



# ACADEMY OF CIVIL SERVICES

## INDIAN AND WORLD GEOGRAPHY

### UPSC PREVIOUS YEARS PRELIMS QUESTIONS (2011-2018)

#### 2011

1) The formation of ozone hole in the Antarctic region has been a cause of concern.

What could be the reason for the formation of this hole?

- a) Presence of prominent tropospheric turbulence; and inflow of chlorofluorocarbons.
- b) Presence of prominent polar front and stratospheric clouds; and inflow of chlorofluorocarbons.
- c) Absence of polar front and stratospheric clouds; and inflow of methane and chlorofluorocarbons
- d) Increased temperature at polar region due to global warming

2) Two important rivers – one with its source in Jharkhand (and known by a different name in Odisha), and another with its source in Odisha – merge at a place only a short distance from the coast of Bay of Bengal before flowing into the sea. This is an important site of wildlife and biodiversity and a protected area. Which one of the following could be this?

- a) Bhattarkarnika
- b) Chandipur – on – sea
- c) Gopalpur – on – sea
- d) Simlipal

3) India is regarded as a country with “Demographic Dividend”. This is due to

- a) Its high population in the age group below 15 years
- b) Its high population in the age group of 15-64 years
- c) Its high population in the age group above 65 years
- d) Its high total population

**4) Three of the following criteria have contributed to the recognition of Western Ghats – Sri Lanka and Indo – Burma regions as hotspots of biodiversity:**

- 1. Species richness
- 2. Vegetation density
- 3. Endemism
- 4. Ethno – Botanical importance
- 5. Threat perception
- 6. Adaptation of flora and fauna to warm and humid conditions

**Which three of the above are correct criteria in this context?**

- a) 1, 2 and 6
- b) 2, 4 and 6
- c) 1, 3 and 5
- d) 3, 4 and 6

**5) Human activities in the recent past have caused the increased concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, but a lot of it does not remain in the lower atmosphere because of**

- 1. It escapes into the outer stratosphere
- 2. The photosynthesis by phytoplankton in the oceans
- 3. The trapping of air in the polar ice caps

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

- 6) **If a tropical rainforest is removed, it does not regenerate quickly as compared to a tropical deciduous forest. This is because**
- a) The soil of rain forest is deficient in nutrients
  - b) Propagules of the trees in a rain forest have poor viability
  - c) The rain forest species are slow-growing
  - d) Exotic species invade the fertile soil of rain forest
- 7) **The Himalayan Range is very rich in species diversity. Which one among the following is the most appropriate reason for this phenomenon?**
- a) It has a high rainfall that supports luxuriant vegetative growth.
  - b) It is a confluence of different bio-geographical zones
  - c) Exotic and invasive species have not been introduced in this region
  - d) It has less human interference
- 8) **With reference to India, consider the following Central Acts.**
- 1. Import and Export (Control) Act, 1947
  - 2. Mining and Mineral Development (Regulation) Act, 1957
  - 3. Customs Act, 1962
  - 4. Indian Forest Act, 1927

**Which of the above Acts have relevance to/bearing on the biodiversity conservation in the country?**

- a) 1 and 3 only
  - b) 2, 3 and 4 only
  - c) 1, 2, 3 and 4
  - d) None of the above acts
- 9) **A layer in the Earth's atmosphere called Ionosphere facilitates radio communication. Why?**
- 1. The presence of ozone causes the reflection of radio waves to Earth.
  - 2. Radio waves have a very long wavelength.

**Which of the above statements given above is/are correct?**

- a) 1 only

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

**10) In the context of global oil prices, “Brent crude oil” is frequently referred to in the news. What does this term imply?**

- 1. It is a major classification of crude oil.
- 2. It is sourced from North Sea
- 3. It does not contain Sulphur

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**11) Southeast Asia has captivated the attention of global community over space and time as a geostrategically significant region. Which among the following is the most convincing explanation for this global perspective?**

- a) It was the hot theatre during the Second World War
- b) Its location between the Asian powers of China and India
- c) It was the arena of superpower confrontation during the Cold War period
- d) Its location between the Pacific and Indian oceans and its pre-eminent maritime character

**12) Recently, the USA decided to support India’s membership in the multilateral export control regimes called the “Australia Group” and the “Wassenaar Arrangement”. What is the difference between them?**

- 1. The Australia Group is an informal arrangement which aims to allow exporting countries to minimize the risk of assisting chemical and biological weapons proliferation, whereas the Wassenaar Arrangement is a formal group under the OECD holding identical objectives.

2. The Australia Group comprises predominantly of Asian African and North American countries, whereas the member countries of Wassenaar Arrangement are pre-dominantly from the European Union and American continents.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**13) The surface of a lake is frozen in severe winter, but the water at its bottom is still liquid. What is the reason?**

- a) Ice is a bad conductor of heat
- b) Since the surface of the lake is at the same temperature as the air, no heat is lost
- c) The density of water is maximum at 4°C
- d) None of the statements (a), (b) and (c) given above is correct.

**14) La Nina is suspected to have caused recent floods in Australia. How is La Nina different from El Nino?**

- 1. La Nina is characterised by unusually cold ocean temperature in equatorial Indian Ocean whereas El Nino is characterised by unusually warm ocean temperature in the equatorial Pacific Ocean.
- 2. El Nino has adverse effect on south-west monsoon of India, but La Nina has no effect on monsoon climate.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**15) India maintained its early cultural contacts and trade links with Southeast Asia across the Bay of Bengal. For this pre-eminence of early maritime history of Bay of**

**Bengal, which of the following could be the most convincing explanation/explanations?**

- a) As compared to other countries, India had a better ship-building technology in ancient and medieval times.
- b) The rulers of southern India always patronized traders, brahmin priests and Buddhist monks in this context.
- c) Monsoon winds across the Bay of Bengal facilitated sea voyages.
- d) Both (a) and (b) are convincing explanations in this context.

**16) With reference to micro-irrigation, which of the following statements is/are correct?**

- 1. Fertilizer/nutrient loss can be reduced.
- 2. It is the only means of irrigation in dry land farming.
- 3. In some areas of farming, receding of ground water table can be checked.

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**17) Among the following states, which one has the most suitable climatic conditions for the cultivation of a large variety of orchids with minimum cost of production, and can develop an export-oriented industry in this field?**

- a) Andhra Pradesh
- b) Arunachal Pradesh
- c) Madhya Pradesh
- d) Uttar Pradesh

**18) The 2004 Tsunami made people realize that mangroves can serve as a reliable safety hedge against coastal calamities. How do mangroves function as a safety hedge?**

- a) The mangrove swamps separate the human settlements from the sea by a wide zone in which people neither live nor venture out
- b) The mangroves provide both food and medicines which people are in need of after any natural disaster.

- c) The mangrove trees are tall with dense canopies and serve as an excellent shelter during a cyclone or tsunami
- d) The mangrove trees do not get uprooted by storms and tides because of their extensive roots

**19) Salinization occurs when the irrigation water accumulated in the soil evaporates, leaving behind salts and minerals. What are the effects of salinization on the irrigated land?**

- a) It greatly increases the crop production
- b) It makes some soils impermeable
- c) It raises the water table
- d) It fills the air spaces in the soil with water

**20) What is the difference between asteroids and comets?**

1. Asteroids are small rocky planetoids, while comets are formed of frozen gases held together by rocky and metallic material.
2. Asteroids are found mostly between the orbits of Jupiter and Mars, while comets are found mostly between Venus and Mercury.
3. Comets show a perceptible glowing tail, while asteroids do not.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**21) Westerlies in southern hemisphere are stronger and persistent than in northern hemisphere. Why?**

1. Southern hemisphere has less landmass as compared to northern hemisphere.
2. Coriolis force is higher in southern hemisphere as compared to northern hemisphere.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- a) 1 only

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

**22) Between India and East Asia, the navigation time and distance can be greatly reduced by which of the following?**

1. Deepening the Malacca straits between Malaysia and Indonesia.
2. Opening a new across the Kra isthmus between the Gulf of Siam and Andaman Sea.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**23) The lower Gangetic plain is characterised by humid climate with high temperature throughout the year. Which one among the following parts of crops is most suitable for this region?**

- a) Paddy and Cotton
- b) Wheat and jute
- c) Paddy and Jute
- d) Wheat and Cotton

**24) What could be the main reason/reasons for the formation of African and Eurasian desert belt?**

1. It is located in the sub-tropical high-pressure cells.
2. It is under the influence of warm ocean currents.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct in this context?**

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 and 2



**25) The jet aircrafts fly very easily and smoothly in the lower stratosphere. What could be the appropriate explanation?**

1. There are no clouds or water vapour in the lower stratosphere.
2. There are no vertical winds in the lower stratosphere.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct in this context?**

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

**26) Consider the following statements:**

1. Biodiversity is normally greater in the lower latitudes as compared to the higher latitudes.
2. Along the mountain gradients, biodiversity is normally greater in the lower altitudes as compared to the higher altitudes.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**27) The Brahmaputra, Irrawady and Mekong rivers originate in Tibet and flow through narrow and parallel mountain ranges in their upper reaches. Of these rivers, Brahmaputra makes a “U” turn in its course to flow into India. This “U” turn is due to**

- a) Uplift of folded Himalayan series
- b) Syntaxial bending of geologically young Himalayas
- c) Geo-tectonic disturbance in the tertiary folded mountain chains
- d) Both (a) and (b) above

**28) A state in India has the following characteristics:**

1. Its northern part is arid and semi-arid.

2. Its central part produces cotton.
3. Cultivation of cash crops is predominant over food crops.

**Which one of the following states has all of the above characteristics?**

- a) Andhra Pradesh
- b) Gujarat
- c) Karnataka
- d) Tamil Nadu

**2012**

**1) How does National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) help in protecting the Indian agriculture?**

1. NBA checks the biopiracy and protects the indigenous and traditional genetic resources.
2. NBA directly monitors and supervises the scientific research on genetic modification of crop plants.
3. Application for intellectual Property Rights related to genetic/biological resources cannot be made without the approval of NBA.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**2) If National Water Mission is properly and completely implemented, how will it impact the country?**

1. Part of the water needs of urban areas will be met through recycling of waste-water.

2. The water requirements of coastal circles with inadequate alternative sources of water will be met by adopting appropriate technologies that allow for the use of ocean water.
3. All the rivers of Himalayan origin will be linked to the rivers of Penninsular India.
4. The expenses incurred by farmers for digging bore-wells and for installing motors and pump-sets to draw groundwater will be completely reimbursed by the Government.

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**3) Biomass Gasification is considered to be one of the sustainable solutions to the power crisis in India. In this context, which of the following statements is/are correct?**

1. Coconut shells, groundnut shells and rice husk can be used in biomass gasification.
2. The combustible gases generated from biomass gasification consist of hydrogen and carbon dioxide only.
3. The combustible gases generated from biomass gasification can be used for direct heat generation but not in internal combustion engines.

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**4) How does the National Rural Livelihood Mission seek to improve livelihood options for rural poor?**

1. By setting up a large number of new manufacturing industries and agribusiness centres in rural areas
2. By strengthening 'self-help groups' and providing skill development
3. By supplying seeds, fertilizers, diesel pump-sets and micro irrigation equipment free of cost to farmers

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**5) Consider the following specific stages of demographic transition associated with economic development.**

1. Low birthrate with low death rate
2. High birthrate with high death rate
3. High birthrate with low death rate

**Select the correct order of the above stages using the codes given below:**

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

**6) Government of India encourages the cultivation of 'sea buckthorn'. What is the importance of this plant?**

1. It helps in controlling soil erosion and in preventing desertification.
2. It is a rich source of biodiesel.
3. It has nutritional value and is well-adapted to live in cold areas of high altitudes.
4. Its timber is of great commercial value.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- a) 1 only

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

**7) Which of the following is the chief characteristic of 'mixed farming'?**

- a) Cultivation of both cash crops and food crops.
- b) Cultivation of two or more crops in the same field.
- c) Rearing of animals and cultivation of crops together
- d) None of the above

**8) A particular State in India has the following characteristics:**

- 1. It is located on the same latitude which passes through northern Rajasthan.
- 2. It has over 80% of its area under forest cover.
- 3. Over 12% of forest cover constitutes Protected Area Network in this State.

**Which one among the following States has all the above characteristics?**

- a) Arunachal Pradesh
- b) Assam
- c) Himachal Pradesh
- d) Uttarakhand

**9) Consider the following crops of India:**

- 1. Cowpea
- 2. Green gram
- 3. Pigeon pea

**Which of the above is/are used as pulse, fodder and green manure?**

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

**10) Consider the following factors:**

- 1. Rotation of the Earth
- 2. Air pressure and wind

3. Density of ocean water
4. Revolution of the earth

**Which of the above factors influence of the ocean currents?**

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

**11) With reference to the wetlands of India, consider the following statements:**

1. The country's total geographical area under the category of wetlands is recorded more in Gujarat as compared to other states.
2. In India, the total geographical area of coastal wetlands is larger than that of inland wetlands.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**12) Consider the following crops of India:**

1. Groundnut
2. Sesame
3. Pearl Millet

**Which of the above is/are predominantly rainfed crop/crops?**

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

**13) When you travel in Himalayas, you will see the following:**

1. Deep gorges

2. U-turn river courses
3. Parallel mountain ranges
4. Steep gradients causing land-sliding

**Which of the above can be said to be the evidences for Himalayas being young fold mountains?**

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

**14) Normally, the temperature decreases with the increase in height from the Earth's surface, because**

1. The atmosphere can be heated upwards only from the Earth's surface
2. There is more moisture in the upper atmosphere
3. The air is less dense in the upper atmosphere

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**15) The acidification of oceans is increasing. Why is this phenomenon a cause of concern?**

1. The growth and survival of calcareous phytoplankton will be adversely affected.
2. The growth and survival of coral reefs will be adversely affected.
3. The survival of some animals that have phytoplanktonic larvae will be adversely affected.
4. The cloud seeding and formation of clouds will be adversely affected.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- a) 1, 2 and 3 only

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

**16) Despite having large reserves of coal, why does India import millions of tonnes of coal?**

1. It is the policy of India to save its own coal reserves for future and import it from other countries for the present use.
2. Most of the power plants in India are coal-based and they are not able to get sufficient supplies of coal from within the country.
3. Steel companies need large quantity of cooking coal which has to be imported.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**17) A person stood alone in a desert on a dark night and wanted to reach his village which was situated 5km east of the point where he was standing. He had no instruments to find the direction but he located the polestar. The most convenient way now to reach his village is to walk in the**

- a) Direction facing the polestar
- b) Direction opposite to the polestar
- c) Direction keeping the polestar to his left
- d) Direction keeping the polestar to his right

**18) Recently, there has been a concern over the short supply of a group of elements called 'rare earth metals'. Why?**

1. China, which is the largest producer of those elements, has imposed some restrictions on their export.
2. Other than China, Australia, Canada and Chile, these elements are not found in any country.



3. Rare earth metals are essential for the manufacture of various kinds of electronic items and there is a growing demand for these elements.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**19) Consider the following statements:**

1. The duration of the monsoon decreases from southern India to northern India.
2. The amount of annual rainfall in the northern plains of India decreases from east to west.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**20) Which one of the following is the characteristic climate of the Tropical Savannah Region?**

- a) Rainfall throughout the year
- b) Rainfall in winter only
- c) An extremely short dry season
- d) A definite dry and wet season

**21) Which of the following can be threats to the biodiversity of a geographical area?**

1. Global warming
2. Fragmentation of habitat
3. Invasion of alien species
4. Promotion of vegetarianism

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**22) Consider the following:**

1. Black-necked crane
2. Cheetah
3. Flying squirrel
4. Snow leopard

**Which of the above are naturally found in India?**

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

**23) Consider the following agricultural practices:**

1. Contour bunding
2. Relay cropping
3. Zero tillage

**In the context of global climate change, which of the above helps/help in carbon sequestration/storage in the soil?**

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 3 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) None of them

**24) What would happen if photosynthesis of an ocean is completely destroyed for some reason?**

1. The ocean as a carbon sink would be adversely affected.
2. The food chains in the ocean would be adversely affected
3. The density of ocean water would drastically decrease.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

## **2013**

**1) Variations in the length of daytime and nighttime from season to season are due to**

- a) The earth's rotation on its axis
- b) The earth's revolution round the sun in an elliptical manner
- c) Latitudinal position of the place

**d) Revolution of the earth on a tilted axis**

**2) The Narmada River flows to the west, while most other large peninsular rivers flow to the east. Why?**

- 1. It occupies a linear rift valley
- 2. It flows between the Vindhyas and the Satpuras
- 3. The land slopes to the west from Central India.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

**a) 1 only**

- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) None

**3) On the planet earth, most of the freshwater exists as ice caps and glaciers. Out of the remaining freshwater, the largest proportion**

- a) Is found in atmosphere as moisture and clouds
- b) Is found in freshwater lakes and rivers
- c) Exists as groundwater**
- d) Exists as soil moisture

**4) Consider the following pairs:**

1. Nokrek Biosphere Reserve : Garo Hills
2. Loktak Lake : Barail range
3. Namdapha National Park : Dafla Hills

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

- a) 1 only**
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) None

**5) Which one of the following pairs is correctly matched?**

- | Geographical feature      | Region                        |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| a) Abyssinian Plateau     | : Arabia                      |
| <b>b) Atlas Mountains</b> | <b>: North-Western Africa</b> |
| c) Guiana Highlands       | : South-Western Africa        |
| d) Okavango Basin         | : Patagonia                   |

**6) Contour bunding is a method of soil conservation used in**

- a) Desert margins, liable to strong wind action
- b) Low flat plains, close to stream courses, liable to flooding
- c) Scrublands, liable to spread of weed growth
- d) None of the above**

**7) Which of the following adds/add nitrogen to the soil?**

1. Excretion of urea by animals
2. Burning of coal by man
3. Death of vegetation

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**8) The most important fishing grounds of the world are found in the regions are**

- a) Warm and cold atmospheric currents meet
- b) Rivers drain out large amounts of freshwater into the sea
- c) Warm and cold oceanic currents meet**
- d) Continental shelf is undulating

**9) Which of the following is/are unique characteristic/characteristics of equatorial forests?**

- 1. Presence of tall, closely set trees with crowns forming a continuous canopy
- 2. Coexistence of a large number of species
- 3. Presence of numerous varieties of epiphytes

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**10) The annual range of temperature in the interior of the continents is high as compared to coastal areas. What is/are the reason/reasons?**

- 1. Thermal difference between land and water
- 2. Variation in altitude between continents and oceans
- 3. Presence of strong winds in the interior
- 4. Heavy rains in the interior as compared to coasts

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

**11) Which of the following is/are the characteristic/characteristics of Indian coal?**

- 1. High ash content
- 2. Low sulphur content
- 3. Low ash fusion temperature

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

**a) 1 and 2 only**

b) 2 only

c) 1 and 3 only

d) 1, 2 and 3

**12) Which of the following statements regarding laterite soils of India are correct?**

1. They are generally red in colour.
2. They are rich in nitrogen and potash
3. They are well-developed in Rajasthan and UP
4. Tapioca and cashew nuts grow well on these soils

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

a) 1, 2 and 3

b) 2, 3 and 4

**c) 1 and 4**

d) 2 and 3 only

**13) Consider the following statements:**

1. Natural gas occurs in the Gondwana beds.
2. Mica occurs in abundance in Kodarma
3. Dharwars are famous for petroleum

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

a) 1 and 2

**b) 2 only**

c) 2 and 3

d) None

**14) Consider the following crops:**

1. Cotton
2. Groundnut
3. Rice
4. Wheat

**Which of these are Kharif crops?**

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

**15) “Climate is extreme, rainfall is scanty and the people used to be nomadic herders”.**

The above statement best describes which of the following regions?

- a) African Savannah
- b) Central Asian Steppe**
- c) North American Prairie
- d) Siberian Tundra

**16) During a thunderstorm, the thunder in the skies is produced by the**

- 1. Meeting of cumulonimbus clouds in the sky
- 2. Lightning that separates the nimbus clouds
- 3. Violent upward movement of air and water particles

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) None of the above produces the thunder**

**17) Consider the following pairs:**

Tribe		State
1) Limboo (Limbu)	:	Sikkim
2) Karbi	:	Himachal Pradesh
3) Dongaria Kondh	:	Odisha
4) Bonda	:	Tamil Nadu

**Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?**

- a) 1 and 3 only**
- b) 2 and 4 only

- c) 1, 3 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

**18) To obtain full benefits of demographic dividend, what should India do?**

- a) Promoting skill development**
- b) Introducing more social security schemes
- c) Reducing infant mortality rate
- d) Privatization of higher education

**19) Consider the following statements:**

1. Size of the sun at dusk
2. Colour of the sun at dawn
3. Moon being visible at dawn
4. Twinkle of stars in the sky
5. Polestar being visible in the sky

**Which of the above are optical illusions?**

- a) 1, 2 and 3
- b) 3, 4 and 5
- c) 1, 2 and 4**
- d) 2, 3 and 5

**20) Which of the following leaf modifications occurs/occur in desert areas to inhibit water loss?**

1. Hard and waxy leaves
2. Tiny leaves or no leaves
3. Thorns instead of leaves

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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



## 2014

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

1. Seed cost is very low in this compared to the conventional method of cultivation.
2. Drip Irrigation can be practiced very effectively in this.
3. There is no application of chemical/inorganic fertilizers at all in this.
4. The scope for intercropping is more in this compared to the conventional method of cultivation.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

2) Which one of the following pairs of islands is separated from each other by the "Ten Degree Channel"?

- a) Andaman and Nicobar**
- b) Nicobar and Sumatra
- c) Maldives and Lakshadweep
- d) Sumatra and Java

3) Consider the following pairs:

Programme/Project		Ministry
1) Drought-prone Area Programme	:	Ministry of Agriculture
2) Desert Development Programme	:	Ministry of Environment and Forests
3) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas	:	Ministry of Rural Development

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

- a) 1 and 2 only

- b) 3 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) None**

**4) With reference to technologies for solar power production, consider the following statements:**

1. 'Photovoltaics' is a technology that generates electricity by direct conversion of light into electricity, while 'Solar Thermal' is a technology that utilizes the Sun's rays to generate heat which is further used in electricity generation process.
2. Photovoltaics generates Alternating Current (AC), while Solar Thermal generates Direct Current (DC).
3. India has manufacturing base for Solar Thermal technology, but not for Photovoltaics.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- a) 1 only**
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) None

**5) Consider the following pairs:**

- |                             |   |          |
|-----------------------------|---|----------|
| 1. Dampa Tiger Reserve      | : | Mizoram  |
| 2. Gumti Wildlife Sanctuary | : | Sikkim   |
| 3. Saramati Peak            | : | Nagaland |

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

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

**6) Which of the following phenomena might have influenced the evolution of organism?**

1. Continental drift

2. Glacial cycles

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

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

- 7) Other than poaching, what are the possible reasons for the decline in the population of Ganges River Dolphins?**

1. Construction of dams and barrages on rivers
2. Increase in the population of crocodiles in rivers
3. Getting trapped in fishing nets accidentally
4. Use of synthetic fertilizers and other agricultural chemicals in crop-fields in the vicinity of rivers.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

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

- 8) If you travel through the Himalayas, you are likely to see which of the following plants naturally growing there?**

1. Oak
2. Rhododendron
3. Sandalwood

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

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

9) Which of the following are some important pollutants released by steel industry in India?

1. Oxides of sulphur
2. Oxides of nitrogen
3. Carbon Monoxide

**4. Carbon dioxide**

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

- a) Bhutia and Lepcha
- b) Gond and Korku**
- c) Irula and Toda
- d) Sahariya and Agariya

11) Consider the following countries:

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

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

- a) 1, 2 and 3
- b) 2, 3 and 4
- c) 1, 4 and 5

**d) 1, 3 and 5**

12) Consider the following pairs:

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

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

**a) 1 only**

b) 2 and 3 only

c) 1 and 3 only

d) 1, 2 and 3

**13) With reference to two non-conventional energy sources called ‘coalbed methane’ and ‘shale gas’, consider the following statements:**

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

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

a) 1 only

b) 2 only

c) Both 1 and 2

**d) Neither 1 nor 2**

**14) With reference to ‘Changpa’ community of India, consider the following statements:**

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

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

a) 1 only

**b) 2 and 3 only**

c) 3 only

d) 1, 2 and 3

**15) Which of the following have coral reefs?**

1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands
2. Gulf of Kutch

3. Gulf of Mannar
4. Sunderbans

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**16) In India, the problem of soil erosion is associated with which of the following?**

1. Terrace cultivation
2. Deforestation
3. Tropical climate

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**17) The seasonal reversal of winds is the typical characteristic of**

- a) Equatorial climate
- b) Mediterranean climate
- c) **Monsoon climate**
- d) All of the above climates

**18) Consider the following rivers:**

1. Barak
2. Lohit
3. Subansiri

**Which of the above flows/flow through Arunachal Pradesh?**

- a) 1 only
- b) **2 and 3 only**

c) 1 and 3 only

d) 1, 2 and 3

19) Consider the following pairs:

Wetlands		Confluence of rivers	
1) Harike Wetlands	:	Confluence of Beas and Sutlej	
2) Keoldeo Ghana National Park	:	Confluence of Banas and Chambal	
3) Kolleru Lake	:	Confluence of Musi and Krishna	

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

**a) 1 only**

b) 2 and 3 only

c) 1 and 3 only

d) 1, 2 and 3

20) Consider the following pairs:

Hills		Region	
1) Cardamom Hills	:	Coromandel coast	
2) Kaimur Hills	:	Konkan Coast	
3) Mahadeo Hills	:	Central India	
4) Mikir Hills	:	North-east India	

**Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?**

a) 1 and 2

b) 2 and 3

**c) 3 and 4**

d) 2 and 4

21) Turkey is located between

a) Black sea and Caspian sea

**b) Black sea and Mediterranean sea**

c) Gulf of Suez and Mediterranean sea

d) Gulf of Aqaba and Dead Sea

**22) What is the correct sequence of occurrence of the following cities in South-East Asia as one proceeds from south to north?**

1. Bangkok
2. Hanoi
3. Jakarta
4. Singapore

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

- a) 4-2-1-3
- b) 3-2-4-1
- c) 3-4-1-2**
- d) 4-3-2-1

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

1. Terrestrial biosphere tends toward a net carbon source.
2. Widespread coral mortality will occur.
3. All the global wetlands will permanently disappear.
4. Cultivation of cereals will not be possible anywhere in the world.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

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

**24) What are the benefits of implementing the ‘Integrated Watershed Development Programme’?**

1. Prevention of soil run-off
2. Linking the country’s perennial rivers with seasonal rivers
3. Rainwater harvesting and recharge of groundwater table
4. Regeneration of natural vegetation



Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

**25) Consider the following pairs:**

Region		Well-known for the production of
1) Kinnaur	:	Areca nut
2) Mewat	:	Mango
3) Coromandel	:	Soya bean

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

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 3 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) None**

**26) Consider the following pairs:**

National Highway		Cities connected
1) NH 4	:	Chennai and Hyderabad
2) NH 6	:	Mumbai and Kolkata
3) NH 15	:	Ahmedabad and Jodhpur

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

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 3 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) None**

**27) Consider the following international agreements:**

1. The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.
2. The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

3. The World Heritage Convention.

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

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

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

- 1. There is no National Seeds Policy in place.
- 2. There is no participation of private sector seed companies in the supply of quality seeds of vegetables and planting materials of horticultural crops.
- 3. There is a demand- supply gap regarding quality seeds in case of low value and high volume crops.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 3 only**
- c) 2 and 3
- d) None

**2015**

**1) In the South Atlantic and South-Eastern Pacific regions in tropical latitudes, cyclone does not originate. What is the reason?**

- a) Sea surface temperatures are low
- b) Inter-tropical convergence zone seldom occurs**
- c) Coriolis force is too weak
- d) Absence of land in those regions

2) Which one of the following pairs of states of India indicates the easternmost and westernmost state?

- a) Assam and Rajasthan
- b) Arunachal Pradesh and Rajasthan
- c) Assam and Gujarat
- d) Arunachal Pradesh and Gujarat**

3) In the 'Index of Eight Core Industries', which one of the following is given the highest weight?

- a) Coal production
- b) Electricity generation**
- c) Fertilizer production
- d) Steel production

4) What can be the impact of excessive/inappropriate use of nitrogenous fertilizers in agriculture?

- a) Proliferation of nitrogen-fixing microorganisms in soil can occur.
- b) Increase in the acidity of soil can take place.
- c) Leaching of nitrate to the ground-water can occur.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

5) What explains the eastward flow of the equatorial counter-current?

- a) The Earth's rotation on its axis
- b) Convergence of the two equatorial currents**
- c) Difference in salinity of water
- d) Occurrence of the belt of calm near the equator

6) Consider the following pairs:

Place of Pilgrimage

Location

- |                |   |                 |
|----------------|---|-----------------|
| 1) Srisaillam  | : | Nallamala Hills |
| 2) Omkareshwar | : | Satmala Hills   |
| 3) Pushkar     | : | Mahadeo Hills   |

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

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

**7) Consider the following rivers:**

- 1. Vamsadhara
- 2. Indravati
- 3. Pranahita
- 4. Pennar

**Which of the above are tributaries of Godavari?**

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

**8) Which one of the following regions of India has a combination of mangrove forest, evergreen forest and deciduous forest?**

- a) North Coastal Andhra Pradesh
- b) South West Bengal
- c) Southern Saurashtra

**d) Andaman and Nicobar Islands**

**9) The term 'Goldilocks Zone' is often seen in the news in the context of**

- a) The limits of habitable zone above the surface of the earth
- b) Regions inside the Earth where shale gas is available
- c) Search for the Earth-like planets in outer space**
- d) Search for meteorites containing precious metals

**10) Which of the following statements regarding 'Green Climate Fund' is/are correct?**

1. It is intended to assist the developing countries in adaptation and mitigation practices to counter climate change.
2. It is founded under the aegis of UNEP, OECD, Asian Development Bank and World Bank.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

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

**11) In India, the steel production industry requires the import of**

- a) Saltpeter
- b) Rock phosphate
- c) Coking coal**
- d) All of the above

**12) Consider the following statements:**

1. The Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme was launched during 1996-97 to provide loan assistance to poor farmers.
2. The Command Area Development programme was launched in 1974-75 for the development of water-use efficiency.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**13) Consider the following statements:**

1. The winds which blow between 30°N and 60°S latitudes throughout the year are known as westerlies.

2. The moist air masses that cause winter rains in North-Western region of India are part of westerlies.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**14) With reference to ‘Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation (IOR-ARC)’, consider the following statements:**

1. It was established very recently in response to incidents of piracy and accidents of oil spills.
2. It is an alliance meant for maritime security only.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**15) In a particular region in India, the local people train the roots of living trees into robust bridges across the streams. As the time passes, these bridges become stronger. These unique ‘living root bridges’ are found in**

- a) Meghalaya**
- b) Himachal Pradesh
- c) Jharkhand
- d) Tamil Nadu

**16) Tides occur in the oceans and seas due to which among the following?**

1. Gravitational force of the sun
2. Gravitational force of the moon
3. Centrifugal force of the earth

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

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

**17) Consider the following states:**

- 1. Arunachal Pradesh
- 2. Himachal Pradesh
- 3. Mizoram

**In which of the above states do 'Tropical Wet Evergreen Forests' occur?**

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

**18) With reference to 'Forest Carbon Partnership Facility', which of the following statements is/are correct?**

- 1. It is a global partnership of governments, businesses, civil society and indigenous people.
- 2. It provides financial aid to universities, individual scientists and institutions involved in scientific forestry research to develop eco-friendly and climate adaptation technologies for sustainable forest management.
- 3. It assists the countries in their 'REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation+)' efforts by providing them with financial and technical assistance.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

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

**19) Which one of the following countries of South-West Asia does not open out to the Mediterranean Sea?**

- a) Syria
- b) Jordan**
- c) Lebanon
- d) Israel

**20) In India, in which one of the following types of forests is teak a dominant tree species?**

- a) Tropical moist deciduous forest**
- b) Tropical rain forest
- c) Tropical thorn scrub forest
- d) Temperate forest with grasslands

**21) “Each day is more or less the same, the morning is clear and bright with a sea bridge; as the Sun climbs high in the sky, heat mounts up, dark clouds form, then rain comes with thunder and lightning. But rain is soon over.”**

**Which of the following regions is described in the above passage?**

- a) Savannah
- b) Equatorial**
- c) Monsoon
- d) Mediterranean

**22) Consider the following countries:**

1. China
2. France
3. India
4. Israel
5. Pakistan

**Which among the above are Nuclear Weapons States as recognized by the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, commonly known as Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)?**



a) **1 and 2 only**

b) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only

c) 2, 4 and 5 only

d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

**23) The substitution of steel for wooden ploughs in agricultural production is an example of**

a) Labour-augmenting technological progress

b) **Capital-augmenting technological progress**

c) Capital-reducing technological progress

d) None of the above

**24) Which one of the following best describes the main objective of ‘Seed Village Concept’?**

a) Encouraging the farmers to use their own farm seeds and discouraging them to buy the seeds from others

b) **Involving the farmers for training in quality seed production and thereby to make available quality seeds to others at appropriate time and affordable cost**

c) Earmarking some villages exclusively for the production of certified seeds

d) Identifying the entrepreneurs in villages and providing them technology and finance to set up seed companies

**25) With reference to the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA), which of the following statements is/are correct?**

1. It is a public limited government company

2. It is a non-banking Financial Company.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

a) 1 only

b) 2 only

c) **Both 1 and 2**

d) Neither 1 nor 2

# 2016

## 1) What is/are the importance/importances of the ‘United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification’?

1. It aims to promote effective action through innovative national programmes and supportive international partnerships.
2. It has a special/particular focus on South Asia and North Africa regions, and its secretariat facilitates the allocation of major portion of financial resources to these regions.
3. It is committed to bottom-up approach, encouraging the participation of local people in combating the desertification.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

## 2) Consider the following pairs:

Community sometimes mentioned

In the news

1) Kurd

2) Madhesi

3) Rohingya

:

:

:

In the affairs of

Bangladesh

Nepal

Myanmar

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

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

**3) With reference to ‘Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)’, consider the following statements:**

1. It is an organization of European Union in working relation with NATO and WHO.
2. It monitors chemical industry to prevent new weapons from emerging.
3. It provides assistance and protection to states (parties) against chemical weapons threats.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**4) Which of the following is/are tributary/tributaries of Brahmaputra?**

1. Dibang
2. Kameng
3. Lohit

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

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

**5) With reference to the Trans-Pacific Partnership, consider the following statements:**

1. It is an agreement among all the Pacific Rim countries except China and Russia.
2. It is a strategic alliance for the purpose of maritime security only.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only

c) Both 1 and 2

**d) Neither 1 nor 2**

**6) Consider the following statements:**

The India-Africa Summit

1. Held in 2015 was the third such summit
2. Was actually initiated by Jawaharlal Nehru in 1951

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

**a) 1 only**

b) 2 only

c) Both 1 and 2

d) Neither 1 nor 2

**7) What is/are unique about 'Kharai Carnel', a breed found in India?**

1. It is capable of swimming upto three kilometres in sea water.
2. It survives by grazing on mangroves.
3. It lives in the wild and cannot be domesticated.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

**a) 1 and 2 only**

b) 3 only

c) 1 and 3 only

d) 1, 2 and 3

**8) With reference to Agenda-21, sometimes seen in the news, consider the following statements:**

1. It is a global action plan for sustainable development.
2. It originated in the World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg in 2002.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- a) 1 only**
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 and 2

**9)What is/are the purpose/purposes of ‘District Mineral Foundations’ in India?**

1. Promoting mineral exploration activities in mineral-rich districts.
2. Protecting the interests of the persons affected by mining operations.
3. Authorizing State Governments to issue licenses for mineral exploration.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

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

**10)In which of the following regions of India are shale gas resources found?**

1. Cambay Basin
2. Cauvery Basin
3. Krishna-Godavari Basin

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

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

**11)European Stability Mechanism’, sometimes seen in the news, is an**

1. Agency created by EU to deal with the impact of millions of refugees arriving from Middle East

**2. Agency of EU that provides financial assistance to eurozone countries**

3. Agency of EU to deal with all the bilateral and multilateral agreements on trade.
4. Agency of EU to deal with the conflicts arising among the member countries

**12) Which of the following is/are the advantage/advantages of practicing drip irrigation?**

1. Reduction in weed
2. Reduction in soil salinity
3. Reduction in soil erosion

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only**
- d) None of the above is an advantage of practicing drip irrigation

**13) Recently, linking of which of the following rivers was undertaken?**

- a) Cauvery and Tungabhadra
- b) Godavari and Krishna**
- c) Mahanadi and Sone
- d) Narmada and Tapi

**14) With reference to the Agreement at the UNFCCC Meeting in Paris in 2015, which of the following statements is/are correct?**

1. The Agreement was signed by all the member countries of the UN and it will go into effect in 2017.
2. The Agreement aims to limit the greenhouse gas emissions so that the rise in average global temperature by the end of this century does not exceed 2°C or even 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.
3. Developed countries acknowledged their historical responsibility in global warming and committed to donate \$1000 billion a year from 2020 to help developing countries to cope with climate change.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

## **2017**

1) From the ecological point of view, which one of the following assumes importance in being a good link between the Eastern Ghats and the Western Ghats?

- a) Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve**
- b) Nallamala Forest
- c) Nagarhole National Park
- d) Seshachalan Biosphere Reserve

2) At one of the places in India, if you stand on the seashore and watch the sea, you will find that the sea water recedes from the shore line a few kilometres and comes back to the shore, twice a day, and you can actually walk on the sea floor when the water recedes. This unique phenomenon is seen at

- a) Bhavnagar
- b) Bheemunipatnam
- c) Chandipur**
- d) Nagapattinam

3) In the context of mitigating the impending global warming due to anthropogenic emissions of carbon dioxide, which of the following can be the potential sites for carbon sequestration?

- 1. Abandoned and uneconomic coal seams
- 2. Depleted oil and gas reservoirs
- 3. Subterranean deep saline formations

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 and 2 only

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

**4) With reference to river Teesta, consider the following statements:**

1. The source of river Teesta is the same as that of Brahmaputra, but it flows through Sikkim.
2. River Rangeet originates in Sikkim and it is a tributary of river Teesta.
3. River Teesta flows into Bay of Bengal on the border of India and Bangladesh.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**5) If you travel by road from Kashmir to Kottayam, what is the minimum number of states within India through which you can travel, including the origin and the destination?**

- a) 6
- b) 7**
- c) 8
- d) 9

**6) With reference to 'Global Climate Change Alliance', which of the following statements is/are correct?**

1. It is an initiative of the European Union.
2. It provides technical and financial support to targeted developing countries to integrate climate change into their development policies and budgets.
3. It is coordinated by World Resources Institute (WRI) and World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD).

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

- a) 1 and 2 only**



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

**7) Mediterranean Sea is a border of which of the following countries?**

- 1. Jordan
- 2. Iraq
- 3. Lebanon
- 4. Syria

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

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

**8) Consider the following statements:**

- 1. In India, the Himalayas are spread over five states only.
- 2. Western Ghats are spread over five states only.
- 3. Pulicat Lake is spread over two states only.

**Which of the statements, given above is/are correct?**

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

**9) Consider the following statements:**

- 1. Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) to Reduce Short Lived Climate Pollutants is a unique initiative of G20 group of countries.
- 2. The CCAC focuses on methane, black carbon and hydrofluorocarbons.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- a) 1 only

**b) 2 only**

c) Both 1 and 2

d) Neither 1 nor 2

**10) With reference to ‘Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD)’ sometimes mentioned in the news while forecasting Indian monsoon, which of the following statements is/are correct?**

1. IOD phenomenon is characterised by a difference in sea surface temperature between tropical western Indian ocean and tropical eastern Indian ocean.
2. An IOD phenomenon can influence an El Nino’s impact on the monsoon.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

a) 1 only

b) 2 only

**c) Both 1 and 2**

d) Neither 1 nor 2

**11) Consider the following in respect of Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS):**

1. Inaugural IONS was held in India in 2015 under the chairmanship of the Indian navy.
2. IONS is a voluntary initiative that seeks to increase maritime co-operation among navies of the littoral states of the Indian Ocean Region.

**Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

a) 1 only

**b) 2 only**

c) Both 1 and 2

d) Neither 1 nor 2

**12) Which of the following practices can help in water conservation in agriculture?**

1. Reduced or zero tillage of the land.
2. Applying gypsum before irrigating the field.
3. Allowing crop residue to remain in the field.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

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

**13) What is the importance of developing Chabahar port by India?**

- a) India's trade with African countries will enormously increase.
- b) India's relations with oil-producing Arab countries will be strengthened
- c) India will not depend on Pakistan for access to Afghanistan and Central Asia.**
- d) Pakistan will facilitate and protect the installation of a gas pipeline between Iraq and India.

**14) Which of the following is geographically closest to Great Nicobar?**

- a) Sumatra**
- b) Borneo
- c) Java
- d) Sri Lanka

## **2018**

**1) Which of the following leaf modifications occurs in the desert areas to inhibit water loss?**

- 1. Hard and waxy leaves
- 2. Tiny leaves
- 3. Thorns instead of leaves

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

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

2) Which of the following has/have shrunk immensely/dried up in the recent past due to human activities?

1. Aral Sea
2. Black sea
3. Lake Baikal

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

3) The term “two-state solution” is sometimes mentioned in the news in the context of the affairs of

- a) China
- b) Israel**
- c) Iraq
- d) Yemen

4) Consider the following statements:

1. In India, State Governments do not have the power to auction non-coal mines.
2. Andhra Pradesh and Jharkhand do not have gold mines.
3. Rajasthan has iron ore mines.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

5) Among the following cities, which one lies on a longitude closest to that of Delhi?

- a) Bengaluru**
- b) Hyderabad
- c) Nagpur

d) Pune

**6) With reference to the ‘Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture (GACSA)’, which of the following statements is/are correct?**

1. GACSA is an outcome of the Climate Summit held in Paris in 2018.
2. Membership of GACSA does not create any binding obligations.
3. India was instrumental in the creation of GACSA.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

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

**7) Consider the following statements:**

1. The Earth’s magnetic field has reversed every few hundred thousand years.
2. When the Earth was created more than 4000 million years ago, there was 54% oxygen and no carbon dioxide
3. When living organisms originated, they modified the early atmosphere of the earth.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**8) With reference to the circumstances in Indian agriculture, the concept of “Conservation Agriculture” assumes significance. Which of the following fall under the Conservation Agriculture?**

1. Avoiding the monoculture practices.
2. Adopting minimum tillage
3. Avoiding the cultivation of plantation
4. Using crop residues to cover soil surface

5. Adopting spatial and temporal crop sequencing/crop rotations

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

- a) 1, 3 and 4
- b) 2, 3, 4 and 5
- c) 2, 4 and 5**
- d) 1, 2, 3 and 5

**9) Which one of the following is an artificial lake?**

- a) Kodaikanal (Tamil Nadu)**
- b) Kolleru (Andhra Pradesh)
- c) Nainital (Uttarakhand)
- d) Renuka (Himachal Pradesh)

**10) Which of the following is/are the possible consequences of heavy sand mining in riverbeds?**

- 1. Decreased salinity in the river
- 2. Pollution of groundwater
- 3. Lowering of the water-table

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

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

**11) With reference to agricultural soils, consider the following statements:**

- 1. A high content of organic matter in soil drastically reduces its water holding capacity.
- 2. Soil does not play any role in the sulphur cycle.
- 3. Irrigation over a period of time can contribute to the salinization of some agricultural lands.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**12) Consider the following statements:**

1. The Barren Island volcano is an active volcano located in the Indian territory
2. Barren island lies about 140km east of Great Nicobar
3. The last time the Barren island volcano erupted was in 1991 and it has remained inactive since then.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**13) Consider the following statements:**

1. Most of the world's coral reefs are in tropical waters
2. More than one-third of the world's coral reefs are located in the territories of Australia, Indonesia and Philippines
3. Coral reefs host far more number of animal phyla than those hosted by tropical rainforests

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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