1. The "Soil Health Card Scheme" aims to:  
   (i) Provide farmers with information on nutrient status  
   (ii) Promote balanced use of fertilizers  
   (iii) Subsidize inorganic fertilizers  
   (iv) Encourage sustainable soil management  
   Select the correct answer using the codes given below.  
   (A) (i), (ii), and (iv) only  
   (B) (ii) and (iii) only  
   (C) (i) and (iii) only  
   (D) All of the above

Answer 81. (A) (i), (ii), and (iv) only

Explanation:

* The scheme issues periodic soil health cards with nutrient status and recommendations, enabling informed input use by farmers.
* Balanced fertiliser application and sustainable soil management practices are core objectives to improve soil fertility and reduce degradation.
* It does not subsidize inorganic fertilisers; rather, it guides optimal and often reduced chemical input use through soil-test-based advisories.

1. The Environmental Performance Index (EPI) evaluates countries based on:  
   (A) Air quality, water resources, and biodiversity  
   (B) GDP per capita and carbon emissions  
   (C) Social equality and education  
   (D) Political stability and governance

Answer 82. (A) Air quality, water resources, and biodiversity

Explanation:

* EPI aggregates indicators under environmental health and ecosystem vitality, including air quality, water (and sanitation), biodiversity, climate, and more.
* It is not primarily an economic, social equality, or governance index; those are outside its indicator framework.

1. The Assam Tenancy Act, governing land rights of indigenous peoples, was passed in which year?  
   (A) 1907  
   (B) 1886  
   (C) 1947  
   (D) 1917

Answer 83. (B) 1886

Explanation:

* The Assam Land and Revenue Regulation of 1886 underpinned tenancy and land administration historically in Assam, forming the foundational framework referenced by later tenancy legislations.
* Subsequent acts, including the Assam (Temporarily Settled Areas) Tenancy Act, 1971, built on this legacy; 1886 aligns with the core regulatory origin for tenancy governance.

1. The objective of the “Saubhagya” scheme is to:  
   (A) Electrify all rural households by providing electricity connections  
   (B) Establish solar parks in urban areas  
   (C) Promote electric vehicles  
   (D) Enhance biomass power generation

Answer 84. (A) Electrify all rural households by providing electricity connections

Explanation:

* Saubhagya targets universal household electrification via last-mile connectivity and free/low-cost connections to unelectrified rural (and poor urban) households.
* Solar systems are included only where grid extension is infeasible; EVs and biomass are outside this scheme’s core mandate.

1. The 2024 Nobel laureates in Economics emphasized the importance of institutions in:  
   (A) Environmental policy-making  
   (B) Shaping long-term economic growth and inequality  
   (C) Monetary policy stabilization  
   (D) Labour union reforms

Answer 85. (B) Shaping long-term economic growth and inequality

Explanation:

* The 2024 economics laureates (Acemoglu, Robinson, Johnson) were recognized for work on how political and economic institutions shape prosperity, growth, and distribution.
* Their research focuses primarily on institutional determinants of development rather than narrow monetary or sectoral policy areas.

1. Who was awarded the 'Emerging Player of the Year' IPL 2024?  
   (A) Ruturaj Gaikwad  
   (B) Rahul Tripathi  
   (C) Tilak Varma  
   (D) Shubman Gill

Answer 86. None of the above; Nitish Kumar Reddy

Explanation:

* The IPL 2024 Emerging Player award was won by Nitish Kumar Reddy of Sunrisers Hyderabad, who is not listed among the given options.
* The provided options do not include the correct winner; therefore, the accurate response is that none of the listed players received the award.

1. What is the typical tenure of a Finance Commission in India?  
   (A) 3 years  
   (B) 4 years  
   (C) 5 years  
   (D) 6 years

Answer 87. (C) 5 years

Explanation:

* Under Article 280, the Finance Commission is constituted every five years, establishing a standard tenure of five years for its recommendations.
* Historical practice and statutory framing align with this quinquennial cycle.

1. Which of the following stations are Indian summer research stations in Antarctica?  
   (i) Maitri  
   (ii) Bharati  
   (iii) Dakshin Gangotri  
   (iv) Himadri  
   Select the correct answer:  
   (A) (i) and (ii) only  
   (B) (ii) and (iii) only  
   (C) (i), (ii), and (iii) only  
   (D) (iv) only

Answer 88. (C) (i), (ii), and (iii) only

Explanation:

* India has operated three Antarctic stations: Dakshin Gangotri (now decommissioned), Maitri, and Bharati; Maitri and Bharati are operational year-round, with seasonal (summer) expedition activity.
* Himadri is India’s Arctic research station, not Antarctic.

1. At which place did Bhupen Hazarika shoot his iconic film “Shakuntala”?  
   (A) Majuli  
   (B) Tezpur  
   (C) Kaziranga  
   (D) Tinsukia

Answer 89. (B) Tezpur

Explanation:

* Bhupen Hazarika’s Assamese classic “Shakuntala” is closely associated with Tezpur’s cultural landscape, where principal shooting took place.
* The film’s themes and settings are linked to Tezpur’s milieu rather than the other listed locations.

1. Who was the founder of the Assam Political Party in the early 20th century?  
   (A) Anandaram Dhekial Phukan  
   (B) Mokshada Charan Baruah  
   (C) Bishnuram Medhi  
   (D) Krishna Kanta Handique

Answer 90. (B) Mokshada Charan Baruah

Explanation:

* Mokshada Charan Baruah is credited with founding the Assam Political Conference/Party in the early twentieth century as part of regional political mobilization.
* The other figures were eminent Assamese personalities in administration, scholarship, and reform but not founders of this party.