1. With reference to "Eat Right School" initiative, consider:  
   Statement 1: The initiative aims to build awareness about food safety and healthy diets among school children.  
   Statement 2: It is implemented only in private schools in urban areas.  
   Which of the above statements is/are correct?  
   (A) 1 only  
   (B) 2 only  
   (C) Both 1 and 2  
   (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer 11. (A) 1 only

Explanation:

* The "Eat Right School" initiative is a food safety and nutrition education program aiming to instill healthy eating habits and food safety awareness in children across India.
* It is designed for implementation in both government and private schools, in rural as well as urban areas, making Statement 2 incorrect.
* The main objective is to build awareness on healthy diets and safe food practices in the student community.

1. Consider the key aims of the PM Gati Shakti Master Plan:  
   Objective 1: To integrate various modes of transport into a unified multimodal network.  
   Objective 2: To leverage GIS-based digital tools for infrastructure planning.  
   Objective 3: To eliminate duplication of work across ministries.  
   Objective 4: To replace all state-level industrial policies with a single national framework.  
   Which of the above objectives is/are not correct?  
   (A) 1 only  
   (B) 4 only  
   (C) 2 and 3 only  
   (D) 1 and 4 only

Answer 12. (B) 4 only

Explanation:

* The Gati Shakti Master Plan primarily aims at infrastructure integration and coordination—including multimodal networks, using GIS for planning, and eliminating redundancy among ministries.
* However, it does not seek to replace all state-level industrial policies with one national policy, making Objective 4 not correct.
* It respects federalism in industrial policy while optimizing national infrastructure implementation.

1. Which of the following best explains the concept of Trade Diversion in economics?  
   (A) Replacement of domestic production by imports due to tariff reduction.  
   (B) Shifting of trade from a more efficient exporter to a less efficient one due to free trade agreements.  
   (C) Sudden fall in exports caused by currency depreciation.  
   (D) Diversification of export destinations to reduce reliance on one partner.

Answer 13. (B) Shifting of trade from a more efficient exporter to a less efficient one due to free trade agreements.

Explanation:

* Trade diversion occurs when formation of a trade bloc or free trade agreement causes imports to shift from a lower-cost (more efficient) external supplier to a higher-cost (less efficient) member of the new trade bloc.
* This happens due to preferential tariff benefits enjoyed by member countries, even if world prices are lower elsewhere.
* Other options do not describe the unique market distortion of trade diversion.

1. What is meant by Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF)?  
   (A) System of short-term borrowings by banks secured by mortgages.  
   (B) Facility through which RBI adjusts liquidity via repo and reverse repo operations.  
   (C) A special fund to assist banks facing insolvency.  
   (D) An IMF programme for liquidity support to member nations.

Answer 14. (B) Facility through which RBI adjusts liquidity via repo and reverse repo operations.

Explanation:

* LAF is an RBI monetary policy tool that allows banks to borrow money through repurchase agreements (repo) and lend through reverse repo.
* It is used to control short-term liquidity and maintain desired overnight rates, directly influencing money market liquidity.
* The other options refer to different financial arrangements or external facilities.

1. Consider the following about Thaipusam festival celebrated by Tamil communities:  
   (i) It is dedicated to Lord Murugan, the son of Shiva and Parvati.  
   (ii) Devotees perform Kavadi Attam as an act of devotion and penance.  
   (iii) It is exclusively celebrated within Tamil Nadu and has no global presence.  
   Which of the above statements are correct?  
   (A) (i) and (ii) only  
   (B) (ii) and (iii) only  
   (C) (i) and (iii) only  
   (D) (i), (ii) and (iii)

Answer 15. (A) (i) and (ii) only

Explanation:

* Thaipusam is dedicated to Lord Murugan and features spectacular rituals such as Kavadi Attam, a dance involving physical penance and devotion.
* The festival is widely celebrated by Tamil diaspora in Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and elsewhere, making statement (iii) incorrect.
* Core religious and ritual elements align with statements (i) and (ii) only.

1. Which of the following are examples of cold upwelling currents?  
   (i) California Current  
   (ii) Canary Current  
   (iii) Peru (Humboldt) Current  
   (iv) Kurile (Oyashio) Current  
   Select the correct answer using the codes given below.  
   (A) (i), (ii) and (iii) only  
   (B) (ii) and (iv) only  
   (C) (i), (iii) and (iv) only  
   (D) (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv)

Answer 16. (D) (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv)

Explanation:

* All four listed currents are examples of cold currents; the California, Canary, and Peru Currents bring cold, nutrient-rich water to western continental coasts, causing upwelling zones of high productivity.
* The Kurile (Oyashio) Current is a cold subarctic current flowing between the northwest Pacific and Japan’s coasts, also involved in upwelling dynamics.
* All are well-known oceanic cold currents.

1. Which of the following canal projects originate from Himalayan rivers?  
   (i) Upper Bari Doab Canal  
   (ii) Indira Gandhi Canal  
   (iii) Eastern Yamuna Canal  
   (iv) Buckingham Canal  
   Select the correct answer using the codes given below.  
   (A) (i) and (ii) only  
   (B) (i) and (iii) only  
   (C) (ii), (iii) and (iv) only  
   (D) (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv)

Answer 17. (B) (i) and (iii) only

Explanation:

* The Upper Bari Doab Canal originates from the Ravi, a Himalayan river, while the Eastern Yamuna Canal originates from the Yamuna, also Himalayan in source.
* The Indira Gandhi Canal’s direct off-take is from the Harike Barrage (Sutlej and Beas); while Himalayan-fed, its technical origin is debated in this context.
* The Buckingham Canal is a coastal waterway in southern India, not connected to Himalayan river systems.

1. Which of the following sequences/statements concerning the Barak River system in Southern Assam is/are not correct?  
   (i) Barail Hills separate the Brahmaputra valley from the Barak valley.  
   (ii) Barak originates in Manipur hills and flows through Cachar, Karimganj, Hailakandi.  
   (iii) Barak bifurcates into Surma and Kushiyara rivers in Tripura before entering Bangladesh.  
   (iv) Barak valley is linguistically dominated by Assamese.  
   (A) (iii) only  
   (B) (iv) only  
   (C) (ii) and (iii) only  
   (D) (iii) and (iv) only

Answer 18. (D) (iii) and (iv) only

Explanation:

* The Barail Hills region indeed separates Brahmaputra and Barak valleys, and Barak flows from Manipur through key districts in southern Assam.
* The Barak bifurcates into Surma and Kushiyara in Bangladesh (not Tripura), making (iii) incorrect.
* Barak valley has a large Bengali-speaking population, not Assamese predominance, making (iv) also incorrect.

1. Which of the following canal projects originate from Himalayan rivers?  
   (i) Upper Bari Doab Canal  
   (ii) Indira Gandhi Canal  
   (iii) Eastern Yamuna Canal  
   (iv) Buckingham Canal  
   Select the correct answer using the codes given below.  
   (A) (i) and (ii) only  
   (B) (i) and (iii) only  
   (C) (ii), (iii) and (iv) only  
   (D) (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv)

Answer 19. (B) (i) and (iii) only

Explanation:

* This is a repeat of question 17; the Upper Bari Doab Canal and Eastern Yamuna Canal have Himalayan river sources.
* Indira Gandhi Canal draws from rivers with Himalayan origin but starts after their confluence and migration through multiple states, often making its classification debated.
* Buckingham Canal is coastal and not Himalayan-fed.

1. Increased flooding in Kaziranga National Park is explained by:  
   (i) The park being situated on the floodplains of the Brahmaputra.  
   (ii) Encroachment of animal corridors and shrinking higher grounds forcing wildlife to drown during high floods.  
   (A) Only (i) is right  
   (B) Only (ii) is right  
   (C) Both (i) and (ii) correct, inclusive to explain Kaziranga situation  
   (D) Both correct, but inclusive only at limited scales

Answer 20. (C) Both (i) and (ii) correct, inclusive to explain Kaziranga situation

Explanation:

* Kaziranga’s flood regime is a direct function of its location along an active braided floodplain, with annual high flows causing inundation.
* Human settlement and infrastructure have led to loss of high ground (refuge areas) and corridor encroachment, increasing wildlife mortality during extreme floods.
* Both natural and anthropogenic factors together inclusively explain the scale and impact of flooding on the park’s ecosystem.