Q1. Who among the following is the recipient of all four top civilian awards: Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan, Padma Vibhushan, and Bharat Ratna?

a. Ustad Bade Ghulam Ali Khan

b. Pandit Ravi Shankar

c. Pandit Bhimsen Joshi

d. Ustad Bismillah Khan

Ans. d

Sol. Ustad Bismillah Khan, the renowned Shehnai maestro, is the only musician to have received all four of India's highest civilian honors. His contribution to Indian classical music, particularly popularizing the shehnai, earned him Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan, Padma Vibhushan, and the Bharat Ratna in 2001. The other musicians were also highly honored but did not receive all four awards.

Q2. Which of the following best defines the fiscal deficit?

a. Revenue expenditure − Revenue receipts

b. Revenue expenditure + Capital expenditure − Revenue receipts

c. Capital expenditure – Capital receipts

d. Total expenditure – Total receipts other than borrowings

Ans. d

Sol. Fiscal deficit refers to the shortfall when a government's total expenditure exceeds its total revenue (excluding borrowings). It shows the borrowing requirements of the government. Hence, the correct formula is Total Expenditure – Total Receipts (excluding borrowings).

Q3. Who is the author of the controversial novel ‘Lajja’?

a. Shobhaa De

b. Arundhati Roy

c. Kiran Bedi

d. Taslima Nasrin

Ans. d

Sol.‘Lajja’ is a novel written by Bangladeshi author Taslima Nasrin. It was published in 1993 and banned in Bangladesh due to its critique of religious extremism. The book became controversial for its bold commentary on the Hindu-Muslim divide in Bangladesh following the Babri Masjid demolition in India.

Q4. What color card is used to warn a player in Football?

a. Red

b. Green

c. Blue

d. Yellow

Ans.d

Sol. In football (soccer), a yellow card is shown by the referee to caution a player for unsporting behavior or repeated fouls. A red card is for serious misconduct leading to ejection. Green and blue cards are not standard in FIFA rules.

Q5. In May 2021, in the MR Vijayabhaskar case, the Supreme Court ruled on media freedom. Who was the opposing party in the case?\*\*

a. Speaker of the Lok Sabha

b. Chief Election Commissioner

c. Comptroller and Auditor General

d. Chairperson of the Union Public Service Commission

Ans.b

Sol.The MR Vijayabhaskar vs Chief Election Commissioner case affirmed that freedom of speech includes the right to report on court proceedings, including oral observations. The SC emphasized media rights and transparency during this electoral integrity case.

Q6. What happens when an acid or a base is mixed with water?

a. Decrease in concentration of ions (H₂O⁺/OH⁻) per unit volume

b. Increase in concentration of ions (H₃O⁺/OH⁻) per unit volume

c. Decrease in concentration of ions (H₃O⁺/OH⁻) per litre volume

d. Decrease in concentration of ions (H₃O⁺/OH⁻) per unit volume

Ans. d

Sol. Diluting an acid or base with water lowers the concentration of hydronium (H₃O⁺) or hydroxide (OH⁻) ions per unit volume. This is a fundamental principle of dilution in chemistry. Hence, the correct answer is a decrease per unit volume.

Q7. In February 2022, who was appointed as Director of NCERT?\*\*

a. Professor Dinesh Prasad Saklani

b. Professor J. S. Rajput

c. Professor Hrushikesh Senapaty

d. Professor M. C. Sharma

Ans. a

Sol. In February 2022, Professor Dinesh Prasad Saklani was appointed as the Director of the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). He succeeded Professor Hrushikesh Senapaty.

Q8. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, along with his wife and son, built Srjan in 1993.

a. Deba Prasad Das

b. Pankaj Charan Das

c. Raghunath Dutta

d. Kelucharan Mohapatra

Ans. d

Sol. Srjan was founded in 1993 by legendary Odissi dancer Kelucharan Mohapatra, with support from his wife and son Ratikant Mohapatra. Srjan is an institution dedicated to promoting Odissi dance.

Q9. ‘Train to Pakistan’ was written by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, who was also a member of Rajya Sabha.\*\*

a. Anita Desai

b. Mulk Raj Anand

c. Vikram Seth

d. Khushwant Singh

Ans.d

Sol. ‘Train to Pakistan’ is a historical novel by Khushwant Singh, set during the Partition of India. He served in the Rajya Sabha and was known for his literary contributions and political insight.

Q10. What are the dimensions of a standard hockey field?

a. 90 × 50 m

b. 91.4 × 55 m

c. 100.3 × 50 m

d. 100 × 55 m

Ans.b

Sol.A standard hockey field is 91.4 meters long and 55 meters wide, as per International Hockey Federation (FIH) regulations.

Q11. The Nooran Sisters are famous for which genre of Indian music?

a. Hindustani Classical

b. Ghazals

c. Qawwali

d. Sufi

Ans. d

Sol. The Nooran Sisters, Jyoti and Sultana Nooran, are known for their powerful Sufi vocals and performances, rooted in traditional Punjabi Sufi music.

Q12. Which Article of the Indian Constitution deals with the Governor’s executive powers?

a. Article 157

b. Article 156

c. Article 154

d. Article 150

Ans. c

Sol.Article 154 vests the executive power of the state in the Governor. It outlines that the Governor shall exercise these powers directly or through officers subordinate to him.

Q13. Narthaki Nataraj, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, became the first trans person to receive the Padma Shri.

a. Kathak dancer

b. Bharatanatyam dancer

c. Manipuri dancer

d. Odissi dancer

Ans. b

Sol. Narthaki Nataraj is a renowned Bharatanatyam dancer and the first transgender person to receive the Padma Shri in this field, highlighting inclusion and recognition in classical arts.

Q14. Which soft, silvery metal with atomic number 3 reacts vigorously with water and corrodes quickly in air?

a. Lithium

b. Potassium

c. Rubidium

d. Sodium

Ans. a

Sol.Lithium, with atomic number 3, is the lightest metal and reacts quickly with water and air. It is used in batteries and has unique chemical properties.

Q15. Yog Sunder Desai, a pioneer in Indian dance, was born in which state in 1921?

a. Madhya Pradesh

b. Maharashtra

c. Rajasthan

d. Gujarat

Ans. d

Sol. Yog Sunder Desai was born in Gujarat. He was known for his contributions to Indian dance and theater during the pre-independence era.

Q16. Which ocean covers 15,558,000 km² and represents 4.3% of global ocean area?

a. Arctic Ocean

b. Atlantic Ocean

c. Southern Ocean

d. Indian Ocean

Ans. a

Sol. The Arctic Ocean is the smallest and shallowest of the world's oceans, covering approximately 15.56 million km² and comprising about 4.3% of the global ocean surface.

Q17. Where is the Seshachalam Biosphere Reserve located?

a. Karnataka

b. Kerala

c. Tamil Nadu

d. Andhra Pradesh

Ans. d

Sol. Seshachalam Biosphere Reserve is located in the Eastern Ghats of Andhra Pradesh. It is rich in biodiversity and a major ecological zone.

Q18. Which Hindustani vocalist from Allahabad performed at the Delhi Durbar in 1911?

a. Shobha Abhyankar

b. Allah Jilai Bai

c. Janki Bai

d. Annupamaa

Ans. c

Sol.Janki Bai, also known as Chappan Chhuri, was a famed Hindustani classical singer from Allahabad. She performed before Emperor George V at the 1911 Delhi Durbar.

Q19. Millipedes, slugs, and dung flies belong to which level of the food chain?

a. Detritivores

b. Herbivores

c. Carnivores

d. Omnivores

Ans.a

Sol. Detritivores feed on dead and decaying organic matter. They play a crucial role in nutrient recycling in ecosystems.

Q20. Muriatic acid is another name for which compound?

a. Hydrochloric acid

b. Perchloric acid

c. Sulfuric acid

d. Nitric acid

Ans. a

Sol. Muriatic acid is an old name for hydrochloric acid (HCl), used in cleaning, electroplating, and other industrial processes.

Q21. Which vegetable contains anthocyanin, a natural pH indicator?

a. Pomegranate

b. Red leaf lettuce

c. Red cabbage

d. Radish

Ans. c

Sol.Red cabbage contains anthocyanins, which change color in response to pH changes: red in acids, purple when neutral, and green/blue in bases.

Q22. Which dance form, formerly known as Sadir, is temple-dedicated?

a. Kathakali

b. Bharatanatyam

c. Kathak

d. Manipuri

Ans. b

Sol. Bharatanatyam, originating in Tamil Nadu temples, was earlier known as Sadir. It is one of the oldest classical dance forms in India.

Q23. Which of the following states had NOT withdrawn general CBI consent as of November 2021?

a. Mizoram

b. Jharkhand

c. Kerala

d. Karnataka

Ans.d

Sol.Karnataka had not revoked general consent for CBI investigations as of November 2021. Other listed states had.

Q24. Mame Khan, an Indian folk singer, hails from which state?

a. Uttar Pradesh

b. Andhra Pradesh

c. Kerala

d. Rajasthan

Ans. d

Sol. Mame Khan is from Rajasthan. He is known for his contribution to Rajasthani folk music and playback singing in Bollywood.

Q25. Who authored the autobiography 'Playing to Win'?

a. Sania Mirza

b. Saina Nehwal

c. Karnam Malleshwari

d. P. V. Sindhu

Ans. b

Sol.Indian badminton player Saina Nehwal wrote the autobiography 'Playing to Win', detailing her journey in the sport and achievements.