Q1. Identify the INCORRECT pair of cropping season and related crop from the following.

a. Rabi - Wheat

b. Kharif - Maize

c. Rabi - Paddy

d. Kharif – Soyabean

Ans. c

Sol. Indian agriculture is characterized by distinct cropping seasons, primarily Rabi and Kharif. Rabi crops are typically sown in winter (October-December) and harvested in summer (April-June), with wheat being a major example. Kharif crops are sown at the beginning of the monsoon (June-July) and harvested in autumn (September-October), including crops like maize and soyabean. Paddy (rice) is a prominent Kharif crop, requiring significant water, and is grown during the monsoon season. Therefore, the pair 'Rabi - Paddy' is incorrect.

Q2. R Muthukannammal, who was awarded the Padma Shri in 2022, is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ dancer.

a. Garba

b. Sadir

c. Rouf

d. Chhau

Ans. b

Sol. R Muthukannammal is a distinguished practitioner of Sadir dance. Sadir is the historical precursor to what is now known as Bharatanatyam, an Indian classical dance form originating in Tamil Nadu. She is known for her efforts to preserve this traditional dance form. The recognition with the Padma Shri award in 2022 highlights her significant contribution to the arts. Garba, Rouf, and Chhau are different dance forms originating from Gujarat, Kashmir, and eastern India, respectively.

Q3. Calculate the Body Mass Index (BMI) of a person whose weight is 50 kg and height is 1.5 m.

a. 25.0 kg/m$^2$

b. 22.2 kg/m$^2$

c. 16.6 kg/m$^2$

d. 18.0 kg/m$^2$

Ans. b

Sol. Body Mass Index (BMI) is a measure used to assess whether a person has a healthy weight for their height. It is calculated using the formula: BMI = Weight (kg) / [Height (m)]2. Given the weight is 50 kg and the height is 1.5 m, substitute these values into the formula: BMI = 50 kg / (1.5 m)2 = 50 / 2.25. Performing the division, BMI ≈ 22.22 kg/m$^2$. Rounded to one decimal place, the BMI is 22.2 kg/m$^2$.

Q4. Which of the following is an Indian folk dance?

a. Bharatanatyam

b. Mohiniyattam

c. Sattriya

d. Bihu

Ans. d

Sol. Indian dances are broadly categorized into classical and folk forms. Bharatanatyam, Mohiniyattam, and Sattriya are recognized as Indian classical dance forms, each with a specific origin, repertoire, and theoretical basis rooted in ancient texts. Bihu, on the other hand, is a popular folk dance from the state of Assam. Folk dances are typically performed during local festivals and celebrations, reflecting the culture and life of a specific region or community.

Q5. Which country won the 4th Asian Kho-Kho Championship 2023 event in the Men's category?

a. Iran

b. Indonesia

c. South Korea

d. India

Ans. d

Sol. The 4th Asian Kho-Kho Championship 2023 was held in India. In the Men's category of the tournament, the Indian team emerged victorious. They defeated Nepal in the final match to clinch the championship title. India also won the Women's category of the same championship, defeating Iran in the final.

Q6. The word ‘Megalith’ comes from two \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ words; ‘megas’ means great and ‘lithas’ means stone.

a. Hebrew

b. Greek

c. Latin

d. English

Ans. b

Sol. The term 'Megalith' is derived from ancient Greek words. 'Megas' (μέγας) in Greek means 'great', and 'lithos' (λίθος) means 'stone'. Megaliths are large stones that have been used to construct prehistoric structures or monuments, either alone or together with other stones. This etymology directly points to the Greek origin of the word.

Q7. Where was Global Technology Summit 2022 held?

a. New Delhi

b. Jaipur

c. Varanasi

d. Bengaluru

Ans. a

Sol. The Global Technology Summit 2022 was held in New Delhi, India. This annual event is co-hosted by the Ministry of External Affairs of India and Carnegie India. It serves as a platform for discussions on the geopolitical and geoeconomic aspects of technology.

Q8. The Ganesh-rath is one of the finest monolithic temples at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. Mahabalipuram

b. Sarnath

c. Gangaikondacholapuram

d. Kanchipuram

Ans. a

Sol. The Ganesh Ratha is a significant example of monolithic Indian rock-cut architecture and is located at Mahabalipuram (Mamallapuram) in Tamil Nadu. It is one of the many rathas (chariot-like structures) carved from a single rock face at the site. Mahabalipuram is renowned for its group of monuments, which are a UNESCO World Heritage site, showcasing Pallava art and architecture.

Q9. Jyotiba Phule belonged from which state?

a. Tamil Nadu

b. Maharashtra

c. Gujarat

d. Karnataka

Ans. b

Sol. Jyotirao Govindrao Phule, widely known as Jyotiba Phule, was a prominent Indian social activist, thinker, anti-caste social reformer, and writer. He was a native of Maharashtra. Phule was a pioneering figure in the social reform movement in India, dedicating his life to eradicating untouchability and the caste system and working for the education and empowerment of women and lower caste people.

Q10. On 27th October 2019, Dushyant Chautala took an oath as Deputy Chief Minister of which of the following states?

a. Himachal Pradesh

b. Haryana

c. Punjab

d. Madhya Pradesh

Ans. b

Sol. Dushyant Chautala, the leader of the Jannayak Janta Party (JJP), took oath as the Deputy Chief Minister of Haryana on October 27, 2019. This occurred after the Haryana Legislative Assembly election, where the JJP formed a post-poll alliance with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to form the state government. Manohar Lal Khattar took oath as the Chief Minister at the same ceremony.

Q11. Where was the Hindu college established in the year 1791 to teach ancient Sanskrit texts?

a. Madras

b. Calcutta

c. Banaras

d. Agra

Ans. c

Sol. The Hindu College, which was established in 1791 with the objective of promoting the study of ancient Sanskrit texts, was founded in Banaras (now Varanasi). The college was established by Jonathan Duncan, the Resident at Banaras under the East India Company. Its primary focus was on preserving and promoting Indian learning, particularly Sanskrit literature and Hindu law.

Q12. Which of the following states of India marked the lowest in National Multi-dimensional Poverty Index: A Progress Review 2023?

a. Goa

b. Kerala

c. Sikkim

d. Tamil Nadu

Ans. b

Sol. According to the 'National Multidimensional Poverty Index: A Progress Review 2023' report released by NITI Aayog, Kerala recorded the lowest percentage of the population classified as multidimensionally poor among all states in India. This index measures poverty across various dimensions beyond just income, including health, education, and living standards. Kerala has consistently performed well on various human development indicators.

Q13. Which of the following is NOT a part of the capital receipts?

a. Tax revenue

b. Recovery of loan

c. Disinvestment

d. Borrowing

Ans. a

Sol. Government receipts are broadly classified into Revenue Receipts and Capital Receipts. Capital receipts are those receipts of the government which either create a liability (like borrowings) or cause a reduction in the assets of the government (like disinvestment or recovery of loans). Tax revenue, on the other hand, is a part of Revenue Receipts. Revenue receipts are regular and recurring income for the government that do not create a liability or reduce assets.

Q14. On boiling an egg, why does the outer part become opaque and white?

a. The heat causes a reaction of the egg with water and makes it opaque.

b. The heat causes a change in the crystal structure of egg yolk.

c. The heat causes a change in the structure of egg protein.

d. The heat causes denaturation, hardening the albumin and colouring it opaque white

Ans. d

Sol. The outer part of an egg, the egg white (albumen), primarily consists of proteins, mainly albumin. When an egg is boiled, the heat causes these proteins to undergo a process called denaturation. Denaturation involves the unfolding and rearrangement of the protein molecules. This structural change causes the liquid, transparent egg white to coagulate and become solid and opaque white in appearance. Option D accurately describes this process of heat-induced protein denaturation leading to the change in appearance and texture of the egg white.

Q15. Which of the following National Parks is located in Madhya Pradesh?

a. Nanda Devi

b. Periyar

c. Bandhavgarh

d. Silent Valley

Ans. c

Sol. Bandhavgarh National Park is a well-known national park located in the Umaria district of Madhya Pradesh, India. It is particularly famous for its high density of Bengal tigers. Nanda Devi National Park is located in Uttarakhand, Periyar National Park and Silent Valley National Park are both located in Kerala.

Q16. Which of the following is the compound with the chemical formula H2SO4?

a. Nitric Acid

b. Sulfuric Acid

c. Sulfurous Acid

d. Hydrogen Sulfide

Ans. b

Sol. The chemical formula H2SO4 represents Sulfuric Acid. Sulfuric acid is a highly corrosive strong mineral acid with the molecular formula H2SO4. It is a colorless, odorless, and viscous liquid that is soluble in water. Nitric Acid has the formula HNO3, Sulfurous Acid has the formula H2SO3, and Hydrogen Sulfide has the formula H2S.

Q17. According to Article 74(1), who is at the head of the Council of Ministers?

a. Speaker of the House

b. Prime Minister

c. Chief Justice

d. President

Ans. b

Sol. Article 74(1) of the Constitution of India states that there shall be a Council of Ministers with the Prime Minister at the head to aid and advise the President who shall,1 in the exercise of his functions, act in accordance with such advice. This article establishes the Prime Minister as the head of the Council of Ministers and the central figure in the executive branch of the Indian government. The President is the constitutional head of state, but acts on the advice of the Council of Ministers led by the Prime Minister.

Q18. In which of the following states is the Behdienkhlam Festival celebrated, in which the young men make a symbolic gesture of driving away of the evil spirit, plague and disease by beating the roof of every house with bamboo poles?

a. Odisha

b. Bihar

c. Manipur

d. Meghalaya

Ans. d

Sol. The Behdienkhlam Festival is a significant cultural festival celebrated by the Pnar tribe in the Jaintia Hills district of Meghalaya, India. It is an annual festival held after the sowing season to pray for a good harvest and to drive away evil spirits, plague, and diseases. A key ritual involves young men beating the roofs of houses with bamboo poles, symbolizing the chasing away of negative forces.

Q19. Who among the following personalities was the recipient of the Lata Mangeshkar Award for Music 2021, presented by the Madhya Pradesh government?

a. Kumar Sanu

b. Udit Narayan

c. Shaan

d. Darshan Raval

Ans. a

Sol. The Madhya Pradesh government annually presents the Lata Mangeshkar Award for Music to honor individuals for their outstanding contribution to the field of music. The recipient of the Lata Mangeshkar Award for the year 2021, presented by the Madhya Pradesh government, was the renowned playback singer Kumar Sanu.

Q20. The first post-independence National Games were hosted by which of the following cities?

a. Delhi

b. Jabalpur

c. Lucknow

d. Madras

Ans. c

Sol. Following India's independence, the first edition of the National Games was held in the city of Lucknow. The games took place in the year 1948. This event marked the beginning of the National Games as a major multi-sport event in independent India, aimed at promoting sports and identifying talent across the country.

Q21. The Hindu temples ‘Hinglaj Mata’ and ‘Katasraj’ are located in which neighbouring country of India?

a. Pakistan

b. Bhutan

c. Sri Lanka

d. Nepal

Ans. a

Sol. The Hinglaj Mata temple and the Katasraj temples are historically and religiously significant Hindu sites located in Pakistan, a neighboring country of India. Hinglaj Mata is a revered Shakti Peeth located in Balochistan. The Katasraj complex, located in Punjab, Pakistan, is an ancient site with several Hindu temples surrounding a sacred pond, with a history dating back centuries.

Q22. The officer known as Diwan belonged to which of the following departments of the Mughal empire during Akbar’s reign?

a. Military

b. Foreign affairs

c. Judicial

d. Finance

Ans. d

Sol. During the reign of the Mughal emperor Akbar, the administration was well-structured with different departments headed by key officials. The Diwan was the principal officer responsible for the finance and revenue administration of the empire. The Diwan's main duties included supervising the collection of revenue, managing the imperial treasury, and overseeing the expenditure. Other important officers headed the military (Mir Bakhshi), judicial (Qazi), and other departments.

Q23. Which of the following Articles on Fundamental Duties was added to the Indian Constitution by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act?

a. 40

b. 52-A

c. 51-A

d. 45A

Ans. c

Sol. The Fundamental Duties of citizens were not originally part of the Constitution of India. They were added to the Constitution by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act in 1976, based on the recommendations of the Swaran Singh Committee. This amendment inserted a new Part IV-A into the Constitution, consisting of Article 51-A, which enumerates the ten Fundamental Duties (an eleventh was added later). Article 40 deals with the organization of Village Panchayats (Directive Principles), Article 52 relates to the President of India, and Article 45A (now Article 45) deals with provisions for early childhood care and education (Directive Principles).

Q24. The famous Hindi novel ‘Maila Aanchal’ is written by:

a. Mridula Garg

b. Shrilal Shukla

c. Phanishwar Nath Renu

d. Premchand

Ans. c

Sol. 'Maila Aanchal' is a celebrated Hindi novel authored by Phanishwar Nath Renu. Published in 1954, it is considered a landmark work in Hindi literature and a pioneering example of the 'Anchalik Upanyas', or regional novel, which focuses on the life, culture, and issues of a specific rural region. The novel vividly depicts the social and cultural landscape of a village in Bihar.

Q25. The average separation between the sun and the earth in terms of light years is 8.311 minutes. Here, minutes indicate:

a. speed

b. time

c. velocity

d. distance

Ans. b

Sol. The statement mentions the average separation between the sun and the earth in terms of light traveling a certain duration, expressed in "minutes" (8.311 minutes). A light-year is a unit of distance, representing the distance light travels in one year. Similarly, the distance between the sun and the earth can be expressed as the distance light travels in approximately 8.311 minutes. Therefore, in this context, "minutes" refers to the time it takes for light to travel from the sun to the earth, not a unit of speed, velocity, or distance itself.