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| Question | Consider the following statements :  Statement-I : The atmosphere is heated more by incoming solar radiation than by terrestrial radiation.  Statement-I1 : Carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere are good absorbers of long wave radiation.  Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I |
| Option | Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not |4 explain Statement-I ) |
| Option | Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect |
| Option | Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-IT is correct |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | Atmosphere is not heated by insolation because it is short wave radiation. First it is absorbed by earth surface and converted into long wave radiation. This long wave radiation can be absorbed by green house gases available in the lower atmosphere. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following statements :  Statement-l : : Thickness of the troposphere at the equator is much greater as compared to poles.  Statement-II : At the equator, heat is transported to great heights by strong convectional currents.  Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correet and Statement-II explains Statement-I |
| Option | Both Statement-I and Statement-1I are correct, hut Statement-1I does not explain Statement-I |
| Option | Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect |
| Option | Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct |
| Answer | 1 |
| Solution | At equator more energy is received hence the vertically rising convectional currents increases the height of troposphere. At poles the sinking of air reduces the height of troposphere. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following :  1. Pyroclastic debris  2. Ashand dust  3. Nitrogen compounds  4. Sulphur compounds  How many of the above are products of volcanic eruptions ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Only one |
| Option | Only two |
| Option | Only three |
| Option | All four |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | Through a volcanic explosion solid, liquid and gases comes out. Pyroclastic material is formed when magma is solidified in air. CO2 methane, oxides of Sulphur and nitrogen also comes out in the form of gases. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Which of the following is/are correct inference/inferences from isothermal maps in the month of January ?  1. The isotherms deviate to the north over the ocean and to the south over the continent.  2. The presence of cold ocean currentsy Gulf Stream and North Atlantic Drift make they North Atlantic Ocean colder and the isotherms bend towards the north.  Select thé answer using/the code given below - |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | l only |
| Option | 2 only |
| Option | Both l and 2 |
| Option | Neither 1 nor 2 |
| Answer | 1 |
| Solution | * In January, the northern hemisphere experiences winter, while the southern hemisphere experiences summer. Because Westerlies can carry high temperatures into landmasses, the western margins of continents are warmer than their eastern counterparts. * The temperature gradient is close to the continents’ eastern margins. In the southern hemisphere, isotherms behave more consistently. * The isotherms deviate north over the ocean and south over the continent. This is visible in the North Atlantic Ocean. Warm ocean currents, such as the Gulf Stream and North Atlantic drift, warm the Northern Atlantic Ocean, and isotherms show a poleward shift, indicating that the oceans are warmer and capable of carrying high temperatures poleward. * An equatorward bend in the isotherms over the northern continents indicates that the landmasses have been overcooled and that polar cold winds can penetrate southwards, even into the interiors. It is especially noticeable in the Siberian plain. Northern Siberia and Greenland have the coldest temperatures. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Which of the following countries are well known as the two largest cocoa producers in the world ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Algeria and Morocco |
| Option | Botswana and Namibia |
| Option | Cote d'lvoire and Ghana |
| Option | Madagascar and Mozambique |
| Answer | 3 |
| Solution | Cote-d’Ivoire and Ghana are the major producer of cocoa in the world. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | **With reference to the Himalayan rivers joining the Ganga downstream of Prayagraj from West to East, which one of the following sequences is correct ?** |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Ghaghara — Gomati — Gandak — Kosi |
| Option | Gomati— Ghaghara — Gandak — Kosi |
| Option | Ghaghara — Gomati — Kosi — Gandak |
| Option | Gomati— Ghaghara — Kosi — Gandak |
| Answer | 2 |
| Solution |  |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | **Consider the following statements :**  Statement-I : Rainfall is one of the reasons for weathering of rocks.  Statement-II : Rain water contains carbon dioxide in solution.  Statement-III : Rain water contains atmospheric oxygen.  **Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ?** |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Both Statement-II and Statement-III aré correct and both of them explain Statement-I. |
| Option | Both Statement-II and Statement-III are correct, but only one of them explains Statement-I |
| Option | Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement-I |
| Option | Neither Statement-II nor Statement-III is correct |
| Answer | 1 |
| Solution | Rainwater is trapped inside small cracks and enters deep in rocks. In cold regions, this water freezes. Water, as we know, expands upon freezing, so the cracks become wider, eventually leading to the rock breaking.  Rainwater is slightly acidic because co2 is found in dissolved for which increases the weathering capacity of rainwater.  Dissolved oxygen is found in rainwater which causes chemical weathering of rocks by means of oxidation. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | **Consider the following countries :**  1. Finland 2. Germany 3. Norway 4. Russia  **How many of the above countries have a border with the North Sea ?** |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Only one |
| Option | Only two |
| Option | Only three |
| Option | All Four |
| Answer | 2 |
| Solution |  |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | **Consider the following information :**    **In how many of the above rows is the given information correctly matched ?** |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Only one |
| Option | Only two |
| Option | Only three |
| Option | None |
| Answer | 2 |
| Solution | Dhuandhar waterfall is near Jabalpur in mahakaushal reguion of madhyapradesh.  Gersoppa waterfall is on sharavati river in weatern ghat. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following information :    **In how many of the above rows is the given information correctly matched ?** |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Only one |
| Option | Only two |
| Option | Only three |
| Option | All Four |
| Answer | 2 |
| Solution | Vosges is a block mountain in France  Alps are folded mountain in Europe.  Appalachian is folded mountain in north America  Andes is folded mountain in south America |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | **Consider the following airports :**  1. Donyi Polo Airport  2. Kushinagar International Airport  3. Vijayawada International Airport  **In the recent past, which of the above have been constructed as Greenfield projects ?** |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | l and 2 only |
| Option | 2 and 3 only |
| Option | l and 3 only |
| Option | 1,2 and 3 |
| Answer | 1 |
| Solution | It's essentially a project built from scratch. The word “greenfield” is a reference to greenfield lands in real estate that are completely untouched by any previous construction. This kind of project gives a blank slate to creators.  In a key step to boost connectivity in the Northeast, the Prime Minister inaugurated the first greenfield airport in Arunachal Pradesh - 'Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar'  Since 2019, 6 Greenfield airports namely, Kalaburagi (project cost Rs. 175.57 crore), Orvakal (Kurnool) (project cost Rs. 187 crore), Sindhudurg (project cost Rs. 520 crore), Itanagar (project cost Rs. 646 crore)Kushinagar (project cost Rs. 448 crore) and Mopa (project cost Rs.2870 crore) have been operationalised, out of which Kushinagar and Mopa airports are International airports. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | **With reference to “water vapour”, which of the following statements is/are correct ?**  1. It is a gas, the amount of which decreases with altitude.  2. Its percentage is maximum at the poles.  **Select the answer using the code given below :** |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1 only |
| Option | 2 only |
| Option | Both 1 and 2 |
| Option | Neither l nor 2 |
| Answer | 1 |
| Solution | Water vapour is the primary form of atmospheric moisture. It is water in gaseous form. Although its storage in the atmosphere is comparatively small, water vapour is extremely important in forming the moisture supply for dew, frost, fog, clouds, and precipitation. Practically all water vapour in the atmosphere is confined to the troposphere and its quantity decreases with height.  Maximum quantity of water vapor is found at equator and it decreases towards the poles. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | **Consider the following description :**  1. Annual and daily range of temperatures is low.  2. Precipitation occurs throughout the year.  3. Precipitation varies between 50 cm — 250 cm.  **What is this type of climate ?** |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Equatorial climate |
| Option | China type climate |
| Option | Humid subtropical climate |
| Option | Marine West coast climate |
| Answer | 2 |
| Solution | The primary feature eqatorial type of climate is its temperature uniformity throughout the year. This manifests in the form of no winter season. The mean monthly temperature hovers around 27°C with minimal variation. Cloudiness and heavy precipitation moderates the daily temperature. The diurnal temperature range is small, as is the annual temperature range. Two major properties characterize it.  Uniform and high temperature throughout the year, and  Uniform and adequate rainfall throughout the year is received through the convective mechanism. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | **With reference to “Coriolis force”, which of the following statements is/are correct ?**  1. Tt increases with increase in wind velocity.  2. It is maximum at the poles and is absent at the equator.  **Select the answer using the code given below :** |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1 only |
| Option | 2 only |
| Option | Both 1 and 2 |
| Option | Neither l nor 2 |
| Answer | 3 |
| Solution | The Coriolis effect has following characteristics  Coriolis force is a fictitious force resulting from the rotational movement of the earth.  Coriolis effect is effective on objects that are in motion such as wind, aircraft, ballistic and flying birds.  Coriolis effect only affects the wind direction and not the wind speed as it deflects the wind direction from the expected path.  The magnitude of Coriolis force is determined by wind speed. The higher the wind speed, the greater the deflection.  Coriolis effect is maximum at the poles and zero at the equator. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | **On June 21 every year, which of the following latitude(s) experience(s) 2 sunlight of more than 12 hours ?**  1. Equator 2. Tropic of Cancer  3. Tropic of Capricorn 4. Arctic Circle  **Select the correct answer using the code given below :** |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1 Only |
| Option | 2 Only |
| Option | 3 and 4 Only |
| Option | 2 and 4 Only |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | The daylight hours for any given location on Earth depends on it’s latitude and where Earth is - in its orbit around the Sun. The orientation of Earth’s axis to the sun is changing throughout the year as Earth orbits the Sun. Sometimes the axis points toward the sun and other times away from the sun. Consequently, the distribution of sunlight on Earth’s surface changes day by day, at any given latitude. From the above image, you can see how the North Pole is tilted towards the Sun for half the year while the South Pole is tilted away from the Sun; and the reverse of this for the other half of the year. Only during March and September the Sun is directly over the equator – the equinoxes – meaning the duration day and night are equal. In the Northern Hemisphere, days are longest at the time of the summer solstice in June, and the shortest days are at the winter solstice in December. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | **One of the following regions has the world’s largest tropical peatland, which holds about three years worth of global carbon emissions from fossil fuels; and the possible destruction of which can exert detrimental effect on the global climate. Which one of the following denotes that region ?** |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Amazon Basin |
| Option | Congo Basin |
| Option | Kikori Basin |
| Option | Rio de la Plata Basin |
| Answer | 2 |
| Solution | Peat is a partially-decomposed plant matter. When trees, leaves and roots die, year-round waterlogging in the swamp prevents decomposition, slowly forming a layer of peat. The carbon accumulated during plant growth is captured in the peat, which acts as a carbon sink. If peatlands dry out, for example due to changes in land use, peat decomposition can resume, releasing the stored carbon into the atmosphere.  In a new study published in Nature Geoscience, an international team of researchers has identified vast peatlands in the central Congo Basin, covering 16.7 million hectares - more than five times the size of Belgium. In places, the peat is up to 6.5 metres deep.  Researchers reveal that these peatlands store between 26 and 32 billion tonnes of carbon – roughly the equivalent to three years’ worth of global fossil fuel emissions. The central Congo basin is home to 36% of the world’s tropical peatland area, and stores 28% of the world’s tropical peat carbon. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | **With reference to perfluoroalkyl polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) that are used in making many consumer products, consider the following statements :**  1. PFAS are found to be widespread in drinking water, food and food packaging materials.  2. PFAS are not easily degraded in the environment.  3. Persistent exposure to PFAS can lead to bioaccumulation in animal bodies.  **Which of the statements given above are correct ?** |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1 and 2 only |
| Option | 2 and 3 only |
| Option | 1 and 3 only |
| Option | 1,2 and 3 |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | PFAS from past and current uses have resulted in increasing levels of contamination of the air, water, and soil.  PFAS molecules have a chain of linked carbon and fluorine atoms. Because the carbon-fluorine bond is one of the strongest, these chemicals do not degrade easily in the environment.  Exposure to certain PFAS may be associated with increased risk of thyroid cancer. A large-scale study on exposure to PFAS in humans and rodents showed consistent evidence of liver damage. PFAS are known to accumulate in body tissues such as in the liver. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | **Consider the following :**  1.Carabid beetles 2. Centipedes  3. Flies 4. Termites  5. Wasps  **Parasitoid species are found in how many of the above kind of organisms ?** |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Only two |
| Option | Only three |
| Option | Only four |
| Option | All five |
| Answer | 2 |
| Solution | Most parasitoids are wasps, but some flies and a small number of beetles, moths, lacewings, and even one caddisfly species have evolved to be parasitoids. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | **Consider the following plants :**  1. Groundnut 2. Horse-gram 3. Soybean  **How many of the above belong to the pea family ?** |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Only one |
| Option | Only two |
| Option | All three |
| Option | None |
| Answer | 3 |
| Solution | The family Fabaceae includes a number of plants that are common in agriculture including Glycine max (soybean), Phaseolus (beans), Pisum sativum (pea), Cicer arietinum (chickpeas), Vicia faba (broad bean), Medicago sativa (alfalfa), Arachis hypogaea (peanut), Ceratonia siliqua (carob), Trigonella foenum-graecum (fenugreek), and Glycyrrhiza glabra (liquorice). A number of species are also weedy pests in different parts of the world, including Cytisus scoparius (broom), Robinia pseudoacacia (black locust), Ulex europaeus (gorse), Pueraria montana (kudzu), and a number of Lupinus species.  Macrotyloma uniflorum (horsegram, also known as horse gram, kulthi bean, gahat, hurali, or Madras gram) is a legume |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following statements :  Statement-I :  The Indian Flying Fox is placed under the “yermin” category in the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.  Statement-II :  The, Indian Flying Fox feeds on' the blood of other animals.  Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Both Statement-I and Statement-II are Statement-IT explains correct and Statement-I |
| Option | Both Statement-I and Statement-II are but Statement-II does nrot correct, explain Statement-I |
| Option | Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect |
| Option | Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-I1 is correct |
| Answer | 3 |
| Solution | According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List, the Indian Flying Fox falls in the Least Concern category. These bat species are identified as bats and carriers of several zoonotic diseases. The Flying Foxes in the Indian Wildlife Protection Act 1972 is classified as a vermin.  The Indian flying fox is frugivorous or nectarivorous, i.e. it eats fruits or eat blossoms and drink nectar from flowers. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | The organisms Cicada, Froghopper and Pond |skater” are : |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Birds |
| Option | Fish |
| Option | Insects |
| Option | Reptiles |
| Answer | 3 |
| Solution | The cicadas are a superfamily, the Cicadoidea, of insects in the order Hemiptera (true bugs).  The froghoppers, or the superfamily Cercopoidea, are a group of hemipteran insects in the suborder Auchenorrhyncha.  The Gerridae are a family of insects in the order Hemiptera, commonly known as water striders, water skeeters, water scooters, water bugs, |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following statements :  Statement-I :  Many chewing gums found in the market are considered a source of environmental pollution.  Staternent-II :  Many chewing gums contain plastic as gum base.  Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I |
| Option | Both- Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I 25. |
| Option | Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect |
| Option | Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct |
| Answer | 1 |
| Solution | After chewing, most individuals throw the waste part of chewing gum everywhere, resulting in environmental trash known as 'gum pollution. Each year, chewing gum generates more than 105 tonnes of "plastic" garbage. Thus, the discarded non-biodegradable residue of the gum produces plastic pollution. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following pairs :    How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Only one |
| Option | Only two |
| Option | Only three |
| Option | None |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | The indri is an endangered species found only in remote parts of northeastern Madagascar  Elk love grassy ridges adjacent to water-logged creek bottoms, not only because of the plentiful grass, but because the timber on the ridges affords them with travel corridors from their food source to their bedding sites. The best place to find them is western North America,  Wild bonobos can only be found in forests south of the Congo River in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following statements regarding World Toilet Organization :  1. It is one of the agencies of the United Nations,  2. World Toilet Summit, World Toilet Day and World Toilet College are the initiatives of this organization, to inspire action to tackle the global sanitation crisis.  3. The main focus of its function is to grant funds to the least developed countries and developing countries to achieve the end of open defecation.  Which of the statements given above is/are correct ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 2 only |
| Option | 3 only |
| Option | 1 and 2 |
| Option | 2 and 3 |
| Answer | 1 |
| Solution | African lions have no particular breeding season, but most of the mating in the wild occurs in the months of March through June. Females cycle throughout the year every 16 days, remaining in estrus for four to eight days.  The bones of the cheetah's voice box form a fixed structure, with divided vocal cords that vibrate with both in and out breaths. This structure is the same for all the 'small' cats. While this design enables these cats to purr continuously, it limits the range of other sounds and prevents them from being able to roar.  Leopards are territorial and mark their territory with faeces, urine and cheek-rubbing on trees. They can also leave scrape markings on the ground, trees or logs. This communicates to other leopards passing through that the territory they are in is occupied. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following statements :  1. Lions do not have a particular breeding, season.  2. Unlike most other big cats, cheetahs do not roar.  3. Unlike male lions, male leopards do not proclaim their territory by scent marking.  Which of the statements given above are correct ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | l and 2 only |
| Option | 2 and 3 only |
| Option | 1 and 3 only |
| Option | 1,2 and 3 |
| Answer | 1 |
| Solution | Japan and Italy especially stand out for their older populations. By 2025, the median age in Japan is projected to be slightly over 50 years old, while Italy is projected to hit that mark five years later, in 2030. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Which one of the following is the correct description of “100 Million Farmers” ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | It is a platform for accelerating the transition towards food and water systems that are net-zero (carbon),nature-positive and that aims to increase farmer resilience. |
| Option | It is an international alliance and a network of individuals and farming organisations interested in  **supporting and strengthening the development of the organic animal husbandry.** |
| Option | It is a digital platform fully integrated with service providers and built on blockchain that lets buyers, sellers and third parties trade fertilizers quickly and securely. |
| Option | It is a platform with the mission of encouraging the farmers to form Farmer Product Organisations  or Agribusiness Consortiums, thus facilitating the access to global open markets to sell their  **products.** |
| Answer | 1 |
| Solution | 100 Million Farmers: Breakthrough Models for Financing a Sustainability Transition  This report describes a breakthrough model for financing and collaboration to support farmers and accelerate the transition to sustainable food production  **It is a multistakeholder platform catalysing action towards net-zero and nature-positive food systems by 2030. 100 Million Farmers operates through regional and national coalitions that develop “lighthouse” public-private projects designed to move local farming towards adopting transformative change.** |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following :  1. Battery storage 2. Biomass generators  3. Fuel cells 4. Rooftop solar photovoltaic units  How many’ of the above are considered “Distributed Energy Resources” ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Only one |
| Option | Only two |
| Option | Only three |
| Option | All four |
| Answer | d |
| Solution | Distributed energy resources (DER) refers to often smaller generation units that are located on the consumer's side of the meter. Examples of distributed energy resources that can be installed include: roof top solar photovoltaic units. wind generating units. battery storage.  DER technologies include wind turbines, photovoltaics (PV), fuel cells, microturbines, reciprocating engines, combustion turbines, cogeneration, and energy storage systems.  Some distributed generation technologies, such as waste incineration, biomass combustion, and combined heat and power, may require water for steam generation or cooling. Distributed generation systems that use combustion may be less efficient than centralized power plants due to efficiencies of scale. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Which one of the following shows a unique relationship with an insect that has coevolved with it and that is the only insect that can pollinate this tree ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Fig |
| Option | Mahua |
| Option | Sandalwood |
| Option | Silk cotton |
| Answer | 1 |
| Solution | The banyan fig tree Ficus microcarpa is famous for its aerial roots, which sprout from branches and eventually reach the soil. The tree also has a unique relationship with a wasp that has coevolved with it and is the only insect that can pollinate it. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following :  1. Butterflies 2. Fish 3. Frogs  How many of the above have poisonous species among them ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Only one |
| Option | Only two |
| Option | Only three |
| Option | None |
| Answer | 3 |
| Solution | Several types of butterflies are known to be poisonous or have toxic characteristics that serve as a defense mechanism against predators. These butterflies are often brightly colored, which serves as a warning to potential predators that they should not be consumed.  There are more venomous fish than venomous snakes and indeed more than the combined total of all other venomous vertebrates. Venomous fish are found in almost all habitats around the world, but mostly in tropical waters. Encounters with these species injure over 50,000 people every year.  There are currently only two species of frog known to be venomous: Bruno's casque-headed frog (Aparasphenodon brunoi) and Greening's frog (Corythomantis greeningi). |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following :  1. Cashew 2. Papaya 3. Red sanders  How many of the above trees are actually native to India ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Only one |
| Option | Only two |
| Option | Only three |
| Option | None |
| Answer | 1 |
| Solution | The cashew is native to northeastern Brazil  Papaya is Native to tropical America, papaya originates from southern Mexico and Central America.  As a native species to Andhra Pradesh (INDIA), Red Sanders (also known as Red Sandalwood) use and trade are regulated by the State. Following the amendment to the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972 in December 2022, Red Sanders is now listed in Schedule IV. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | With reference to radioisotope thermoelectric generators (RTGs), consider the following  statements :  1. RTGs are miniature fission reactors.  2. RTGs are used for powering the onboard systems of spacecrafts.  3. RTGs can use Plutonium-238, which is a by-product of weapons development.  Which of the statements given above are correct ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1 and 2 only |
| Option | 2 and 3 only |
| Option | 1 and 3 only |
| Option | 1,2 and 3 |
| Answer | 2 |
| Solution | Sometimes referred to as “nuclear batteries,” RTGs are not fission reactors, nor is the plutonium the type that is used for nuclear weapons.  Radioisotope Thermoelectric Generators (RTGs) are lightweight, compact spacecraft power systems that are extraordinarily reliable. RTGs provide electrical power using heat from the natural radioactive decay of plutonium-238, in the form of plutonium oxide.  Plutonium-238 is a very powerful alpha emitter; as alpha particles are easily blocked, this makes the plutonium-238 isotope suitable for usage in radioisotope thermoelectric generators (RTGs) and radioisotope heater units. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following statements :  Statement-I :  Giant stars live much longer than dwarf stars.  Statement-II :  Compared to dwarf stars, giant stars have a greater rate of nuclear reactions.  Which one of the following is correct in, respect of the above statements ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I |
| Option | Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-Il does not explain Statement-I |
| Option | Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect |
| Option | Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | Therefore, giant stars have a greater rate of the nuclear reactions that light up stars. Massive stars also use up the hydrogen fuel in their core faster, despite starting out with much more of it, meaning they live much shorter lives than dwarf stars. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Which one of the following is synthesised in human body that dilates blood vessels and increases blood flow ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Nitric oxide |
| Option | Nitrous oxide |
| Option | Nitrogen dioxide |
| Option | Nitrogen pentoxide |
| Answer | 1 |
| Solution | Nitric oxide is a molecule that's produced naturally by your body, and it's important for many aspects of your health. Its most important function is vasodilation, meaning it relaxes the inner muscles of the blood vessels, causing them to widen and increase circulation. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following activities :  1. Identification of narcotics on passengers at airports or in aircraft  2. . Monitoring of precipitation  3. Tracking the migration of animals  In how many of the above activities can the radars be used ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Only one |
| Option | Only two |
| Option | Only three |
| Option | None |
| Answer | 3 |
| Solution | Weather radar measurements from airborne or satellite platforms can be an effective remote-sensing tool for examining the three-dimensional structures of clouds and precipitation.  Since the 1960s, radar has become a widely-used technique for studying migrating animals. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following aircraft :  1. Rafael 2. MiG-29 3. Tejas MK-1  How many of the above are considered fifth generation fighter aircraft ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Only one |
| Option | Only two |
| Option | Only three |
| Option | None |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | Equipped with a wide range of weapons, the Rafale is intended to perform air supremacy, interdiction, aerial reconnaissance, ground support, in-depth strike, anti-ship strike and nuclear deterrence missions. It is referred to as an "omnirole" 4.5th generation aircraft by Dassault.  he MiG-29 Fulcrum is a modern 4th generation supersonic fighter that can achieve more than double the speed of sound.  The HAL Tejas (Sanskrit: ISO: Tējasa, lit. 'Radiance') is an Indian single-engine, 4.5 generation delta wing multirole combat aircraft designed by the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) and manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for the Indian Air Force (IAF) and Indian Navy. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | In which of the following are hydrogels used ? | 41.  1. Controlled drug delivery in patients  2. Mobile air-conditioning systems  3. Preparation of industrial lubricants  Select the correct answer using the code given below : |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1 only |
| Option | 1 and 2 only |
| Option | 2 and 3 only |
| Option | 1, 2 and 3 |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | Hydrogels are also used in the biomedical industry for therapeutic delivery; intraocular lenses, contact lenses, and corneal prostheses in ophthalmology; bone cement for orthopedics; wound dressings; 3D tissue scaffolds in regenerative medicine; self-healing materials; biosensors; and hemostasis bandages |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Which one of the following is the exhaust pipe emission from Fuel. Cell Electric Vehicles, puwered by hydrogen ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Hydrogen peroxide |
| Option | Hydronium |
| Option | Osxygen |
| Option | Water vapour |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | Fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEVs) are powered by hydrogen. They are more efficient than conventional internal combustion engine vehicles and produce no harmful tailpipe emissions—they only emit water vapor and warm air. FCEVs and the hydrogen infrastructure to fuel them are in the early stages of implementation. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Recently, the term “pumped-storage hydropower” is actually and\_appropriately dischssedyin the context of which one of the following.? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Trrigation of terraced crop fields |
| Option | Liftirrigation of cereal crops |
| Option | Long duration energy storage |
| Option | Rainwater harvesting system |
| Answer | 3 |
| Solution | Pumped hydropower storage uses the force of gravity to generate electricity using water that has been previously pumped from a lower source to an upper reservoir. The water is pumped to the higher reservoir at times of low demand and low electricity prices. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | “Membrane Bioreactors” are often discussed in the context of : |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Assisted reproductive technologies |
| Option | Drug delivery nanotechnologies |
| Option | Vaccine production technologies |
| Option | Wastewater treatment technologies |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution |  |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | With reference to the Indian economy,“Collateral Borrowing and Lending Obligations” are the instruments of : |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Bond market |
| Option | Forex market |
| Option | Money market |
| Option | Stock market |
| Answer | 3 |
| Solution | A collateralized borrowing and lending obligation (CBLO) is a money market instrument that represents an obligation between a borrower and a lender concerning the terms and conditions of a loan |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | The total fertility rate in an economy is defined as : |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | the numiber of children born per 1000 people in the population in a year. |
| Option | the number of children born to a couple in their lifetime in a given population. |
| Option | the birth rate minus death rate. |
| Option | the average number of live births 2 woman would have by the end of herchild-bearing age. |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | The total fertility rate in a specific year is defined as the total number of children that would be born to each woman if she were to live to the end of her child-bearing years and give birth to children in alignment with the prevailing age-specific fertility rates. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | **Consider the following statements :**  (1) In India, Non-Banking Financial Companies can access the LiquidityAdjustment Facility window  of the Reserve Bank of India.  (2) In India, Foreign Institutional Investors can hold the Government Securities (G-Secs).  (3) In India, Stock Exchanges can offer separate trading platforms for debts.  Which of the statements given above is/are correct ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1 and 2 only |
| Option | 3 only |
| Option | 1,2 and 3 only |
| Option | 2 and 3 only |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | A liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) is a tool used in monetary policy, primarily by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), that allows banks to borrow money through repurchase agreements (repos) or to make loans to the RBI through reverse repo agreements.  The Reserve Bank regulates and supervises the NBFCs in terms of Chapter III B of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. The Reserve Bank has put in place a set of directions to regulate the activities of NBFCs under its jurisdiction.  According to RBI, non-resident retail investors eligible to invest in government securities under the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999, can also invest in G-Secs through this platform.  NSE will be the first exchange to offer a separate trading platform for debts. Other exchanges like BSE and MCX-SX are awaiting Sebi's clearance to launch debt trading. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | In India, which of the following can trade in Corporate Bonds and Government Securities ?  1. Insurance Companics  2. Pension Funds  3. Retail Investors  Select the correct answer using the code given below : |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1 and 2 only |
| Option | 2 and 3 only |
| Option | 1 and 3 only |
| Option | 1, 2 and 3 |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | Government bonds are generally considered safer due to backing by the government, offering stability but lower yields. Corporate bonds, on the other hand, often provide higher yields but come with relatively higher risk as they depend on the issuing company's financial health. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following :  1. Exchange-Traded Funds (EETF')  2. Motor vehicles  3. Currency swap  Which of the above is/are considered financial instruments ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1 only |
| Option | 2 and 3 only |
| Option | 1,2 and 3 |
| Option | 1 and 3 only |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | Financial instruments are assets that can be traded or used for investment purposes. It can be broadly categorized into Equity-based (stocks, representing ownership in a company) and Debt-based (bonds, loans, representing a loan made by an investor to a borrower) securities. They also include Derivatives, Money Market Instruments, Mutual Funds, ETFs, Foreign Exchange and Commodities.  Currency swaps are important financial instruments used by banks, investors, and multinational corporations. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | With reference to the sectors of the Indian economy, consider the following pairs :    How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Only one |
| Option | Only two |
| Option | Only three |
| Option | All four |
| Answer | 2 |
| Solution | Primary Sector  In Primary sector of economy, activities are undertaken by directly using natural resources. Agriculture, Mining, Fishing, Forestry, Dairy etc. are some examples of this sector.  It is called so because it forms the base for all other products. Since most of the natural products we get are from agriculture, dairy, forestry, fishing, it is also called Agriculture and allied sector.  People engaged in primary activities are called red-collar workers due to the outdoor nature of their work.  Secondary Sector  It includes the industries where finished products are made from natural materials produced in the primary sector. Industrial production, cotton fabric, sugar cane production etc. activities comes under this sector.  Hence its the part of a country's economy that manufactures goods, rather than producing raw materials  Since this sector is associated with different kinds of industries, it is also called industrial sector.  People engaged in secondary activities are called blue collar workers. Examples of manufacturing sector: Small workshops producing pots, artisan production. Mills producing textiles, Factories producing steel, chemicals, plastic, car. Food production such as brewing plants, and food processing. Oil refinery.  Tertiary Sector/Service Sector  This sector’s activities help in the development of the primary and secondary sectors. By itself, economic activities in tertiary sector do not produce a goods but they are an aid or a support for the  production.  Goods transported by trucks or trains, banking, insurance, finance etc. come under the sector. It provides the value addition to a product same as secondary sector.  This sector jobs are called white collar jobs. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question |  |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option |  |
| Option |  |
| Option |  |
| Option |  |
| Answer |  |
| Solution |  |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | With reference to physical capital in Indian economy, consider the following pairs :    How many of the above pairs are correctly matched ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Only one |
| Option | Only two |
| Option | Only three |
| Option | All four |
| Answer | 2 |
| Solution | Computer is a fixed capital. Fixed capital is a concept in economics and accounting, first theoretically analyzed in some depth by the economist David Ricardo. It refers to any kind of real or physical capital (fixed asset) that is not used up in the production of a product.  Farmer's plough is an example of fixed capital factor of production.  Machines and office furniture are fixed capital which can be used again and again for further production. It is also known as the durable use of producer goods. Raw material and fuel are circulating capital which is used only once in production.  Production requires a variety of raw materials such as the yarn used by the weaver and the clay used by the potter. Also, some money is always required during production to make payments and buy other necessary items. Raw materials and money in hand are called working capital. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Which one of the following words/phrases is most appropriately used to denote “an interoperable network of 3D virtual worlds that can be accessed simultaneously by millions of users, who can exert property rights over virtual items” ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Bigdata analytics |
| Option | Cryptography |
| Option | Metaverse |
| Option | Virtual matrix |
| Answer | 3 |
| Solution | The metaverse refers to an immersive and persistent three-dimensional virtual realm, shared with many users, that spans various digital platforms and merges with the physical world, where people can shop, work, play and hang out together in real time. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | With reference to the rule/rules imposed by the Reserve Bank of India while treating foreign banks, consider the following statements :  1. There is mno minimum capital requirement for wholly owned banking subsidiaries in India.  2. For wholly owned banking subsidiaries .in India, at least 50% of the board members should be Indian nationals.  Which of the statements given above is/are correct ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | l only |
| Option | 2 only |
| Option | Both1 and 2 |
| Option | Neither 1 nor 2 |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | The minimum net worth of the WOS on conversion would not be less than Rs. 3 billion and the WOS will be required to maintain a minimum capital adequacy ratio of 10 per cent of the risk weighted assets or as may be prescribed from time to time on a continuous basis.  The composition of the board of directors of WOS should meet the following requirements:  a) not less than 51 percent of the total number of members of the board of directors shall consist of persons as defined under Section 10A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949;  b) not less than two-third of the directors should be non-executive directors;  c) not less than one-third of the directors should be independent of the management of the subsidiary in India, its parent and any subsidiary or other associate of the foreign bank parent;  d) not less than 50 per cent directors should be Indian nationals/NRIs/PIOs subject to the condition that one-third of the directors are Indian nationals resident in India. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | With Social Responsibility (CSR) rules in India, consider reference to Corporate the following statements :  1. CSR rules specify that expenditures that benefit the company directly or its employees will not be considered as CSR activities.  2. CSR rules do not specify minimum spending on CSR activities.  Which of the statements given above is/are correct ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | l only |
| Option | 2 only |
| Option | Both1 and 2 |
| Option | Neither 1 nor 2 |
| Answer | 1 |
| Solution | Any activity benefitting employees of the company is not considered  as eligible CSR activity. As per the rule, any activity designed  exclusively for the benefit of employees shall be considered as an  "activity benefitting employees" and will not qualify as permissible  CSR expenditure.  Companies are required to spend a minimum of 2% of their net profit  over the preceding three years as CSR. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following statements :  Statement-I :  If the United States of America (USA) were to default on its debt, holders of US Treasury Bonds will not be able to exercise their claims to receive payment.  Statement-II :  The USA Government debt is not backed by any hard assets, but only by the faith of the Government.  Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-Il explains. |
| Option | Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain. |
| Option | Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect. |
| Option | Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct. |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution |  |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following statements :  Statement-I :  Syndicated lending spreads the risk of borrower default across multiple lenders.  Statement-II :  The syndicated loan can be a fixed amount/lump sum of funds, but cannot be a credit line.  Which one- of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I |
| Option | Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I |
| Option | Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect |
| Option | Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct |
| Answer | 3 |
| Solution | A syndicated loan is a form of financing that is offered by a group of lenders. Syndicated loans arise when a project requires too large a loan for a single lender or when a project needs a specialized lender with expertise in a specific asset class.  Syndicating allows lenders to spread risk and take part in financial opportunities that may be too large for their individual capital base. Lenders are referred to as a syndicate, which works together to provide funds for a single borrower. The borrower can be a corporation, a large project, or a sovereign government. The loan can involve a fixed amount of funds, a credit line, or a combination of the two. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following statements in respect of the digital rupee :  1. It is a sovereign currency issued by the Bank of India (RBI) in alignment with its monetary policy.  2. It appears as a liability on the RBI's balance sheet.  3. Itisinsured against inflation by its very design.  4. It is freely convertible against commercial bank money and cash.  Which of the statements given above are correct ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1 and 2 only |
| Option | 1 and 3 only |
| Option | 2 and 4 only |
| Option | 1,2 and 4 |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution |  |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | With reference to ancient/Tndia, Gautama Buddha was generally known-by which, of the. followiAng epithets ?  1. Nayaputta 2. Shakyamuni 3. Tathagata  Select the correct answer using the code given below : |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | l only |
| Option | 2 and 3 only |
| Option | 1,2and3 |
| Option | None of the above are epithets of Gautama Buddha |
| Answer | 2 |
| Solution | Epithet, adjective or phrase that is used to express a characteristic of a person or thing,  1. Surviving early Jain and Buddhist literature uses several names (or epithets) for Mahavira, including Nayaputta, Muni, Samana, Nigantha, Brahman, and Bhagavan  2. **Shakyamuni,** epithet applied to Gautama Buddha.  3. Tathagata, (Sanskrit and Pali), one of the titles of a buddha and the one most frequently employed by the historical Buddha, Siddhartha Gautama, when referring to himself. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following information :   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | **Archaeological Site** | **State** | **Description** | | **1** | Chandraketugarh | Odisha | Trading Port town | | **2** | Inamgaon | Maharashtra | Chalcolithic site | | **3** | Mangadu | Kerala | Megalithic site | | **4** | Salihundam | Andhra Pradesh | Rock-cut cave shrines |   In which of the above rows is the given |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1 and 2 |
| Option | 2 and 3 |
| Option | 3 and 4 |
| Option | 1 and 4 |
| Answer | 2 |
| Solution | **A.** **Chandraketugarh is an archaeological site located in the state of West Bengal, India.** It is famous for its rich historical significance and extensive archaeological remains that span several periods of ancient Indian history. Here are the key aspects that make Chandraketugarh notable:  1. Historical Significance: The site provides valuable insights into the early historic period of Bengal, dating back to the Mauryan and pre-Mauryan periods (around 3rd century BCE) and extending through the Sunga, Kushana, Gupta, and Pala periods.  2. Archaeological Finds: Excavations at Chandraketugarh have revealed a wealth of artifacts, including terracotta figurines, pottery, beads, coins, seals, and sculptures. These artifacts reflect the artistic, economic, and cultural activities of the region over centuries.  3. Terracotta Art: The site is particularly renowned for its exquisite terracotta art, which includes intricate figurines and panels depicting various deities, animals, and scenes from daily life. These terracottas are considered among the finest examples of ancient Indian craftsmanship.  4. Coins and Seals: A variety of coins and seals have been discovered at Chandraketugarh, indicating its importance as a trade and administrative center. These include coins from the Mauryan, Sunga, Kushana, and Gupta periods, providing evidence of the region's economic prosperity and connections with other parts of India and beyond.  5. Urban Settlement: The remains suggest that Chandraketugarh was a well-planned urban settlement with a fortified structure, indicating its strategic importance and advanced urban planning during ancient times.  6. Cultural Influence: The artifacts and structures found at Chandraketugarh show a blend of various cultural influences, reflecting the cosmopolitan nature of the settlement and its role as a melting pot of different cultures and traditions.  B. Inamgaon is an important archaeological site located in the Pune district of Maharashtra, India. It is particularly famous for its significance in understanding the Chalcolithic (Copper Age) period in the Indian subcontinent. Here are the key aspects that make Inamgaon notable:  1. Chalcolithic Settlement: Inamgaon is one of the most extensively excavated Chalcolithic sites in India, providing critical insights into the lifestyle, economy, and culture of the Chalcolithic communities that thrived in the Deccan region.  2. Agricultural Practices: The site offers evidence of advanced agricultural practices, including the cultivation of crops such as wheat, barley, lentils, peas, and millet. It also provides information about the domestication of animals like cattle, sheep, and goats.  3. Settlement Patterns: Excavations at Inamgaon have revealed the layout of the settlement, including residential structures, storage pits, and burial sites. The settlement was well-planned, with distinct areas for living, working, and burial, indicating a high level of social organization.  4. Artifacts: A variety of artifacts have been discovered at Inamgaon, including pottery, tools, ornaments, and figurines. These artifacts shed light on the technological advancements, artistic expressions, and daily life of the Chalcolithic people.  5. Burial Practices: The site is renowned for its well-preserved burial sites, which include extended burials, urn burials, and secondary burials. The burial goods found with the skeletons, such as pottery, beads, and tools, provide valuable information about the social and ritual practices of the community.  6. Architectural Remains: The excavation has unearthed remains of mud houses with thatched roofs, granaries, and other structures, giving a clear picture of the architectural techniques and settlement planning of the time.  7. Environmental Adaptation: Studies of the site have shown how the inhabitants adapted to their environment, including their strategies for water management and agricultural sustainability. This includes evidence of seasonal occupation, suggesting a well-adapted lifestyle to the semi-arid climate of the region.  8. Cultural Insights: The findings at Inamgaon provide a glimpse into the cultural life of the Chalcolithic people, including their dietary habits, trade relations, and craft specialization. Overall, Inamgaon is a key site for understanding the Chalcolithic period in India, offering extensive data on the agricultural, social, and cultural practices of ancient communities in the Deccan region.  C. Mangadu, in Kerala is a newly discovered prehistoric site where megaliths are found in large numbers. The date of the Mangadu megaliths is approximately from 1000 B.C. to 100 B.C Shaped like a hat or a an umbrella these megaliths found in various parts of Kerala, including Mangadu are known as topikals meaning 'hat stone' and as kudaikals which mean 'umbrella stone' because of their shape. The stones used in these megaliths were laterite and it was available close by this site. The topikals were prepared by first digging a pit and placing four stones vertically in it and then covering it with a circular stone, thus making it look like a cap or hat. The burial urns were kept beneath in an underground hole. The kudikals were also made in a similar manner, but with the small difference that the stone, which was kept on top, was big which resulted in an umbrella-like appearance.  D. Salihundam is an important archaeological site located on the banks of the Vamsadhara River in the Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh, India. It is famous for the following reasons: Buddhist Monastic Complex: Salihundam is renowned for its extensive Buddhist remains, which include stupas, viharas (monasteries), chaityas (prayer halls), and numerous sculptures. The site provides valuable insights into the spread of Buddhism in the region from the 2nd century BCE to the 12th century CE. Stupas: The site is particularly noted for its well-preserved stupas. These are dome-shaped structures that co tain relics and are used as places of meditation. The main stupa at Salihundam is a significant attraction and is surrounded by smaller stupas and other Buddhist structures. Architectural Significance: The architecture at Salihundam reflects the influence of various periods and styles, including early Hinayana (Theravada) and later Mahayana and Vajrayana (Tantric) phases of Buddhism. This diversity in architectural styles indicates the site's long period of occupation and its importance as a center of Buddhist learning and practice. Sculptures and Inscriptions: Numerous sculptures and inscriptions have been discovered at Salihundam, depicting various Buddhist deities and scenes from the life of Buddha. These artifacts provide important information about the religious and cultural practices of the time. Cultural and Historical Importance: Salihundam played a crucial role in the history of Buddhism in South India. The site is believed to have been a major center for Buddhist learning and pilgrimage. The presence of numerous monastic structures suggests that it was a thriving community of monks and scholars. Tourism and Research: Today, Salihundam attracts tourists, historians, and archaeologists. The site is managed by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and is a significant location for understanding the spread and influence of Buddhism in southern India. Salihundam's rich archaeological remains make it a key site for studying the history and development of Buddhism in the region, showcasing the architectural and cultural achievements of ancient Buddhist communities. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Who of the following rulers of medieval India gave permission to the Portuguese to build a fort at Bhatkal ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Krishnadevaraya |
| Option | Narasimha Saluva |
| Option | Muhammad Shah III |
| Option | Yusuf Adil Shah |
| Answer | 1 |
| Solution | The ruler of medieval India who gave permission to the Portuguese to build a fort at Bhatkal was the Vijayanagara Emperor Krishnadevaraya. Bhatkal is located in present-day Karnataka, India, and during Krishnadevaraya's reign (1509-1529), the Portuguese were actively seeking permission from local rulers to establish forts and trading posts along the Indian coast. This was part of their strategy to expand their influence and trade networks in the region. Krishnadevaraya's granting of permission to build a fort at Bhatkal reflects the complex interactions between Indian rulers and European powers during the Age of Exploration. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | With reference to revenue collection by Cornwallis, consider the following statements :  1. Under the Ryotwari Settlement of revenue collection, the peasants were exempted from revenue payment in case of bad harvests or natural calamities.  2. Under the Permanent Settlement in Bengal, if the Zamindar failed to pay his revenues to the state, on or before the fixed date, he would be removed from his Zamindari.  Which of the statements given above is/are correct ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | l only |
| Option | 2 only |
| Option | Both l and 2 |
| Option | Neither 1 nor 2 |
| Answer | 2 |
| Solution | Ryotwari settlement ;-  This system of land revenue was instituted in the late 18th century by Sir Thomas Munro, Governor of Madras in 1820.  This was practised in the Madras and Bombay areas, as well as Assam and Coorg provinces. In this system, the peasants or cultivators were regarded as the owners of the land. They had ownership rights, could sell, mortgage or gift the land. The taxes were directly collected by the government from the peasants.  Features of the Permanent Settlement  Landlords or Zamindars were recognised as the owners of the land. They were given hereditary rights of succession of the lands under them. The Zamindars could sell or transfer the land as they wished. The Zamindars’ proprietorship would stay as long as he paid the fixed revenue at the said date to the government. If they failed to pay, their rights would cease to exist and the land would be auctioned off. The amount to be paid by the landlords was fixed. It was agreed that this would not increase in future (permanent). The fixed amount was 10/11th portion of the revenue for the government and 1/10th was for the Zamindar. This tax rate was way higher than the prevailing rates in England. The Zamindar also had to give the tenant a patta which described the area of the land given to him and the rent he had to pay the landlord. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Conosnisdiedr the following statements " :  1. There are no parables in Upanishads.  2. Upanishads were composed earlier than the Puranas.  Which of the statements given above is/are correct ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | l only |
| Option | 2 only |
| Option | Both l and 2 |
| Option | Neither 1 nor 2 |
| Answer | 2 |
| Solution | **1. The Upanishads,** which are ancient Indian philosophical texts forming the concluding part of the Vedas, primarily contain dialogues, teachings, and discussions on metaphysical and spiritual topics rather than parables in the conventional sense found in Western literature. However, within these dialogues and teachings, there are several allegorical and metaphorical stories that convey deeper spiritual truths and principles. These can be considered akin to parables in other religious and philosophical traditions.  2. Here are a few examples from the Upanishads that are often interpreted allegorically:  **3. The Story of Indra and Prajapati:** In the Chandogya Upanishad, there is a story where the god Indra approaches Prajapati, the creator deity, seeking knowledge of the ultimate reality (Brahman). Prajapati uses various symbols and allegories to teach Indra about the nature of the self (Atman) and Brahman.  **4. The Two Birds:** In the Mundaka Upanishad, there is a famous allegory of two birds sitting on the same tree: one bird eats the fruits (symbolizing the individual soul enjoying the fruits of actions), while the other simply observes without eating (symbolizing the witnessing consciousness or higher self).  **5. The City of Nine Gates:** In the Katha Upanishad, there is a description of the body as a city with nine gates (eyes, ears, nostrils, mouth, anus, and urethra), guarded by the Atman (the Self) dwelling within. relationship between the individual soul and the divine. While they may not be structured in the same narrative style as parables found in other religious texts, they fulfill a similar role in conveying spiritual wisdom through symbolic storytelling.This allegory illustrates the relationship between the physical body and the eternal self.  **6. The Teaching of Nachiketa:** In the Katha Upanishad, Nachiketa, a young seeker of knowledge, engages in a dialogue with Yama, the lord of death. Through this dialogue, profound truths about life, death, and the eternal self (Atman) are conveyed.  7. These allegorical stories and teachings within the Upanishads serve to illustrate abstract philosophical concepts and provide deeper insights into the nature of reality, the self, and the  Upanishads were composed earlier than the Puranas.  The Upanishads are ancient Indian philosophical texts that are considered the concluding part of the Vedas, which are among the oldest scriptures of Hinduism.  They were composed between 800 BCE to 400 BCE, though some may have been composed slightly earlier or later. The Puranas are a genre of ancient Indian texts that came into existence later than the Upanishads. They were composed over a longer period, from around 300 BCE to 1500 CE, with different Puranas being composed at different times within this span. Puranas are characterized by their narrative style, containing myths, legends, genealogies of gods and goddesses, cosmology, geography, and descriptions of rituals and religious practices. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Which one of the following was the latest inclusion in the Intangible Cultural Heritage List of UNESCO ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Chhaudance |
| Option | Durga puja |
| Option | Garba dance |
| Option | Kumbh mela |
| Answer | 3 |
| Solution | UNESCO's list of intangible cultural heritage from India includes fifteen examples (all are intangible cultural heritage). The latest cultural heritage included in the list is Garba, a tradition dance form from Gujarat. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Who was the Provisional President of the Constituent Assembly before Dr. Rajendra Prasad took over ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | C.Rajagopalachari |
| Option | Dr. B.R. Ambedkar |
| Option | T.T.Krishnamachari |
| Option | Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | The Constitution was framed by the Constituent Assembly of India, established by the members of the provincial assemblies elected by the people of India. Dr Sachidanand Sinha was the first & temporary president of the Constituent Assembly. Later, Dr Rajendra Prasad was elected its president. Dr BR Ambedkar, the chairman of its Drafting Committee, is considered the chief architect of the Indian Constitution which provides a comprehensive and dynamic framework to guide and govern the country, keeping in view her unique social, cultural and religious diversity. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | With reference to the Government of India Act, 1935, consider the following statements :  1. It provided for the establishment of an All India Federation based on the union of the British Indian Provinces and Princely States.  2. Defence and Foreign Affairs were kept under the control of the federal legislature.  Which of the statements given above is/are correct ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1 only |
| Option | 2 only |
| Option | Both 1 and 2 |
| Option | Neither 1 nor 2 |
| Answer | 1 |
| Solution | All India Federation:  The Act established an All-India Federation, comprising British Indian Provinces and Indian States. The conditions for a state to join the federation were specified in the Instrument of Accession. It was at the discretion of each state to decide whether or not to join the federation. For the federation to be formed, a minimum of 50% of the Indian states needed to opt to join. However, the provisions for the federation were not fully implemented due to a lack of participation from the required number of princely states.  Reserved Subjects:  The Reserved Subjects category included subjects that were to be administered by the Governor-General on the advice of the Executive Councillors. The Executive Council was limited to a maximum of three members. Examples of reserved subjects included religious affairs, defence, administration of tribal areas, and external affairs. The Governor-General retained ultimate authority over the administration of these subjects. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Which one of the following is ,a work attributed to playwright Bhasa ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Kavyalankara |
| Option | Natyashastra |
| Option | Madhyama-vyayoga |
| Option | Mahabhashya |
| Answer | 3 |
| Solution | The work "Kavyalankara" is traditionally attributed to Bhamaha (also known as Bhāmaha), an ancient Indian scholar and literary critic. He is considered one of the pioneers in the field of Alankara Shastra (the study of poetic ornamentation) in Sanskrit literature. "Bhamaha's Kavyalankara" is an important text in Indian literary theory, where he discusses various aspects of poetic composition, aesthetics, and the use of figures of speech (alankaras) in poetry. It lays down principles for creating beautiful and effective poetry, influencing subsequent literary works and critics in both Sanskrit and other Indian languages. Bhamaha's "Kavyalankara" is regarded as a foundational text in the development of literary criticism in ancient India and continues to be studied for its insights into poetic techniques and aesthetic principles.  The Natyashastra (also spelled as Natya Shastra) is an ancient Indian treatise on the performing arts, particularly drama, dance, and music. It is traditionally attributed to Bharata Muni, an ancient sage and scholar who is believed to have lived sometime between the 2nd century BCE and the 2nd century CE. The Natyashastra is an extensive work that covers various aspects of theatrical performance, including stage design, costumes, makeup, gestures (mudras), vocal techniques, musical instruments, and the psychology of actors and audience. It provides detailed instructions for the construction and performance of dramatic works, aiming to codify and systematize the art of drama as it was practiced in ancient India. This seminal text not only influenced the development of classical Indian performing arts but also had a profound impact on Indian aesthetics, philosophy, and cultural practices. It continues to be studied and revered as a foundational work in the field of performing arts in India and beyond.  The Mahābhāshya (meaning "Great Commentary") is an ancient Sanskrit treatise on grammar written by the scholar Patañjali. Patañjali is renowned for his contributions to various fields, including grammar, yoga, and Indian philosophy. His Mahābhāshya is a comprehensive commentary on the foundational text of Panini's Asthādhyāyī, which is considered the most authoritative and systematic exposition of Sanskrit grammar.  The work "Madhyama-Vyayoga" is attributed to the ancient Indian playwright Bhasa. Bhasa is considered one of the earliest and most influential playwrights in Sanskrit literature, believed to have lived sometime between the 3rd century BCE and the 3rd century CE. He is renowned for his dramatic compositions, which include both comedies and tragedies.  "Madhyama-Vyayoga," also known as "The Middle One," is one of Bhasa's surviving plays. It is a satirical comedy that parodies the conventions and characters of traditional Sanskrit drama, offering insights into ancient Indian social and cultural life. Bhasa's works are valued not only for their literary merit but also for their portrayal of the diversity and depth of ancient Indian dramatic tradition. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Sanghabhuti, an Indian Buddhist monk, who travelled to China at the end of the fourth century AD, was the author of a commentary on : |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Prajnaparamita Sutra |
| Option | Visuddhimagga |
| Option | Sarvastivada Vinaya |
| Option | Lalitavistara |
| Answer | 1 |
| Solution | 1. Nagarjuna was also termed as the Indian Einstein. He proposed the Theory of Relativity in his time in the form of a Sutra which is also called as the Prajna Parimata Sutra. He was a great patron of Mahayana doctrine.  2. Visuddhimagga, encyclopedic and masterful summary and exposition of the teaching of the Mahavihara school of Theravada Buddhism. It was written during the reign of the Sri Lankan king Mahanama in the 5th century CE by the great Buddhist commentator Buddhaghosa.  3. The Lalitavistara Sūtra is a Buddhist scripture that narrates the life of Siddhartha Gautama, who later became known as Buddha. It describes his birth, early life, spiritual journey, enlightenment, and teachings.  The authorship of the Lalitavistara Sūtra is traditionally attributed to a collective effort of the Mahasanghika school of early Buddhism. It is considered one of the most important texts in the Mahayana Buddhist tradition, offering a detailed account of the Buddha's life and emphasizing his qualities as a Bodhisattva prior to his enlightenment.  As with many ancient Buddhist texts, the exact authorship of the Lalitavistara Sūtra is uncertain, as it was likely composed and transmitted orally before being written down. It represents the collective wisdom and teachings of early Buddhist communities who revered and preserved stories of the Buddha's life and teachings. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following properties included in the World Heritage List veleased by UNESCO :  1. Shantiniketan 2. Rani-ki-Vav  3, Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysalas 4. Mahabodhi Temple Complex at Bodhgaya  How many of the above properties were included in 2028 ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Only one |
| Option | Only two |
| Option | Only three |
| Option | All four |
| Answer | 2 |
| Solution | In September 2023, 12th-century Hoysala Temples of Karnataka were included in the list by UNESCO.  In September 2023, Santiniketan, West Bengal, was declared a world heritage site by UNESCO.  27th July 2021 – Dholavira, Harappan City in the Rann of Kutchh, becomes India’s 40th UNESCO World Heritage Site.  25th July 2021 – UNESCO has inscribed the Rudreswara Temple (Ramappa Temple) at Palampet, Warangal, Telangana on the List of World Heritage Sites. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | As per Article 368 of the Constitution of India, the Parliament may amend any provision of the Constitution by way of :  1. Addition 2. Variation 3. Repeal  Select the correct answer using the code given below : |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1 and 2 only |
| Option | 2 and 3 only |
| Option | 1 and 3 only |
| Option | 1, 2 and 3 |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | Notwithstanding anything in this Constitution, Parliament may in exercise of its constituent power amend by way of addition, variation or repeal any provision of this Constitution in accordance with the procedure laid down in this article.  (2) An amendment of this Constitution may be initiated only by the introduction of a Bill for the purpose in either House of Parliament, and when the Bill is passed in each House by a majority of the total membership of that House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting, it shall be presented to the President who shall give his assent to the Bill and thereupon] the Constitution shall stand amended in accordance with the terms of the Bill:  Provided that if such amendment seeks to make any change in—  (a) article 54, article 55, article 73, article 162, article 241 or article 279A; or  (b) Chapter IV of Part V, Chapter V of Part VI, or Chapter I of Part XI; or  (c) any of the Lists in the Seventh Schedule; or  (d) the representation of States in Parliament; or  (e) the provisions of this article,the amendment shall also require to be ratified by the Legislatures of not less than one-half of the States by resolutions to that effect passed by those Legislatures before the Bill making provision for such amendment is presented to the President for assent.  (3) Nothing in article 13 shall apply to any amendment made under this article.  (4) No amendment of this Constitution (including the provisions of Part III) made or purporting to have been made under this article whether before or after the commencement of section 55 of the Constitution (Forty-second Amendment) Act, 1976 shall be called in question in any court on any ground.  (5) For the removal of doubts, it is hereby declared that there shall be no limitation whatever on the constituent power of Parliament to amend by way of addition, variation or repeal the provisions of this Constitution under this article. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Which of the following statements are corfect in respect of a Money Bill in the Parliament ?  1. Article 109 mentions /special procedure in respect of Money Bills.  2. A Money Bill shall not be introduced in the Council of States.  3. The Rajya Sabha can either approve the Bill or suggest changes but cannot reject it.  4. Amendments to a Money Bill suggested by the Rajya Sabha have to be accepted by the Lok Sabha. Select the answer using the code given below : |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1 and 2 only |
| Option | 2 and 3 only |
| Option | 1,2 and 3 |
| Option | 1,3 and 4 |
| Answer | 3 |
| Solution | Article 109 in Constitution of India  109. Special procedure in respect of Money Bills  (1) A Money Bill shall not be introduced in the Council of States.  (2) After a Money Bill has been passed by the House of the People it shall be transmitted to the Council of States for its recommendations and the Council of States shall within a period of fourteen days from the date of receipt of the Bill return the Bill to the House of the People with its recommendations and the House of the People may thereupon either accept or reject all or any of the recommendations of the Council of States.  (3) If the House of the People accepts any of the recommendations of the Council of States, the Money Bill shall be deemed to have been passed by both Houses with the amendments recommended by the Council of States and accepted by the House of the People.  (4) If the House of the People does not accept any of the recommendations of the Council of States, the Money Bill shall be deemed to have been passed by both Houses in the form in which it was passed by the House of the People without any of the amendments recommended by the Council of States.  (5) If a Money Bill passed by the House of the People and transmitted to the Council of States for its recommendations is not returned to the House of the People within the said period of fourteen days, it shall be deemed to have been passed by both Houses at the expiration of the said period in the form in which it was passed by the House of the People.  Article 110 in Constitution of India  110. Definition of "Money Bills"  (1) For the purposes of this Chapter, a Bill shall be deemed to be a Money Bill if it contains only provisions dealing with all or any of the following matters, namely:--  (a) the imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of any tax;  (b) the regulation of the borrowing of money or the giving of any guarantee by the Government of India, or the amendment of the law with respect to any financial obligations undertaken or to be undertaken by the Government of India;  (c) the custody of the Consolidated Fund or the Contingency Fund of India, the payment of moneys into or the withdrawal of moneys from any such Fund;  (d)the appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India;  (e) the declaring of any expenditure to be expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India or the increasing of the amount of any such expenditure;  (f) the receipt of money on account of the Consolidated Fund of India or the public account of India or the custody or issue of such money or the audit of the accounts of the Union or of a State; or  (g) any matter incidental to any of the matters specified in sub-clauses (a) to (f).  (2) A Bill shall not be deemed to be a Money Bill by reason only that it provides for the imposition of fines or other pecuniary penalties, or for the demand or payment of fees for licences or fees for services rendered, or by reason that it provides for the imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of any tax by any local authority or body for local purposes.  (3) If any question arises whether a Bill is a Money Bill or not, the decision of the Speaker of the House of the People thereon shall be final.  (4) There shall be endorsed on every Money Bill when it is transmit led to the Council of States under article 109, and when it is presented to the President for assent under article 111, the certificate of the Speaker of the House of the People signed by him that it is a Money Bill.  Article 117 in Constitution of India  117. Special provisions as to financial Bills  (1) A Bill or amendment making provision for any of the matters specified in sub-clauses (a) to (f) of clause (1) of article 110 shall not be introduced or moved except on the recommendation of the President and a Bill making such provision shall not be introduced in the Council of States:  Provided that no recommendation shall be required under this clause for the moving of an amendment making provision for the reduction or abolition of any tax.  (2) A Bill or amendment shall not be deemed to make provision for any of the matters aforesaid by reason only that it provides for the imposition of fines or other pecuniary penalties, or for the demand or payment of fees for licences or fees for services rendered, or by reason that it provides for the imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of any tax by any local authority or body for local purposes.  (3) A Bill which, if enacted and brought into operation, would involve expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India shall not be passed by either House of Parliament unless the President has recommended to that House the consideration of the Bill. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Which of the following is/are correctly matched in terms of equivalent rank in the three services of Indian Defence forces ?   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | Army | Airforce | Navy | | 1 | Brigadier | Air Commodore | Commander | | 2 | Major General | Air Vice Marshal | Vice Admiral | | 3 | Major | Squadron Leader | Lieutenant Commander | | 4 | Lieutenant Colonel | Group Captain | Captain |   Select the correct answer using the code given below : |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | l and 4 |
| Option | l and 3 |
| Option | 2,3 and 4 |
| Option | 3 only |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Air Force** | **Army** | **Navy** | | Marshal of the Indian Airforce | Feilo Marsha | Admiral of the Fleet | | Alr Cheit Marshal | General | Admiral | | Air Marshall | Lieutenant General Antty Consmodiore/VCOASI | Vice Admiral/FOC--C/VONSE | | Air Vice Marshall | Lieutenant General | Vice Admiral | | Air Commodore | Brigadier | Captain | | Group Captain | Colonel | Captain | | Wing Commander | Lieutenant Colonel | Commarider | | **Squadron Leader** | **Major** | **Lieutenant Commandes** | | Flight Lieutenant | Captain | Lieutenant | | Flying Officer | Lieutenant | Sub Lieutenant | | Flight cadet |  |  | |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | The, Nerth Eastern Council (NEC): was established by the North Eastern Council Act, 1971, Subsequent to the amendment of NEC 8. Act in 20024 the Council comprises which of the following members ?  1. Governor of the Constituent State  2. Chief Minister of the Constituent State  3. Three Members to be nominated by the President of India  4. The Home Minister of India  Select the correct answer using the code given ' . below : |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1,2 and 3 only |
| Option | 1,3 and 4 only |
| Option | 2 and 4 only |
| Option | 1,2,3 and 4 |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | Formation of North Eastern Council  The North Eastern Council (NEC) was established by the North Eastern Council Act 1971 as an advisory body for the socioeconomic and balanced development of the North-Eastern Areas. The Council commenced its functioning in 1972. NEC members include the Governors and Chief Ministers of the 8 states, including Sikkim, the Chairman, and 3 members nominated by the President. Over the past 35 years, the NEC has significantly promoted new economic ventures in the northeast part of India. Its activities aim to overcome the region's development obstacles, offering hope in this potentially rich but previously underdeveloped area.  Objectives of North Eastern Council  The following are the chief objectives of the North Eastern Council:  To ensure balanced, integrated, and sustainable development of the North Eastern Region.  To prepare and coordinate an integrated plan to meet the infrastructure requirements of the North Eastern Region.  To provide adequate social and economic development opportunities to the people of the North Eastern Region.  To aggressively promote infrastructure and other development activities in the North Eastern Region.  To assist in developing an Institute of national importance in the North Eastern region.  To ensure proper integration of the North Eastern Region with mainland India.  North Eastern Council: Composition  The North Eastern Council shall consist of the following members:  All the governors and Chief Ministers of the 8 North Eastern states.  3 members of the North Eastern Council were nominated by the President of India.  The Union Home Minister acts as the ex-officio chairman of the North Eastern Council.  The Minister of State (Independent charge) of the Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) is the ex-officer Vice-chairman of the North Eastern Council. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | How many Delimitation Comimissions have been constituted by the Government of India till December 2023 ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | One |
| Option | Two |
| Option | Three |
| Option | Four |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | The first delimitation exercise was conducted by the Indian President (with the help of the Election Commission) in 1950-51. The Delimitation Commission Act was enacted in 1952.  There have been four Delimitation Commissions:  1952  1963  1972  2002  There were no such commissions after the census in 1991 and 1981.  **Delimitation Commission**  The Delimitation Commission is a high-level body set up by an act of the Parliament.  It is appointed by the country’s President.  It works in tandem with the Election Commission of India.  Delimitation Commission Members:  A retired judge of the Supreme Court  The Chief Election Commissioner  State Election Commissioners (of the respective states)  Functions of Delimitation Commission  The Delimitation Commission is a high-power body whose orders have the force of law. Its orders cannot be questioned in a court of law. The copies of the orders are laid before the Lok Sabha and the legislative assemblies concerned, but no change is permitted in them.  The Delimitation Commission has to determine the number and boundaries of constituencies in such a manner that the population of all seats is the same, as far as possible practically.  The Commission also identifies the seats to be reserved for the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes communities, in areas where their population is significant.  If the members of the Commission have differing opinions, then the decision of the majority will be taken into consideration.  The Commission releases draft proposals to the public through the Gazette of India and the official gazettes of states, and also in regional language newspapers.  It also conducts public sittings wherein the public’s opinion is heard through written or oral representations.  If found appropriate, changes are made to the draft proposal.  The final order is published in the Gazettes and comes into effect by a date specified by the President. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | The Constitution (71% Amendment) Act, 1992 amends the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution to include which of the following languages ?  1. Konkani  2. Manipuri  3. Nepali  4. Maithili  Select the correct answer using the code given below : |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1,2 and 3 |
| Option | 1,2 and 4 |
| Option | 1,3 and 4 |
| Option | 2,3 and 4 |
| Answer | 1 |
| Solution | There are 22 languages that have been recognized in the eighth schedule of the Indian constitution.  Part XVII of the Indian constitution deals with the official languages of India from articles 343 to 351.  Originally, only 14 languages were mentioned and later, after several amendments, the other languages were added.  The Sindhi language was added in the 8th schedule by the 21st Amendment Act of 1967.  Konkani, Manipuri, and Nepali were added by the 71st Amendment Act of 1992.  Bodo, Dongri, Maithili, and Santhali were added by the 92nd Amendment Act of 2003.  In all the 22 official languages the Hindi language is spoken by most of Indians. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following pairs :  Party Its Leader.  1. Bharatiya Jana Sangh Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee  2. Socialist Party C. Rajagopalachari  3. Congress for Democracy Jagjivan Ram  4. Swatantra Party Acharya Narendra Dev  How many of the above are correctly matched ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Only one |
| Option | Only two |
| Option | Only three |
| Option | All four |
| Answer | 2 |
| Solution |  |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Which of the following statements are correct about the Constitution of India ?  1. Powers of the Municipalities are given in Part IX A of the Constitution.  2. Emergency provisions are given in Part XVIII of the Constitution.  3. Provisions related to the amendment of the Constitution are given in Part XX of the Constitution.  Select the answer using the code given below : |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1 and 2 only |
| Option | 2 and 3 only |
| Option | 1 and 3 only |
| Option | 1,2 and 3 |
| Answer | 2 |
| Solution | Part IXA of the Constitution was inserted by the Constitution (Seventy-fourth Amendment) Act, 1992. It contains provisions for local self government at the urban level.  Part XVIII of the Constitution contains provisions for emergency situations, including national, localised and financial emergencies.  Part-xx Article 368 (1) of the Constitution of India grants constituent power to make formal amendments and empowers Parliament to amend the Constitution by way of addition, variation or repeal of any provision according to the procedure laid down therein, which is different from the procedure for ordinary legislation. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Which one of the following statements is correct as per the Constitution of India ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Inter-State trade and commerce is a State subject under the State List. |
| Option | Inter-State migration is a State subject. under the State List. |
| Option | Inter-State-quarantine is a Union subject under the Union List. |
| Option | Corporation tax is a State subject under the State List. |
| Answer | 3 |
| Solution | Inter-State trade and commerce.  Interstate migration comes under the seventh schedule of the Constitution, List I (Union List), entrusting the authority to the central government. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Under which of the following Articles of the Constitution of India, has the Supreme Court of India placed the Right to Privacy ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Article 15 |
| Option | Article 16 |
| Option | Article 19 |
| Option | Article 21 |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | few important cases concerned with Article 21:  AK Gopalan Case (1950): Until the 1950s, Article 21 had a bit of a narrow scope. In this case, the SC held that the expression ‘procedure established by law’, the Constitution has embodied the British concept of personal liberty rather than the American ‘due process’.  Maneka Gandhi vs. Union of India Case (1978): This case overturned the Gopalan case judgement. Here, the SC said that Articles 19 and 21 are not watertight compartments. The idea of personal liberty in Article 21 has a wide scope including many rights, some of which are embodied under Article 19, thus giving them ‘additional protection’. The court also held that a law that comes under Article 21 must satisfy the requirements under Article 19 as well. That means any procedure under law for the deprivation of life or liberty of a person must not be unfair, unreasonable or arbitrary. Read the Maneka Gandhi case in detail in the linked article.  Francis Coralie Mullin vs. Union Territory of Delhi (1981): In this case, the court held that any procedure for the deprivation of life or liberty of a person must be reasonable, fair and just and not arbitrary, whimsical or fanciful.  Olga Tellis vs. Bombay Municipal Corporation (1985): This case reiterated the stand taken earlier that any procedure that would deprive a person’s fundamental rights should conform to the norms of fair play and justice.  Unni Krishnan vs. State of Andhra Pradesh (1993): In this case, the SC upheld the expanded interpretation of the right to life.  The Court gave a list of rights that Article 21 covers based on earlier judgments. Some of them are:  Right to privacy  Right to go abroad  Right to shelter  Right against solitary confinement  Right to social justice and economic empowerment  Right against handcuffing  Right against custodial death  Right against delayed execution  Doctors’ assistance  Right against public hanging  Protection of cultural heritage  Right to pollution-free water and air  Right of every child to a full development  Right to health and medical aid  Right to education  Protection of under-trials |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | What are the duties of th e Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) ag Head of the Department of Military Affairs ?  1. Permanent Chairman of Chiefs of Staff Committee  2. Exercise military commang over the three Service Chiefs  3. Principal Military Advisor to Defence Minister on all tri-service matters  Select the correct answer using the code given below : |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1,2 and 3 |
| Option | 1 and 2 only |
| Option | 2 and 3 only |
| Option | 1 and 3 only |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | The duties and functions of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) include the following:  To head the Department of Military Affairs in Ministry of Defence and function as its Secretary.  To act as the Principal Military Advisor to Hon’ble Raksha Mantri on all Tri-Service matters.  To function as the Permanent Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee  To administer the Tri-Service organizations/agencies/commands.  To be a member of Defence Acquisition Council chaired by Hon’ble Raksha Mantri.  To function as the Military Advisor to the Nuclear Command Authority.  To bring about jointness in operation, logistics, transport, training, support services, communications, repairs and maintenance, etc of the three Services.  To ensure optimal utilisation of infrastructure and rationalise it through jointness among the Services.  To implement Five-Year Defence Capital Acquisition Plan and Two-Year roll-on Annual Acquisition Plans, as a follow up of Integrated Capability Development Plan.  To assign inter-services prioritisation to capital acquisition proposals based on the anticipated budget.  To bring about reforms in the functioning of three Services with the aim to augment combat capabilities of the Armed Forces by reducing wasteful expenditure. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Which of the following statements about the Ethics Committee in the Lok Sabha are correct ?  1- Initially it was an ad-hoc Committee.  2. Only a Member of the Lok Sabha can make a complaint relating to unethical conduct of a member of the Lok Sabha.  3. This Committee cannot take up any matter which is sub-judice.  Select the answer using the code given below : |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1 and 2 only |
| Option | 2 and 3 only |
| Option | 1 and 3 only |
| Option | 1,2 and 3 |
| Answer | 3 |
| Solution | ETHICS  **Procedure for ethics complaints**  **233A**  (1) Any person or member may make a complaint relating to unethical conduct of a member of Lok Sabha. Provided that if a complaint is made by any person, it shall be forwarded by a member.  (2) A complaint shall be made in writing and addressed to the Speaker, who may refer it to the Chairperson, Committee on Ethics, for examination, investigation and report.  (3) The complainant must declare the identity and submit supporting evidence, documentary or otherwise to substantiate the allegations.  (4) It shall be incumbent upon any person who has made the complaint to ensure that the complaint is not false, frivolous or vexatious and is made in good faith. An affidavit to this effect shall accompany the complaint.  In case the complaint is made by a member, it shall be incumbent upon such member to ensure that the complaint is not false, frivolous or vexatious and is made in good faith. An affidavit shall not be required in case the complaint is made by a member.  (5) Every complaint shall be couched in respectful and temperate language.  (6) Every complaint shall be either in Hindi or English. If any complaint in any other Indian language is made, it shall be accompanied by a translation either in Hindi or English and signed by the complainant.  (7) Every complaint made by any person shall be countersigned by the member forwarding the complaint to the Speaker.  (8) The identity of the complainant would be kept secret, if a request to that effect is made by the complainant.  (9) A complaint based merely on unsubstantiated media reports shall not be entertained.  (10) The Committee on Ethics shall not take up any matter which is sub-judice and the decision of the Committee as to whether such matter is or is not sub-judice shall for the purposes of these rules be treated as final |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following statements regarding ‘Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam’:  1. Provisions will come into effect from the 18th Lok Sabha.  2. This will be in force for 15 years after becoming an Act.  3. There are provisions for the reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes Women within the quota reserved for the Scheduled Castes.  Which of the statements given above are correct ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1,2 and 3 |
| Option | 1 and 2 only |
| Option | 2 and 3 only |
| Option | 1 and 3 only |
| Answer | 3 |
| Solution | Introducing the ‘Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam’, Law minister Arjun Ram Meghwal said it aims to provide 33 per cent reservation to women in Parliament and assemblies. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Which of the -following statements about “Exercise Mitra Shakti-2028’ are correct ?  1. This was a joint/militaxy exercise between India and. Bangladesh.  2. It commenced in Aundh (Pune).  3. Joint response during counter-terrorism operations was a goal of this operation.  4, Indian Air Force was a part of this exercise.  Select the answer using the code given below : |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1,2and3 |
| Option | 1,2and4 |
| Option | 1,3and4 |
| Option | 2,3and4 |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | The 9th edition of the India-Sri Lanka joint military exercise, "Mitra Shakti-2023," commenced on November 16, 2023, in Aundh (Pune). The joint military exercise between India and Sri Lanka is being conducted from 16 to 29 November 2023. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | A Writ of Prohibition is an order issued by the Supreme Court or High Courts to : |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | a government officer prohibiting him from taking a particular action. |
| Option | the Parliament/Legislative Assembly to pass a law on Prohibition. |
| Option | the lower court prohibiting continuation of proceedings in a case. |
| Option | the Government prohibiting it from following an unconstitutional policy. |
| Answer | 3 |
| Solution | Prohibition  A writ of prohibition is issued by a Court to prohibit the lower courts, tribunals and other quasi-judicial authorities from doing something beyond their authority. It is issued to direct inactivity and thus differs from mandamus which directs activity.  It is issued when the lower court or tribunal acts without or in excess of jurisdiction or in violation of rules of natural justice or in contravention of fundamental rights. It can also be issued when a lower court or tribunal acts under a law that is itself ultra vires.  The difference between the writ of certiorari and prohibition is that they are issued at different stages of proceedings of the case. The writ of certiorari is issued after the case is heard and decided. It is issued to quash the decision or order of the lower court when the lower court passed an order without or in excess of jurisdiction. Whereas, the writ of prohibition is issued prohibiting the proceedings in the lower court which acts without or in excess of jurisdiction while the case is pending before it. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following statements :  1. "It is the Governor of the State who recognizes and declares any community of that State as a Scheduled Tribe.  2. A community declared as a Scheduled Tribe in a State need not be so in another State.  Which of the statements given above is/are correct ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1 only |
| Option | 2 only |
| Option | Both l and 2 |
| Option | Neither 1 nor 2 |
| Answer | 2 |
| Solution | "It is the predident of the State who recognizes and declares any community of that State as a Scheduled Tribe.  A community declared as a Scheduled Tribe in a State need not be so in another State. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | With reference to Union Budget, consider the following statements :  1. The Union Finance Minister on behalf of the Prime Minister lays the Annual Financial Statement before both the Houses of Parliament.  2. At the Union level, no demand for a grant can be made except on the recommendation of the President of India.  Which of the statements given above is/are correct ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1 only |
| Option | 2 only |
| Option | Both l and 2 |
| Option | Neither 1 nor 2 |
| Answer | 2 |
| Solution | The Annual Financial Statement is caused to be laid before both Houses of Parliament by the President. Article 112 of the Indian Constitution says that every year “the President of India shall cause to be laid before both the houses of the parliament” the “Annual Financial Statement”.  This is popularly known as Budget. The Budget gives the complete picture of the estimated receipts and expenditures of the Government of India for that year.  As per the article 113 At the Union level, no demand for a grant can be made except on the recommendation of the President of India. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Who of the following is the author of the books “The India Way” and “Why Bharat Matters”? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Bhupender Yadav |
| Option | Nalin Mehta |
| Option | Shashi Tharoor |
| Option | Subrahmanyam aishankar |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | The Indian Way: Strategies for an Uncertain World”  **About the Book:**  “The Indian Way” is a comprehensive examination of India’s foreign policy and its strategic approach to navigating the complexities of an unpredictable world. Published in 2020, the book provides insights into how India perceives and responds to various international challenges.  Why Bharat Matters: Defining India’s Role in a Globalized World”  **About the Book:**  “Why Bharat Matters” goes beyond foreign policy, delving into why India, or Bharat, is a crucial player in today’s interconnected world. This book is a call to recognize India’s inherent strengths and the pivotal role it plays in global affairs. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following pairs.    How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Only one pair |
| Option | Only two pairs |
| Option | All three pairs |
| Option | None of the pairs |
| Answer | 2 |
| Solution | **Argentina- Worst Economic crisis**  Persistent fiscal deficits and chronic inflation are longstanding issues in Argentina. The inflation rate averaged 190% between 1944 and 2023, and the government defaulted on its sovereign debt nine times (of which three occurred during the past two decades).  **2. Sudan- war between the country’s regular army and paramilatry forces**  It all revolves around infighting between two rival groups: the Sudanese Army and a paramilitary group known as the Rapid Support Forces.  The Rapid Support Forces, led by General Mohammed Hamdan Dagalo – who is generally known by the name Hemedti – has worked alongside the Sudanese Army to help keep the military in power.  **3. Turkey**  Turkey had applied for EU membership in 1999, but talks made little progress since 2016. On July 10, 2023, Turkish President Erdogan agreed to support Sweden's NATO bid. On 23 January 2024, the Turkish Parliament accepted Sweden's accession bid with a vote of 287 in favor, 55 against and 4 abstained. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following statements :  Statement-I : Sumed pipeline is a strategic route for Persian Gulf oil and natural gas shipments to Europe.  Statement-II : Sumed pipeline connects the Red Sea with the Mediterranean Sea.  Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I |
| Option | Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I |
| Option | Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect |
| Option | Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct |
| Answer | 1 |
| Solution | The Sumed pipeline was opened in 1977. It is 320 km long .it concts red sea and Mediterranean sea. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following statements :  Statement-I :  There is instability and worsening security situation in the Sahel region.  Statement-II :  There have heen military takeovers/coups d’état in several countries of the Sahel region in the recent past.  Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I |
| Option | Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-Il does not explain Statement-I |
| Option | Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect |
| Option | Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct |
| Answer | 1 |
| Solution | the Sahel suffers from a long history of political instability, armed rebellions (especially in Mali and Niger), and bad governance. Since gaining independence in the 1960s, countries in the region have faced challenges of state- and nation-building.  There have been several coup d'états in West Africa and the Sahel in recent years, raising concerns about the future of democracy. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following statements :  Statement-I :  India does not import apples from the United States of America.  Statement-II : .  In India, the .law prohibits the import of Genetically Modified food without the approval of the competent authority.  Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I |
| Option | Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I |
| Option | Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect |
| Option | Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | After India removed “retaliatory import duty” on US apples in September, imports of American apples have surged 40 times in three months, while traders are hopeful of regaining market share. In 2017-18, the import of US apples was a record of over 7 million boxes, which dropped to 50,000 boxes in the 2022–23 (September–August) season.  In India, the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, prohibits import, manufacture, use or sale of GM food without FSSAI's approval. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | With reference to the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, consider the following statements :  While any resolution for the removal of the Speaker of the Lok consideration Sabha is under  1. He/She shall not preside.  2. He/She shall not have the right to speak.  3. He/She shall not be entitled to vote on the resolution in the first instance.  Which of the statements given above is/are correct ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | l only |
| Option | 1 and 2 only |
| Option | 2 and 3 only |
| Option | 1,2 and 3 |
| Answer | 1 |
| Solution | Article 96 in Constitution of India  96. The Speaker or the Deputy Speaker not to preside while a resolution for his removal from office is under consideration  (1) At any sitting of the House of the People, while any resolution for the removal of the Speaker from his office is under consideration, the Speaker, or while any resolution for the removal of the Deputy Speaker from his office is under consideration, the Deputy Speaker, shall not, though he is present, preside, and the provisions of clause (2) of article 95 shall apply in relation to every such sitting as they apply in relation to a sitting from which the Speaker, or, as the case may be, the Deputy Speaker, is absent.  (2) The Speaker shall have the right to speak in, and otherwise to take part in the proceedings of, the House of the People while any resolution for his removal from office is under consideration in the House and shall, notwithstanding anything in article 100, be entitled to vote only in the first instance on such resolution or on any other matter during such proceedings but not in the case of an equality of votes. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | With reference to the Indian, Parliament, considerthe following statements  1. A bill pending in the Lok Sabha lapses on its dissolution.  2. A bill passed by the Lok Sabha and pending in the Rajya Sabha lapses on the dissolution of the Lok Sabha.  3. A bill in regard to which the President of India notified his/her intention to summon the Houses to a joint sitting lapses on the dissolution of the Lok Sabha.  Which of the statements given above is/are correct ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1 only |
| Option | l and 2 |
| Option | 2 and 3 |
| Option | 3 only |
| Answer | 2 |
| Solution |  |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | With reference to the Parliament of India, consider the following statements :  1. Prorogation of a House by the President of India does not require the advice of the Council of Ministers.  2. Prorogation of a House is generally done after the House is adjourned sine die but there is no bar to the President of India prorogating the House which is in session.  3. Dissolution of the Lok Sabha is done by the President of India who, save in exceptional circumstances, does so on the advice of the Council of Ministers.  Which of the statements given above is/are correct ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1 only |
| Option | 1 and 2 |
| Option | 2 and 3 |
| Option | 3 only |
| Answer | 3 |
| Solution | Article 85 in Constitution of India  **85. Sessions of Parliament, prorogation and dissolution**  (1) The President shall form lime to time summon each House of Parliament to meet at such time and place as he thinks fit, but six months shall not intervene between its last sitting in one session and the date appointed for its first sitting in the next session.  (2) The President may from lime to time -  (a) prorogue the Houses or either House;  (b) dissolve the House of the People. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following statements :  Statement-I :  The European Parliament approved The Net-Zero Industry Act recently.  Statement-II :  The European Union dintends to. achieve carbon neutrality by 2040 and therefore aims to develop all of its own clean technology by that time.  Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I |
| Option | Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I : |
| Option | Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect |
| Option | Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct |
| Answer | 3 |
| Solution | Statement 1 is correct  Statement 2 is incorrect  Striving to become the world's first climate-neutral continent by 2050. The EU aims to be climate-neutral by 2050 – an economy with net-zero greenhouse gas emissions. This objective is at the heart of the European Green Deal , and is a legally binding target thanks to the European Climate Law . |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | Consider the following statements :  Statement-I :  Recently, Venezuela has achieved a rapid recovery from its economic crisis and Succeeded in preventing its people from fleeing/emigrating to other countries,  Statement-II :  Venezuela has the world’s largest oil reserves.  Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I . |
| Option | (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does explain Statement-I not |
| Option | Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect |
| Option | Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | Statement 1 is incorrect  Statement 2 is correct  In recent years, Venezuela has suffered economic collapse, with output shrinking significantly and rampant hyperinflation contributing to a scarcity of basic goods, such as food and medicine. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | With reference to the Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme, consider the following statements  1.To implement the scheme, the Central Government provides 100% funding.  2. Under the Scheme, Cadastral Maps are digitised.  3. An initiative has been undertaken to transliterate the Records of Rights from local language to any of the languages recognized by the Constitution of India.  Which of the statements given above are correct ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1 and 2 only |
| Option | 2 and 3 only |
| Option | 1 and 3 only |
| Option | 1,2 and 3 |
| Answer | 4 |
| Solution | Statement 1 is correct  Statement 2 is incorrect  Statement 3 is correct  For modernization of land records system in the country, a modified programme, viz., the National Land Records Modernization Programme (NLRMP), now renamed as Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP), has been formulated.  Cadastral Maps digitized is more than 68% in 28 States/ UTs (2,52,51,446 maps out of total 3,69,86,358 maps) |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | With reference to the ‘Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan’, consider the following statements :  1. This scheme guarantees a minimum package of antenatal care services to women in their second and third trimesters of pregnancy and six months post-delivery health care service in any government health facility.  2. Under this scheme, private sector health providers of certain specialities can volunteer to provide services at nearby government health facilities.  Which of the statements given above is/are correct ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1 only |
| Option | 2 only |
| Option | Both1and 2 |
| Option | Neither 1 nor 2 |
| Answer | 2 |
| Solution | The Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan has been launched by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India. The program aims to provide assured, comprehensive and quality antenatal care, free of cost, universally to all pregnant women on the 9th of every month.  Hon’ble Prime Minister of India highlighted the aim and purpose of introduction of the Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan in the 31st July 2016 episode of Mann Ki Baat.  PMSMA guarantees a minimum package of antenatal care services to women in their 2nd / 3rd trimesters of pregnancy at designated government health facilities.  The programme follows a systematic approach for engagement with private sector which includes motivating private practitioners to volunteer for the campaign; developing strategies for generating awareness and appealing to the private sector to participate in the Abhiyan at government health facilities. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |

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| Question | With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan (PM-SYM) Yojana, consider, the following statements :  1. The entry age group for enrolment in the scheme s 21 to/40 years.  “2. " Age specific' contribution shall be made by the beneficiary.  3. Each subscriber under the scheme shall receive a minimum pension of ¥ 3,000 per month after attaining the age of 60 years.  4. Family pension is applicable to the spouse and unmarried daughters.  " Which of the statements given above is/are correct ? |
| Type | multiple-choice |
| Option | 1,3 and 4 |
| Option | 2 and 3 only |
| Option | 2 only |
| Option | 1,2 and 4 |
| Answer | 2 |
| Solution | Statement 1 is incorrect  Statement 2 is correct  Statement 3 is correct  Statement 4 is incorrect  Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan is available to unorganized workers between 18 and 40 years of age.  if the subscriber dies, the spouse of the beneficiary shall be entitled to receive 50% of the pension as family pension. Family pension is applicable only to spouse. |
| Positive Marks | 2 |
| Negative Marks | 0.5 |