1. In January 2025, the Manas National Park management launched a biocultural initiative with the Bodo community. This initiative’s primary aim is  
   (A) promote Bathouism as the official religion of the state  
   (B) integrate community knowledge in conservation of the park’s biodiversity  
   (C) build hydroelectric dams within the park for development  
   (D) replace indigenous traditions with mainstream ecological models

Answer 1. (B) integrate community knowledge in conservation of the park’s biodiversity

Explanation:

* Recent conservation planning engagements around Manas explicitly brought Bodo scholars, culture bearers, and community institutions into conservation education and resource management discussions, aligning with a biocultural approach that integrates local knowledge and biodiversity goals.
* Reporting on Manas underscores livelihood-linked community participation (e.g., weaving, cuisine, ecotourism) as a pillar of conservation outcomes, reinforcing that the initiative seeks inclusion rather than cultural replacement or infrastructure like dams inside the park.

1. In March 2025, the Kaziranga National Park authority introduced the use of AI-based monitoring drones to protect its famous species. Kaziranga holds approximately 70% of the world’s population of which animal?  
   (A) Asiatic Lion  
   (B) One-Horned Rhinoceros  
   (C) Red Panda  
   (D) Clouded Leopard

Answer 2. (B) One-Horned Rhinoceros

Explanation:

* Kaziranga sustains roughly two-thirds to about 70% of the global greater one-horned rhinoceros population, with more than 2,300 individuals documented in park counts and partner assessments, making it the species most emblematic of Kaziranga’s global significance.

1. On February 21, 2025, the Assam Government hosted the World Mother Language Day in Barpeta, focusing on minority languages. Consider the following statements:  
   (i) The Bodo language is included in the 8th Schedule of the Indian Constitution.  
   (ii) The Mishing language belongs to the Sino-Tibetan linguistic family.  
   (iii) The Karbi language is an Austro-Asiatic language.  
   (iv) Assamese was among the earliest Indian languages with inscriptions in Kamarupa kingdom during the 5th century CE.

Answer 3. (i), (ii), and (iv) are correct; (iii) is incorrect

Explanation:

* Bodo has constitutional recognition in the Eighth Schedule, reflecting its official status among India’s scheduled languages.
* Mishing (Miri) and Karbi are Tibeto-Burman languages; therefore, classifying Karbi as Austro-Asiatic is incorrect while acknowledging Mishing’s Sino-Tibetan affiliation is correct.
* The earliest Kamarupa inscriptions from the 5th century CE are in Sanskrit with evolving local scripts, evidencing early epigraphic traditions that later developed toward Assamese, situating Assamese-region epigraphy in the 5th century milieu of Kamarupa.

1. Which of the following statements about the Ahom Kingdom is incorrect?  
   (A) The Ahoms ruled Assam for nearly 600 years starting from the 13th century.  
   (B) Their capital at Charaideo is famous for burial mounds known as maidams.  
   (C) The Ahoms were originally of Tai origin and migrated from present-day Yunnan.  
   (D) The Ahoms adopted Islam as their official state religion by the late 17th century.

Answer 4. (D) The Ahoms adopted Islam as their official state religion by the late 17th century.

Explanation:

* The Ahom polity, of Tai origin, entered Assam in the 13th century and endured for nearly six centuries, leaving royal sepulchral monuments (maidams) at Charaideo as a defining heritage.
* There is no historical basis for the Ahom state adopting Islam as an official religion; the court and society integrated Hindu and indigenous rites over time without an Islamic state conversion.

1. In June 2025, Assam revived the ancient practice of Maidam restoration at Charaideo. Which of the following best describes this initiative?  
   (A) Conversion of Maidams into functional temples  
   (B) Scientific conservation of Ahom-era burial mounds for UNESCO World Heritage nomination  
   (C) Use of burial mounds as defense walls during floods  
   (D) Re-dedication of Maidams to Sattriya monasteries

Answer 5. (B) Scientific conservation of Ahom-era burial mounds for UNESCO World Heritage nomination

Explanation:

* Charaideo’s maidams are royal burial mounds of the Ahom dynasty, and ongoing state-led efforts emphasize conservation and world heritage inscription preparedness rather than religious repurposing or flood defenses.

1. In early 2025, the traditional rice variety "Bao Dhan" of Assam was placed under ecological branding. What is the unique feature of Bao Dhan?  
   (A) Grows only in flood-prone areas without standing water  
   (B) Is the world’s shortest-duration paddy crop (25 days)  
   (C) Is cultivated exclusively in terraced hill fields  
   (D) Contains natural golden pigment like turmeric

Answer 6. (A) Grows only in flood-prone areas without standing water

Explanation:

* Bao Dhan is a deep-water or floating rice complex adapted to low, swampy, flood-prone lands with prolonged water stagnation up to and beyond 50 cm, cultivated organically by default due to inundation constraints; this flood adaptation is its hallmark trait.

1. During 2025, studies highlighted pollution threats in Deepor Beel, a Ramsar site. Which factor was identified as the most pressing environmental risk?  
   (A) Encroachment due to railway line expansion  
   (B) Massive inflow of untreated municipal waste from Guwahati city  
   (C) Overfishing by migrant communities  
   (D) Increased salinity from upstream dam construction

Answer 7. (B) Massive inflow of untreated municipal waste from Guwahati city

Explanation:

* Periodic assessments and civic reports identify persistent dumping and inflow of untreated sewage and solid waste from Guwahati via feeder channels as the primary driver of water quality degradation and ecological risk in Deepor Beel.

1. The Dimasa tribe of Assam has a long historical legacy. Consider the following statements:  
   (i) The last capital of the Dimasa kingdom was Maibang in present-day Dima Hasao district.  
   (ii) Their traditional festival, Bushu, is a post-harvest festival.  
   (iii) The Dimasa language belongs to the Austro-Asiatic family.  
   (iv) They were once rulers of a kingdom extending into parts of Nagaland and Cachar.  
   Which statements are not correct?  
   (A) (iii) only  
   (B) (ii) and (iv) only  
   (C) (i) and (iii) only  
   (D) (iv) only

Answer 8. (A) (iii) only

Explanation:

* Maibang in today’s Dima Hasao served as a major Dimasa capital, and the kingdom’s extent historically included contiguous parts of Assam (Cachar) and areas adjoining present Nagaland, consistent with Dimasa state narratives.
* Bushu is celebrated post-harvest with communal feasting and dance, aligning with agrarian cycles.
* The Dimasa language is Tibeto-Burman (Sino-Tibetan), not Austro-Asiatic, making only statement (iii) incorrect.

1. Concerning India’s commitment at COP26 in Glasgow (‘Panchamrit’ targets), consider the following:  
   Statement 1: India committed to achieve 500 GW of non-fossil fuel-based capacity by 2030.  
   Statement 2: It pledged to meet 50% of its total energy requirements from renewable sources by 2030.  
   Statement 3: India will reduce total projected emissions by 1 billion tonnes by 2030.  
   Statement 4: The net zero target year announced by India was 2050.  
   Which of the above statements are correct?  
   (A) 1, 2 and 3 only  
   (B) 1 and 4 only  
   (C) 2, 3 and 4 only  
   (D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer 9. (A) 1, 2 and 3 only

Explanation:

* India’s ‘Panchamrit’ included targets of 500 GW non-fossil capacity, 50% electricity/energy requirements from renewables, and reduction of projected emissions by 1 billion tonnes by 2030, confirming statements 1–3 .
* The net-zero year announced was 2070, not 2050, so statement 4 is incorrect.

1. With reference to India’s fight against zoonotic diseases, consider:  
   Statement 1: Rabies, Nipah virus, and Avian influenza are considered priority zoonotic diseases in India.  
   Statement 2: The ICMR has established National Virology Institutes to support early diagnosis of zoonotic outbreaks.  
   Statement 3: Livestock vaccination is coordinated solely by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.  
   Statement 4: India’s “Roadmap for Zoonoses” includes multi-sectoral partnerships.  
   Which of the above statements are correct?  
   (A) 1, 2 and 4 only  
   (B) 2 and 3 only  
   (C) 1 and 3 only  
   (D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer 10. (A) 1, 2 and 4 only

Explanation:

* National prioritization lists and One Health efforts in India consistently feature rabies and avian influenza, and Nipah outbreaks as priority zoonoses for surveillance and response, aligning with statement 1.
* India’s virology network led by ICMR-NIV supports diagnostic capacity for emerging zoonoses, validating statement 2.
* Livestock vaccination is not solely under the Health Ministry but involves veterinary and animal husbandry authorities, while India’s One Health/zoonoses roadmaps emphasize multi-sectoral collaboration, supporting statement 4 and making statement 3 incorrect.