease caused by mutations in DNA.
2. Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS) is a method for detecting specific proteins in a sample.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

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

Q.68) Which one of the following best explains the difference between Ulcerative Colitis and Crohn's Disease, types of Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)?

- a) Ulcerative colitis affects the entire gastrointestinal (GI) tract, while Crohn's disease is limited to the colon.
- b) Ulcerative colitis causes inflammation only in the inner lining of the colon, while Crohn's disease can affect deeper layers of the GI tract.
- c) Ulcerative colitis is always caused by a bacterial infection, while Crohn's disease is an autoimmune disease.
- d) Ulcerative colitis has a clear genetic link, while Crohn's disease does not.

Q.69) Consider the following statements:

1. India's health care services are dominated by the public health care services.
2. Health is in the State List of the Indian Constitution.
3. Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS) are standard prescribed for both public and private hospitals in India.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) All three
- d) None

Answer Key

1 - (c)	2 - (d)	3 - (d)	4 - (a)	5 - (a)	6 - (a)	7 - (c)	8 - (b)	9 - (b)	10 - (b)
11 - (b)	12 - (c)	13 - (b)	14 - (d)	15 - (b)	16 - (a)	17 - (a)	18 - (b)	19 - (c)	20 - (a)
21 - (b)	22 - (c)	23 - (b)	24 - (d)	25 - (b)	26 - (d)	27 - (b)	28 - (d)	29 - (c)	30 - (b)
31 - (b)	32 - (b)	33 - (b)	34 - (b)	35 - (b)	36 - (b)	37 - (c)	38 - (b)	39 - (c)	40 - (b)
41 - (c)	42 - (a)	43 - (b)	44 - (a)	45 - (b)	46 - (b)	47 - (c)	48 - (d)	49 - (a)	50 - (b)
51 - (c)	52 - (b)	53 - (c)	54 - (a)	55 - (c)	56 - (a)	57 - (c)	58 - (b)	59 - (c)	60 - (c)
61 - (c)	62 - (b)	63 - (b)	64 - (a)	65 - (b)	66 - (a)	67 - (a)	68 - (b)	69 - (a)	

Answers & Explanations

Art & Culture and Ancient India

1. Correct Answer is (C)

- Rod puppets are known for their detailed costumes, interchangeable heads with various expressions, and the ability to perform elaborate movements that illustrate emotions and actions. These puppets are typically manipulated using rods attached to their heads and hands, allowing for precise and expressive control. Recently, Padma Shri Maguni Charan Kuanr passed away. He made contributions to the field of art for keeping alive the dying art of rod puppetry and promoting the traditional rod puppet dance.

Source: [AIR](#)

2. Correct Answer is (D)

- Nata Pratha is a controversial practice where a married man provides financial support to the family of a married woman with whom he has had an extramarital affair. In some communities, this custom is seen as a way to legitimize the relationship and avoid conflict within the community. Currently, in the name of this practice, the girls in some communities of States of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Gujarat are sold either on stamp paper or otherwise in the name of illegal or child marriage, mostly by their own families.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Geography

3. Correct Answer is (D)

- Samoa is an island nation situated in the central South Pacific Ocean. It is part of the region known as Polynesia and is located approximately halfway between Hawaii and New Zealand. The Pacific Ocean is the largest and deepest of the world's oceanic divisions, and Samoa is one of the many island nations within this vast ocean.

Source: [AIR](#)

4. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Odisha is the largest producer of iron ore in India, accounting for over half of the country's production. Iron ore is extracted from rocks and minerals rich in iron oxides, primarily hematite and magnetite.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Bauxite is used to extract aluminium, not limestone. Limestone is a sedimentary rock composed of calcium carbonate. Rajasthan is the largest producer of limestone in India.

Source: [AIR](#)

5. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement-I is correct. Volcanic eruptions can cool the Earth's surface temporarily by releasing aerosols, such as sulfur dioxide, which form sulfate aerosols that reflect sunlight back into space, increasing the Earth's albedo and reducing the amount of solar radiation reaching the surface.
- Statement-II: Sulfur dioxide is one of the primary gases released during volcanic eruptions, along with water vapor and carbon dioxide. When SO₂ is released into the atmosphere, it can form sulfate aerosols, which contribute to the cooling effect described in Statement I.

Hence, both statements are correct, and Statement II provides the correct explanation for Statement I.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

6. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The stratosphere is a dry layer of the atmosphere with very low water vapor content. Because of this dryness, clouds and rain are generally absent in the stratosphere. The stratosphere is characterized by its stable temperature layers and lack of vertical mixing, which further prevents cloud formation.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Water vapor in the atmosphere does not help in building the ozone layer. Instead, the ozone layer is formed through the photolysis of molecular oxygen (O₂) by ultraviolet (UV) light, which produces ozone (O₃). Instead, water vapor in the stratosphere can contribute to ozone depletion through the formation of hydroxyl radicals (OH) that participate in catalytic cycles destroying ozone.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

7. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Carnian Pluvial Episode (CPE) occurred approximately 234 to 232 million years ago during the Late Triassic period. It was marked by significant climatic changes, including increased global temperatures, humidity, and rainfall. This period of intense global rainfall was triggered by volcanic eruptions, particularly from the Wrangellia Large Igneous Province. These eruptions released large amounts of greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, leading to global warming and an intensified hydrologic cycle, which resulted in increased rainfall and runoff.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

Polity

8. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The primary demand of the Telangana movement was not lesser political representation but addressing economic disparities, perceived neglect, and injustices in the distribution of water, budget allocations, and jobs.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The Gentlemen's Agreement was signed in 1956 to safeguard the interests of Telangana during its merger with Andhra Pradesh. The Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, led to the formation of Telangana by bifurcating Andhra Pradesh.

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Source: [AIR](#)

9. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Article 300A of the Indian Constitution states that no person shall be deprived of their property except by the authority of law. The right to property is considered a constitutional right under Article 300A and has also been recognized as a human right by the Supreme Court of India.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The fundamental right to property was removed by the 44th Amendment Act of 1978.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

10. Correct Answer is (B)

- 1 and 3 are correctly matched.
- **Right to Work:** The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) provides the right to work by guaranteeing at least 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to rural households whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.
- **Right to Education:** The Right to Education is provided under Article 21A of the Indian Constitution. Article 21A states that the State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years in such manner as the State may, by law, determine.
- **Right to Food:** The National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013, provides a legal right to subsidized food grains to approximately two-thirds of India's population.
- **Right to Health:** Article 47 is a Directive Principle that directs the State to raise nutrition, standard of living and public health standards. However, it does not provide for the right to health. DPSPs are directives not rights.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

11. Correct Answer is (B)

- A written constitution that clearly delineates the division of powers between the central and state governments is a hallmark of a federal structure. It ensures that both levels of government operate within their respective domains.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

12. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) is a quasi-judicial body. It was established under the Companies Act, 2013, to adjudicate issues related to company law and insolvency. Under the Companies Act 2013, the NCLT has the power to freeze the assets of a company. This power is part of its broader mandate to address issues of oppression and mismanagement, and to ensure that the interests of stakeholders are protected.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

13. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect. The President of India does not have absolute discretion to dissolve the Lok Sabha. The President generally acts on the advice of the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers as per Article 74 of the Indian Constitution. The power to dissolve the Lok Sabha is part of the constitutional framework and reflects the executive's role in the parliamentary system, not parliamentary sovereignty. Parliamentary sovereignty pertains to the supremacy of Parliament in legislative matters, whereas the dissolution power involves the executive branch (the President) acting on the advice of the Prime Minister. The power to dissolve the Lok Sabha reflects principle of the responsible government of the Indian government.
- Statements 3 and 4 are correct. Dissolution of the Lok Sabha terminates all pending business, including bills, motions, resolutions, and notices. These legislative processes lapse and must be reintroduced in the next session if they are to be considered again. When the Lok Sabha is

dissolved, its members immediately cease to be representatives, losing their legislative powers. Although they may continue to perform certain administrative functions until the new Lok Sabha is constituted, they no longer have legislative authority.

Source: [AIR](#)

Acts & Policies

14. Correct Answer is (D)

- **MISHTI Programme:** This program focuses on the conservation and restoration of mangrove habitats along the shorelines of India, providing financial and technical assistance to local communities for mangrove plantation activities.
- **Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE) initiative:** This initiative encourages a lifestyle that focuses on mindful and deliberate utilization of resources to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change.
- **Puneet Sagar Abhiyaan:** This campaign involves cleaning sea shores and other water bodies of plastic and other waste materials, raising awareness about the importance of cleanliness.
- **GRIHA III compliance:** GRIHA (Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment) provides a rating system for the environmental performance of buildings, covering various aspects such as sustainable site planning, energy and water optimization, and waste management.

Source: [AIR](#)

15. Correct Answer is (B)

- The "Apashisht Mukta Sainya Abhiyan" (AMSA) is an initiative by the Indian Army aimed at achieving sustainable waste management practices within its establishments. The primary objective of AMSA is to make the Indian Army landfill-free by March 2027.

Source: [AIR](#)

16. Correct Answer is (A)

- ABHA (Ayushman Bharat Health Account)-based Scan and Share service allows patients to conveniently register for Out-Patient Department (OPD) appointments by scanning a QR code displayed at the OPD registration counter, thereby instantaneously sharing their ABHA profile for registration. This innovation significantly reduces waiting times and enhances the efficiency of the registration process.

Source: [AIR](#)

International Relations/Organizations

17. Correct Answer is (A)

- The Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion is established and presented by the World Health Organization (WHO). This award recognizes individuals, institutions, and/or governmental or non-governmental organizations that have made significant contributions to health promotion. Recently, the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) in Bengaluru has been awarded the Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion for 2024 by the World Health Organization (WHO).

Source: [AIR](#)

18. Correct Answer is (B)

- The eMigrate project is an initiative by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) with the primary objective of automating the emigration process and protecting Indian workers from exploitation. It aims to create a centralized and transparent system that links all stakeholders involved in the emigration lifecycle, including Indian missions, employers, recruiting agents, emigrants, and insurance agencies.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

19. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. The WHA is the governing body that sets policies and priorities for the WHO. The WHA approves the appointment of the WHO Director-General. The WHA is composed of delegations from all WHO member states.
- Statement 4 is incorrect. The WHA does not implement health programs in member states. The WHA focuses on setting global health goals, policies, and budget. Implementation is typically done by member states and WHO regional offices.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

20. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN). Its primary mission is to lead international efforts to defeat hunger, improve nutrition, and ensure food security worldwide.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Human Development Report is published by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Source: [The Hindu](#)

21. Correct Answer is (B)

- D-Day, which occurred on June 6, 1944, was the day on which Allied forces launched a massive invasion on the beaches of Normandy, France. This operation, known as Operation Overlord, was a pivotal moment in World War II, leading to the liberation of Western Europe from Nazi occupation. The term "D-Day" specifically refers to the day the invasion began and is one of the most significant events in the history of the war.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

22. Correct Answer is (C)

- The use of white phosphorus in warfare, particularly concerning its use against civilians, is regulated under Protocol III of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW). This protocol specifically deals with incendiary weapons and imposes restrictions on their use to safeguard civilians. The CCW aims to minimize harm to both civilians and combatants in armed conflicts by regulating the use of weapons that can cause unnecessary suffering or have indiscriminate effects.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

23. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) is an economic initiative launched by U.S. The framework aims to strengthen economic partnerships among participating countries to enhance resilience, sustainability, inclusiveness, economic growth, fairness, and competitiveness in the Indo-Pacific region. The IPEF is structured around four main pillars: Trade, Supply Chains, Clean Economy, Fair Economy. India, Japan, and Australia are all members of the IPEF, while China is not.

Source: [AIR](#)

24. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statement I is incorrect. India registered the highest growth in university representation among G20 nations in QS World University Rankings. India saw an increase of 318 percent, from 11 varsities in the 2015 edition of this ranking to 46 in the 2025 edition.
- Statement-II is correct. India's expenditure on education has been relatively low compared to global standards. As of the 2023-24 fiscal year, the allocation for education was about 2.9% of the country's GDP. In comparison, developed countries like the United States and the United Kingdom allocate around 6% and 4.2% of their GDP to education, respectively.

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Source: [AIR](#)

25. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The European Parliament is one of the main legislative bodies of the EU, sharing legislative and budgetary powers with the Council of the European Union. It plays a crucial role in passing EU laws, approving the EU budget, and overseeing other EU institutions. There is no uniform electoral procedure across the EU; each member state conducts the elections according to its own national laws, although they must adhere to certain common principles, such as proportional representation.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Elections for the European Parliament are held every five years by universal adult suffrage.

Source: [AIR](#)

26. Correct Answer is (D)

- Statements 1, 2 and 3 are correct. The Declaration of Cooperation (DoC) was established to create a collaborative framework between OPEC and non-OPEC oil-producing countries. It aims to stabilize the global oil market through coordinated efforts and dialogue. Canada is an observer state of OPEC+. Other observer states include Egypt, Norway, and Oman. OPEC+ has a substantial impact on global oil prices. By coordinating production levels, OPEC+ can manage supply to influence oil prices, ensuring market stability and addressing economic fluctuations. The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and allies led by Russia is together known as OPEC+.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

27. Correct Answer is (B)

- Increased Transaction Costs: This is not a benefit. In fact, one of the key advantages of integrating UPI with the UAE's payment infrastructure is the reduction in transaction costs.
- Enhanced Financial Transparency: The integration of UPI with the UAE's payment infrastructure enhances financial transparency by leveraging advanced digital payment technologies.
- Economic Integration: The integration fosters greater economic integration by facilitating seamless cross-border transactions and reducing dependency on intermediary currencies.

Note: RuPay cards are now accepted via the Mercury payment gateway in the UAE, and UPI payments are possible through Mashreq Bank.

Source: [AIR](#)

Economy

28. Correct Answer is (D)

- Many governments, including India, maintain their gold reserves in foreign vaults to mitigate risks associated with geopolitical tensions and ensure the safety and accessibility of their reserves. Storing gold in multiple locations around the world, particularly in key financial hubs like London, New York, and Zurich, helps protect these reserves from regional conflicts or instability that might affect their safety if stored solely within the home country. Additionally, these locations facilitate easier access for international transactions and financial operations. Moreover, the RBI has brought back 100 tonnes of Gold from the Vault of UK to India. This is a major shift in the Economic Policy of the RBI, as it will now hold most of its Gold in its own vault. By bringing back gold reserves, the RBI signals its confidence in the Indian economy's stability and resilience. Holding gold domestically enhances India's monetary stability, providing a buffer against economic shocks and currency volatility. It will also enhance India's economic sovereignty.

Source: [AIR](#)

29. Correct Answer is (C)

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- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. India currently imports coking coal from Australia, the U.S., and Russia. Australia is the largest supplier of coking coal to India, accounting for 59% of overall shipments in FY24. Mongolia is home to the Oyu Tolgoi mine, which is one of the largest copper mines in the world. The mine is expected to produce significant amounts of copper, making it a major player in the global copper market.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

30. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. A Virtual Payment Address (VPA) is a unique identifier used in UPI transactions, not specifically for online shopping. It allows users to send and receive money without sharing sensitive bank details.
- Statement 2 is correct. The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) manages the Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) as well as the UPI.

Source: [AIR](#)

31. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The maximum investment allowed by overseas instruments in Indian securities is capped at 20% of their net assets. The Indian government often implements regulations to control foreign investment in the Indian stock market. One such regulation limits the maximum investment allowed by overseas instruments (foreign investors) in Indian securities to a certain percentage of their net assets.
- Statement 2 is correct. A feeder fund pools capital from investors and invests it in a master fund. This structure allows for the consolidation of investments and the achievement of economies of scale.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

32. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The primary purpose of the advance estimates of agricultural crops is to estimate the production of various crops for planning and policy-making. This helps in making informed decisions regarding market regulation, public distribution, export and import policies, and other major policy decisions during the agricultural season. The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is responsible for releasing the advance estimates of major agricultural crops in India.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. Advanced estimates do not rely heavily on final harvest data from previous years. Instead, they are based on a combination of factors including area sown, yield rates from crop cutting experiments, remote sensing data, and other inputs such as weather conditions and reports from state agricultural departments.

Source: [AIR](#)

33. Correct Answer is (B)

- A benchmark index is designed to represent the performance of a specific market or sector, providing a picture of its overall health and trends. It serves as a standard measure used to evaluate the performance of an investment portfolio relative to the overall market or a specific segment of it. Benchmark indices are crucial tools in investment management, providing a reference point for comparing returns, developing investment strategies, managing risk, and allocating assets.

Source: [AIR](#)

34. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Pharmaceuticals are a significant export category for India, but they are not the largest. The largest export categories include refined petroleum, diamonds, and packaged medicaments, with refined petroleum being the top export.

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- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. India's exports have shown an increase, with a rise of \$1.19 billion from January 2023 to January 2024. The Netherlands has emerged as India's third-largest export destination after the U.S. and UAE during 2023-24. India's trade surplus with the Netherlands rose to \$17.4 billion in FY24 from \$13 billion in FY23.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

35. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Variable Rate Reverse Repo (VRRR) is not the rate at which banks lend money to each other. Instead, it is the rate at which the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) borrows money from banks for a variable period through an auction process.
- Statement 2 is correct. The Variable Rate Reverse Repo (VRRR) is a monetary policy tool used by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to manage liquidity in the banking system. Unlike the fixed reverse repo rate, which is predetermined by the RBI, the VRRR rate is determined through an auction process, allowing market forces to influence the rate. This mechanism helps the RBI absorb excess liquidity from the banking system more effectively.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

36. Correct Answer is (B)

- Clearing corporations, also referred to as clearing houses or clearing firms, are essential institutions within the financial system that act as intermediaries between buyers and sellers in various financial transactions. They play a critical role in ensuring the smooth, efficient, and secure settlement of trades. Clearing corporations ensure the timely and efficient settlement of trades by acting as intermediaries between buyers and sellers, managing the transfer of securities and funds.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

37. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) has granted Indian toys zero-duty access to the UAE market, which is expected to boost exports of Indian toys to the UAE. The increase in Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on imported toys from 20% to 60% in February 2020, and subsequently to 70% in March 2023, has made imported toys more expensive, thereby encouraging domestic production.

Source: [AIR](#)

38. Correct Answer is (B)

- Market Infrastructure Institutions (MIIs) are financial entities that provide the essential infrastructure for the functioning of the securities market. They facilitate trading, clearing, settlement, record-keeping, and storage of securities. MIIs include Stock Exchanges, Clearing Corporations, and Depositories. Commercial Banks and Insurance Companies are not considered part of MIIs.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

39. Correct Answer is (C)

- The RBI's decision to keep the repo rate unchanged often indicates that the central bank believes the current economic conditions are stable. This means that inflation is within a manageable range, and economic growth is steady. For instance, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das mentioned that inflation is moving closer to the target and growth is holding better than expected, which justifies maintaining the status quo on the repo rate.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

40. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statements 1 and 4 are correct. The Centre is primarily responsible for collecting major taxes such as personal income tax (PIT), corporation tax, customs duty, and excise duty. The Union Cabinet

approves the terms of reference for the Finance Commission, which includes recommending the formula for sharing revenues between the Centre and the States.

- Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. GST is a dual tax system where both the Centre and the States collect GST. The Central Goods and Services Tax (CGST) is collected by the Centre, and the State Goods and Services Tax (SGST) is collected by the States for intrastate transactions. Integrated Goods and Services Tax (IGST) is collected by the Centre for interstate transactions. The share of States from the divisible pool (vertical devolution) stands at 41% as per the recommendation of the 15th FC.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

41. Correct Answer is (C)

- The Local Currency Settlement (LCS) Framework is a mechanism designed to facilitate cross-border transactions between India and other countries using their respective local currencies, such as the Indian Rupee (INR) and the UAE Dirham (AED), without the need for an intermediary currency like the US Dollar. The LCS framework offers direct bilateral settlements in INR and AED, reducing dependency on intermediary currencies and lowering transaction costs. Additionally, it facilitates easier access to trade credit and export advances in partner currencies, fostering greater economic integration.

Source: [AIR](#)

42. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. UPI Lite was introduced in September 2022 to enable small value payments quickly and seamlessly through an on-device wallet.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The auto-replenishment facility for UPI Lite will be incorporated into the e-mandate framework. The Reserve Bank has proposed to bring an auto-replenishment facility for UPI Lite wallet. As per an official statement, RBI plans to bring UPI Lite within the e-mandate framework. Accordingly, if the balance in the UPI wallet goes below a threshold amount set by the customer, the fund will move from his/her account to the wallet without additional authentication or pre-debit notification.

Source: [AIR](#)

43. Correct Answer is (B)

- RBI is mulling to set up a Digital Payments Intelligence Platform to mitigate payment fraud risks. RBI has said that even though the payment ecosystem which includes banks, NPCI, card networks, payment aggregators, and payment apps take various measures on an ongoing basis to protect customers from digital frauds, there is a need for network-level intelligence and real-time data sharing across payment systems to prevent such frauds in the future.

Source: [AIR](#)

Environment

44. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. The Hoolock Gibbon is the only ape species native to India. It is unique to India's northeast and is the only ape species found in the country. Hoolock Gibbons are known for their ability to swing through the rainforest canopy using a form of locomotion called brachiation.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The western hoolock gibbon is categorized as Endangered while the eastern hoolock gibbon is categorized as Vulnerable.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

45. Correct Answer is (B)

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- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. The heat emitted by air conditioners and other machinery contributes to the Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect by increasing the ambient temperature in urban areas. In India, a heatwave in coastal areas is declared when the maximum temperature departure is 4.5°C or more from normal, provided the actual maximum temperature is 37°C or more.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The World Health Organization considers a wet-bulb temperature of around 38.5°C to be near the limits of human survivability.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

46. Correct Answer is (B)

- In evolutionary biology, altruism is defined as a behaviour that reduces the fitness of the individual performing the behaviour while increasing the fitness of other individuals in the population. This concept is well-documented in various animal species, where individuals may sacrifice their own resources, time, or even lives for the benefit of others, thereby enhancing the overall fitness of the group.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

47. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. World Environment Day, celebrated annually on June 5th, is a global event dedicated to raising awareness and promoting action for the protection of the environment. Established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1972 during the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment, the first World Environment Day was observed in 1973 with the theme "Only One Earth". The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) leads the global celebrations of World Environment Day. Saudi Arabia is hosting the global celebrations for World Environment Day 2024.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The theme for 2024 is "Land Restoration, Desertification, and Drought Resilience".

Source: [AIR](#)

48. Correct Answer is (D)

- National Board for Wildlife (NBWL): It is a statutory body constituted under Section 5A of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 (WLPA).
- National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA): It is a statutory body established under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, which was amended in 2006 to strengthen tiger conservation.
- Project Elephant: It is a centrally sponsored scheme launched by the Ministry of Environment, Forests, and Climate Change in 1992.

Source: [AIR](#)

49. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. According to the United Nations Environment Programme, informal recycling workers are responsible for recycling 85% of the 9% of plastic waste that is recycled globally. The Global Plastics Treaty aims to create a global, legally binding agreement to address plastic pollution comprehensively, covering aspects from production to waste management.
- Statement 3 is incorrect. The primary focus of the IAWP is to advance the rights and strengthen the organizing of waste pickers.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

50. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. *Thismia malayana* is found in the tropical rainforests of Peninsular Malaysia.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. *Thismia malayana* is a mycoheterotrophic plant, meaning it does not perform photosynthesis. Instead, it steals nutrients from underground fungi. The flowers of

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Thismia malayana are pollinated by fungus gnats and other small insects. This plant thrives in low-light conditions of dense forest understories. It is typically found hidden in leaf litter and growing near tree roots or old rotten logs. Thismia malayana is very sensitive to environmental changes. It has been classified as Vulnerable according to the IUCN Red List criteria.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

51. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 2 are correct. Particulate matter (PM) is a complex mixture of small solid particles and liquid droplets suspended in the air, including both organic and inorganic particles such as dust, pollen, soot, smoke, and liquid droplets. The "Air of the Anthropocene" project is an international initiative that combines art and science to visualize air pollution through light painting, aiming to raise awareness and spark discussions about air quality.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

Science & Technology

52. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Dark Web is a part of the internet that is not used by traditional search engines and cannot be accessed using standard web browsers like Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, or Microsoft Edge. Instead, it requires special software, the most common of which is the Tor Browser. This software allows users to access hidden websites and services while maintaining anonymity. The Dark Web is often associated with illicit activities due to its anonymity, but it is also used for legitimate purposes, such as providing secure communication channels for whistleblowers, journalists, and activists in oppressive regimes.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

53. Correct Answer is (C)

- The primary purpose of multinational military exercises like Red Flag and RIMPAC is to improve interoperability between allied forces. These exercises provide realistic training environments where participating nations can exchange tactics, techniques, and procedures, thereby enhancing their ability to operate together effectively in various combat scenarios. Exercise Red Flag is a two-week advanced aerial combat training exercise held several times a year by the United States Air Force (USAF). It aims to provide realistic air-combat training for military pilots and other flight crew members from the United States and allied countries. The Rim of the Pacific Exercise (RIMPAC) is the world's largest international maritime warfare exercise. It is held biennially during June and July in and around the Hawaiian Islands.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

54. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. NiV-VLPs can be used to develop antibodies and antiviral drugs in a safer lab environment because they mimic the virus's structure without containing its genetic material, making them non-infectious and safe to handle.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. NiV-VLPs are not harmful like the Nipah Virus because they do not contain viral genetic material and cannot cause disease.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

55. Correct Answer is (C)

- The API is the component of a drug that produces the intended therapeutic effects. It is the primary ingredient that is biologically active and responsible for the drug's efficacy in treating a condition or disease. It supports the manufacture of essential medicines. India has recently sent 90 tonnes of nine 'Made in India' Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) to Cuba.

Source: [AIR](#)

56. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Proteins are large, complex molecules that play critical roles in the structure, function, and regulation of the body's tissues and organs. They are essential building blocks of life.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Recombinant proteins are not naturally occurring in specific types of bacteria. Recombinant proteins are proteins that are artificially produced by introducing specific genes (Recombinant DNA) into host organisms, such as bacteria or yeast.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

57. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. PraVaHa is designed to simulate both external flows around aerospace vehicles (like launch vehicles) and internal flows within engines. PraVaHa is operational to simulate airflow for both perfect gas and real gas conditions. This capability is crucial for accurate aerodynamic and aerothermal analysis of aerospace vehicles.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. PraVaHa is specifically designed to utilize both CPU and GPU architectures for parallel processing, making it more efficient for complex Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) simulations.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

58. Correct Answer is (B)

- The Department of School Education signed an MoU with the National Book Trust in New Delhi to create an institutional framework for the Digital Library Platform, Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya. The primary function of the Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya app is to provide access to a vast collection of digital learning resources, including quality non-academic books across various genres and languages. This initiative aims to make educational and recreational reading materials easily accessible to students and the general public.

Source: [AIR](#)

59. Correct Answer is (C)

- Operation Sadbhavana (Goodwill) is an initiative by the Indian Army aimed at addressing the needs and aspirations of people affected by terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. The operation focuses on various welfare activities to foster national integration, community development, and empowerment. However, providing direct financial aid to families is not a part of the operation.

Source: [AIR](#)

60. Correct Answer is (C)

- A green beard gene promotes altruistic behaviour that benefits both the recipient and the organism with the gene by enabling individuals to recognize and preferentially help others with the same gene, identified by a unique observable trait.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

61. Correct Answer is (C)

- Statements 1 and 3 are correct. Rabies is a zoonotic, viral disease preventable by vaccine, caused by the RABV virus. Domestic dogs are the primary transmitters of the rabies virus to humans in up to 99% of cases. It can affect both domestic and wild animals. Rabies can be prevented through vaccination, both pre-exposure and post-exposure.
- Statement 2 is correct. Rabies is a viral infection, not a bacterial one, and it primarily affects the central nervous system, not the respiratory system.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

62. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. The primary objective of China's Chang'e-6 mission is to collect and return samples from the far side of the Moon, specifically from the South Pole-Aitken Basin. The mission involves collecting approximately 2 kg of lunar soil and rock samples and returning them to Earth for study.
- Statement 2 is correct. Chang'e-6 targeted the South Pole-Aitken Basin for its landing and sample collection. This basin is a significant and scientifically valuable region on the far side of the Moon, and the mission successfully landed there to collect samples.

Source: [AIR](#)

63. Correct Answer is (B)

- Milgromian Dynamics (MOND) was developed to address the discrepancies observed in the rotation curves of galaxies and the dynamics of galactic clusters without invoking dark matter. It modifies Newton's laws at very low accelerations, which are characteristic of the outer regions of galaxies and inter-galactic forces within galaxy clusters. This modification helps explain why the observed gravitational effects in these regions are stronger than what would be expected based on the visible matter alone.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

64. Correct Answer is (A)

- **Statement-I** is correct: India has the maximum number of cases of Tuberculosis in the world, accounting for 27% of the global TB cases in 2022, as reported by the World Health Organization (WHO).
- **Statement II is correct.** Poverty and poor living conditions are significant factors contributing to the spread of TB. Overcrowding and malnutrition weaken the immune system, making people more susceptible to the disease.
- Therefore, both statements are true, and statement II helps explain why India has a higher number of TB cases.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

65. Correct Answer is (B)

- Statement 1 is incorrect. Biopharmaceuticals are produced using living systems such as microorganisms, plant cells, or animal cells.
- Statements 2 and 3 are correct. The National Biopharma Mission aims to make India a hub for affordable and effective biopharmaceutical products, focusing on the development of new vaccines, bio-therapeutics, diagnostics, and medical devices. India leads in the production of biosimilars globally, with the highest number of approved biosimilars compared to other regions, including the US and Europe.

Source: [AIR](#)

66. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Phenome India, also known as PI-CHeCK (Phenome India-CSIR Health Cohort Knowledgebase), is a project focused on creating India-specific risk prediction models for cardio-metabolic diseases. This initiative is focused on understanding the unique risk factors and incidence rates of these diseases within the Indian population, considering ethnic diversity and varied lifestyle patterns
- Statement 2 is incorrect. The Phenome India project was launched by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). CSIR is India's largest research and development organization, and it initiated this project to advance precision medicine through Predictive, Personalized, Participatory, and Preventive (P4) healthcare tailored to the Indian population.

Source: [Forum IAS](#)

67. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statement 1 is correct. Cancer is a genetic disease caused by mutations in DNA. These mutations can lead to uncontrolled cell growth and division, which leads to cancer.
- Statement 2 is incorrect. Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS) is a method used for sequencing DNA and RNA. NGS allows for the rapid sequencing of large amounts of genetic material by sequencing millions of small fragments simultaneously.

Source: [The Hindu](#)

68. Correct Answer is (B)

- Ulcerative Colitis and Crohn's Disease are the two types of IBD. Ulcerative colitis causes inflammation only in the inner lining of the colon, while Crohn's disease can affect deeper layers of the GI tract.

Feature	Ulcerative Colitis (UC)	Crohn's Disease (CD)
Location of Inflammation	Limited to the colon (large intestine) and rectum	Can occur anywhere along the gastrointestinal (GI) tract, from the mouth to the anus
Pattern of Inflammation	Continuous inflammation starting at the rectum and extending proximally	Intermittent inflammation with healthy areas between inflamed regions
Depth of Inflammation	Affects only the innermost lining (mucosa) of the colon	Can affect all layers of the bowel wall, from the mucosa to the serosa
Symptoms	More likely to cause rectal bleeding, blood in stools, and continuous symptoms	Can cause a wider variety of symptoms, including mouth sores, anal tears, ulcers, infections, and narrowing of the intestine
Complications	Increased risk of colon cancer, particularly with long-standing disease	Higher risk of complications such as strictures, fistulas, and abscesses

Source: [The Hindu](#)

69. Correct Answer is (A)

- Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect. The private sector is the dominant player in the healthcare arena in India, accounting for about 70% of total healthcare expenditure. The Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS) are specifically prescribed for public healthcare facilities, such as Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs), and District Hospitals. These standards are not mandated for private hospitals.
- Statement 2 is correct. Health is currently under the State List of the Indian Constitution, meaning that state governments have the primary responsibility for healthcare.

Source: [The Hindu](#)