BPSC AEDO Paper 2 (General Studies)

Q.1 Which of the following herbs grows from the stem?

A. Mint
B. Cilantro
C. Dill
D. Parsley

Answer: A

Sol: Correct Answer: (A) Mint

Explanation:

- Mint (Pudina) primarily **propagates through its stem**, especially by underground stem structures called *runners* or *stolons*.
- These horizontal stems spread and produce new plants.

Information Booster:

- Mint is a **stem-propagated perennial herb**, widely used in culinary and medicinal purposes.
- Stem propagation helps mint spread rapidly in moist soil.

Additional Knowledge:

- **Cilantro (B):** Grows from **seeds**, not stems.
- **Dill (C):** Also propagated **mainly from seeds**.
- **Parsley (D):** Grown from **seeds**, not through stem parts.

Q.2 When was electricity production in India commenced using nuclear energy?

A. 1978
B. 1969
C. 1988
D. 1998

Answer: B

Sol: The correct answer is: (b) 1969

Explanation:

• India started generating electricity from **nuclear energy in 1969**.
• The first nuclear power station to supply electricity was the **Tarapur Atomic Power Station (TAPS)** in Maharashtra.
• This marked India's entry into civilian nuclear power generation.

Information Booster:

• Tarapur's Unit-1 and Unit-2 were the **first BWR reactors in India**.
• India's nuclear power is managed by **NPCIL (Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd.)**.
• Nuclear energy supports India's long-term goal of a **clean and reliable energy mix**.
• India operates multiple reactor types: **PHWR, BWR, and PFBR (developing)**.
• Nuclear power helps reduce dependence on **fossil fuels**.

Q.3 Who won the 2025 Pulitzer for Poetry with New and Selected Poems?

A. Ocean Vuong
B. Tracy K Smith

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C. Marie Howe
D. Ada Limón

Answer: C

Sol: Correct Answer: C. Marie Howe

Explanation:

- The 2025 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry was awarded to Marie Howe for her collection *New and Selected Poems*.
- The citation mentions the collection spans her decades of work and explores themes of "our shared loneliness, mortality, and holiness".

Information Booster:

- Marie Howe's *New and Selected Poems* was published in April 2024 and gathers poems from her earlier collections plus new work, solidifying her long-standing reputation in American poetry.

Additional Knowledge:

- **Ocean Vuong:** A prominent poet and novelist; though highly acclaimed, he did not win the 2025 Pulitzer for Poetry.
- **Tracy K. Smith:** Former U.S. Poet Laureate who won the Pulitzer for Poetry in 2012 (*Life on Mars*).
- **Ada Limón:** The U.S. Poet Laureate beginning in 2023 and winner of the 2023 National Book Award for Poetry (*The Carrying*).

Q.4 **Which physiographic feature lies parallel to the Shiwaliks and is about 8-16 km wide?**

A. Bhabar
B. Terai
C. Delta
D. Doab

Answer: A

Sol: The correct answer is (a) Bhabar
Explanation:

• The Bhabar is a narrow **belt measuring about 8–16 km in width.**

• It lies parallel to **the foothills of the Shiwaliks.**

• This zone consists of coarse sediments and pebble-laden deposits brought down by Himalayan rivers.

• Due to its high porosity, streams disappear on entering the Bhabar region.

• These streams reappear later in the Terai region.

Information Booster:

• Streams disappear in Bhabar because of its porous alluvial composition.

• Terai, located south of Bhabar, is a wet, swampy region with thick forests and re-emerging streams.

• **North–South order: Shiwaliks → Bhabar → Terai → Bhangar → Khadar.**

Additional Knowledge:

(b) Terai: A marshy, water-logged belt south of Bhabar, not 8–16 km wide or parallel to Shiwaliks.

(c) Delta: A depositional feature formed at river mouths, not a Himalayan foothill feature.

(d) Doab: Land between two rivers, unrelated to the Bhabar–Shiwalik belt.

Q.5 **The Phool Dei festival is primarily celebrated by the people of _____ in India.**

A. Karnataka
B. Sikkim
C. Uttarakhand
D. Gujarat

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is (c) Uttarakhand.
• Phool Dei is a **spring festival** celebrated mainly in Uttarakhand.
• Young girls visit houses and place **flowers & rice** on doorsteps for prosperity.
• It marks the **onset of the spring season**, usually celebrated in **March**.
Information Booster:
• Known as the **'Festival of Flowers'**.
• Celebrated especially in **Kumaon & Garhwal regions**.
• Believed to bring **good fortune & a good harvest**.
• Children sing local folk songs called **'Phooldei, chamma dei'**.
• It is linked with **agricultural traditions & seasonal change**.
Additional Knowledge:
• Karnataka – Celebrates **Ugadi** as the New Year festival.
• Sikkim – Known for **Losar (Tibetan New Year)** festival.
• Gujarat – Celebrates **Navratri**, famous for Garba dance.
• Uttarakhand was formed on **9 November 2000** (earlier Uttaranchal).

Q.6 **According to the second law of reflection, all the incident ray, the normal to the mirror at the point of incidence and the reflected ray:**

A. lie in the same plane
B. lie in different planes
C. are mutually perpendicular to each other
D. are parallel to each other

Answer: A

Sol: **Correct Answer: A. lie in the same plane**
Explanation:
● According to the **second law of reflection**, the **incident ray**, the **normal** at the point of incidence, and the **reflected ray** all **lie in the same plane**.
● This rule applies to all reflecting surfaces—plane mirrors, curved mirrors, and even smooth surfaces in general.
Information Booster:
● **First law of reflection:** Angle of incidence = Angle of reflection.
● Reflection follows the principle of **reversibility of light**.
● These laws are valid for both **regular** and **irregular** reflection.
Additional Knowledge:
Laws of Reflection of Light
1. First Law of Reflection
● The angle of incidence is equal to the angle of reflection.
(i = r)
2. Second Law of Reflection
● The incident ray, the normal at the point of incidence, and the reflected ray all lie in the same plane.

Q.7 **Which of the following explains why mercury forms a convex meniscus inside a glass tube?**

A. Cohesive force is greater than adhesive force
B. Adhesive force is greater than cohesive force
C. Density of mercury is high
D. Surface tension is low

Answer: A

Sol: The correct answer is (a). **Explanation** In mercury, **cohesion > adhesion**, so particles pull toward each other more than toward glass, creating a **convex** meniscus.
Additional Information • Option {b} would produce a concave meniscus {like water}. • Option {c} density has no effect on meniscus curvature. • Option {d} mercury has high surface tension, not low.

Q.8 **The Cellular Jail, which is famous for its unique architecture, is located in _____.**

A. Daman
B. Port Blair
C. Puducherry
D. Kavaratti

Answer: B

Sol: **Correct Answer: (B) Port Blair**

Explanation:

- The **Cellular Jail**, also known as **Kala Pani**, is located in **Port Blair**, the capital of the **Andaman and Nicobar Islands**.
- It was built by the British to exile Indian freedom fighters and is known for its **unique puce-colored structure** with **seven wings (spokes)** radiating from a central tower.
- It served as a colonial prison where many freedom fighters endured solitary confinement and torture.

Information Booster:

- Construction of the Cellular Jail began in **1896** and was completed in **1906**.
- Notable inmates included **Vinayak Damodar Savarkar**, **Batukeshwar Dutt**, and **Yogendra Shukla**.
- Today, it is a **National Memorial** and features a **Light and Sound Show** narrating India's freedom struggle.

Q.9 **Who among the following shifted his capital from Delhi to Daulatabad?**

A. Qutubuddin Aibak
B. Alauddin Khalji
C. Muhammad Bin Tughluq
D. Ibrahim Lodi

Answer: C

Sol: **The correct answer is (c) Muhammad Bin Tughluq**

Explanation:

- **Muhammad Bin Tughluq**, Sultan of Delhi (1325–1351), **shifted his capital from Delhi to Daulatabad** in 1327.
- The move was aimed at **centralizing administration** and **strengthening control over the Deccan region**.
- However, the shift was **unsuccessful** due to logistical difficulties and widespread hardship among the people.

Information Booster:

- Daulatabad is located in present-day **Maharashtra**.
- Thousands of people were **forced to migrate** over long distances.
- The move caused **economic disruption and famine**.
- Muhammad Bin Tughluq was also known for **innovative but impractical schemes**, like token currency.
- Eventually, the capital was **shifted back to Delhi** after the failure of the project.

Q.10 **'Bobbili Veena' is a well-known musical instrument from the state of _____.**

A. Madhya Pradesh
B. Uttar Pradesh
C. Himachal Pradesh
D. Andhra Pradesh

Answer: D

Sol: **Correct Answer: (D) Andhra Pradesh**

Explanation:

- The **Bobbili Veena** is a traditional string instrument handcrafted in **Bobbili town of Andhra Pradesh**, famous for its unique carved design and resonant sound.
- **Information Booster:**
- Bobbili Veena received the **Geographical Indication (GI) tag**.
- Made from a single piece of **panasa (jackfruit) wood**.
- Played in **Carnatic classical music** and known for its elegant craftsmanship by the Sarwasiddhi community of artisans.

Additional Knowledge:

- **Madhya Pradesh (A):** Known for instruments like **Been**, **Algoza**.
- **Uttar Pradesh (B):** Famous for **tabla** and **sitars of Miraj**.
- **Himachal Pradesh (C):** Known for **Kangra musical traditions**.

Q.11 **Which of the following metals will NOT liberate hydrogen gas when reacted with dilute hydrochloric acid?**

A. Zinc
B. Magnesium
C. Copper
D. Iron

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is (c). **Explanation** A metal must be above hydrogen in the reactivity series to release hydrogen gas from acids. Copper lies **below hydrogen**, so no reaction occurs.
Additional Information • Zinc, magnesium, and iron all lie above hydrogen and react vigorously with acids.

Q.12 **Who is the current State Election Commissioner of Bihar in June 2025?**

A. Ramesh Kumar
B. Deepak Prasad
C. Suresh Kumar
D. Rajesh Kumar

Answer: B

Sol: The correct answer is option (b) Deepak Prasad
Explanation

As of **June 2025**, the **State Election Commissioner** of Bihar is **Deepak Prasad**. He is responsible for overseeing the administration and conduct of elections for local bodies, including municipalities and urban bodies, and implementing modern electoral processes like the **mobile-based e-voting system** in Bihar.

Information Booster
· **Deepak Prasad** holds the position of **State Election Commissioner** of Bihar and is tasked with ensuring free, fair, and efficient elections at the municipal and local levels.
· His office has introduced reforms such as **mobile-based e-voting**, which was launched during the **municipal and urban body polls** in 2025.

Additional Knowledge
· The **State Election Commissioner** plays a key role in ensuring the transparency of **local elections**, including overseeing the implementation of technology for voting systems.
· Under Deepak Prasad's leadership, Bihar has taken important steps to modernize the electoral system, ensuring greater accessibility for voters.

Q.13 What will the Sultanganj Railway Station in Bihar be renamed as?

A. Ajgaibinath Temple
B. Ajgaibinath Dham
C. Ganga Shiva Station
D. Bhagalpur Dham

Answer: B

Sol: · In November 2024, Bihar's Deputy Chief Minister, Samrat Choudhary, announced that the Sultanganj railway station in Bhagalpur district would be renamed **Ajgaibinath Dham**.
· This decision honors the nearby ancient Lord Shiva temple, Ajgaibinath Dham, situated on the Ganga River's banks.
· The Bhagalpur municipal council approved the renaming proposal, which will be forwarded to the appropriate authorities for final approval.
Key Facts:
· **Ajgaibinath Temple:** An ancient Hindu shrine dedicated to Lord Shiva, renowned for its intricate carvings and stone inscriptions.
· **Cultural Significance:** The renaming aims to highlight the temple's importance and promote regional tourism.
· **Community Support:** Local communities and religious groups have advocated for this change since 2007.

Q.14 In which year was the MUDRA Yojana for providing loans up to ₹10 lakh started?

A. 2016
B. 2014
C. 2015
D. 2017

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is (c) 2015.
• Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) was launched on **8 April 2015** by PM Narendra Modi.
• It provides loans up to **₹10 lakh** to **non-corporate, non-farm small/micro enterprises**.
• MUDRA stands for **Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency**.
• Loans are categorized as **Shishu (≤ ₹50,000), Kishor (₹50k–₹5 lakh), Tarun (₹5–10 lakh)**.
Information Booster:
• PMMY implemented through **Commercial Banks, RRBs, NBFCs & MFIs**.
• **MUDRA Bank** is a subsidiary of **SIDBI**.
• Purpose: Promote entrepreneurship & financial inclusion.
• Focus on **women entrepreneurs** (stand-up India link).
• Over **40 crore loans sanctioned by 2024**.
Additional Knowledge:
• Eligible sectors: manufacturing, trading & service sector.
• **No collateral** needed for MUDRA loans.
• PMMY supports schemes like **Start-up India & Skill India**.
• MUDRA card works like a **credit/debit card** for working capital.
• PMMY aligns with **Aatmanirbhar Bharat Mission (2020)**.

Q.15 Which of the following is NOT a nocturnal animal?

A. Bat
B. Rabbit
C. Mouse
D. Cockroach

Answer: B

Sol: **Correct Answer: (B) Rabbit**
Explanation:

- **Rabbits are not nocturnal**; they are **crepuscular**, meaning they are most active during **dawn and dusk**, not at night.

Information Booster:

- Nocturnal animals stay active at **night** and rest during the **day**.
- Crepuscular animals are active in **low-light periods** (morning & evening).

Additional Knowledge:

- **Bat (A):** Fully nocturnal; hunts and flies at night.
- **Mouse (C):** Nocturnal; searches for food mostly at night.
- **Cockroach (D):** Nocturnal; hides in the day and comes out at night.

Q.16 In which year was the Delhi Sultanate established?

A. 1289
B. 1206
C. 1534
D. 1134

Answer: B

Sol: **The correct answer is (B) 1206**

Explanation:

- The **Delhi Sultanate** was established in **1206** by **Qutb-ud-din Aibak**, who became the first Sultan of Delhi.
- This marked the beginning of **Muslim rule in Northern India**, lasting till 1526.
- It consisted of **five dynasties**, including the **Slave (Mamluk), Khalji, Tughlaq, Sayyid, and Lodi dynasties**.

Information Booster:

- Establishment Year – **1206 CE**
- Founder – **Qutb-ud-din Aibak**
- First dynasty – **Slave (Mamluk) Dynasty**
- Ended with **Battle of Panipat (1526)**
- Succeeded by **Mughal Empire**

Additional Knowledge

- **Slave (Mamluk) Dynasty** – Founded by **Qutb-ud-din Aibak** in **1206**.
- **Khalji Dynasty** – Established by **Jalal-ud-din Khalji** in **1290**.
- **Tughlaq Dynasty** – Founded by **Ghiyas-ud-din Tughlaq** in **1320**.
- **Sayyid Dynasty** – Started by **Khizr Khan** in **1414**.
- **Lodi Dynasty** – Founded by **Bahlul Lodi** in **1451**.

Q.17 Jayprakash Narayan Airport is located inwhich city of Bihar?

A. Motihari
B. Darbhanga
C. Gaya
D. Patna

Answer: D

Sol: The Correct Answer **(d) Patna**

Explanation:

- **Jayprakash Narayan Airport is located in Patna, the capital city of Bihar**.
- It is named after **Jayaprakash Narayan**, a prominent Indian independence activist and political leader.
- The airport serves as the **primary airport for Bihar** and handles both **domestic and limited international flights**.
- It is operated by the **Airports Authority of India (AAI)** and is one of the busiest airports in eastern India.
- The airport plays a crucial role in **connecting Bihar to major cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, and Bangalore**.

Information Booster:

- **Jayprakash Narayan Airport (PAT) is categorized as a restricted international airport** due to space constraints.
- It is the **23rd busiest airport in India** in terms of passenger traffic.
- The airport is **undergoing expansion** to accommodate increasing air traffic.
- It has **a single runway (07/25)** with a length of **2,072 meters**.
- The airport is well-connected by **road and railway stations**, making it accessible to travelers from across Bihar.
- It is a hub for **airlines like IndiGo, Air India, and SpiceJet**, offering flights to major Indian cities.

Additional Information:

- **Motihari** – Motihari is historically significant as the birthplace of **Mahatma Gandhi's Champaran Satyagraha.**
- **Darbhanga** – Darbhanga has **Darbhanga Airport**, which started commercial operations in 2020.
- **Gaya** – Gaya has **Gaya International Airport**, which is primarily used for Buddhist pilgrimage travel, particularly to Bodh Gaya.

Q.18 **Among the following atmospheric gases, which exhibits the highest degree of aqueous solubility due to its reactivity with water molecules forming a weak acid?**

A. Nitrogen
B. Oxygen
C. Carbon dioxide
D. Hydrogen

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is (c). **Explanation** CO_2 dissolves readily in water because it reacts to form carbonic acid, increasing its effective solubility far more than gases that remain chemically unchanged.
Additional Information • Option {a} is mostly inert and poorly soluble. • Option {b} dissolves slightly but not as much as CO_2. • Option {d} barely dissolves due to its non-polar nature.

Q.19 **The Rigveda comprises a compilation of 1028 hymns that are categorised into how many Mandalas?**

A. 12
B. 15
C. 8
D. 10

Answer: D

Sol: **The correct answer is: (D) 10**
Explanation:
• The **Rigveda** consists of **1028 hymns** (Suktas).
• These hymns are arranged into **10 divisions**, known as **Mandalas**.
• It is the **oldest** of the four Vedas and a key source of early Vedic culture.

Information Booster:
• **Mandalas 2–7** are called **Family Books**, composed by different priestly families.
• **Mandala 1 and 10** contain hymns added **later** and include philosophical ideas.
• Language of Rigveda is **Vedic Sanskrit**.
• The main deity praised is **Indra**, followed by **Agni** and **Soma**.

Mandalas and Key Points:

Mandala	Key Feature / Association
1st Mandala	Contains **191 hymns**; general invocations; includes **Gayatri Mantra** (later tradition).
2nd Mandala	Belongs to **Gritsamada family**; praises **Agni** and **Indra**.
3rd Mandala	**Vishvamitra family**; contains **Gayatri meter hymns**.
4th Mandala	**Vamadeva family**; hymns on **cosmic powers**.
5th Mandala	**Atri family**; praises **Indra**, **Varuna**, **Mitra**.
6th Mandala	**Bharadvaja family**; agricultural and social life described.

7th Mandala	**Vasistha family**; mentions **Battle of Ten Kings (Dasarajna)**.
8th Mandala	Mixed hymns, partly from **Kanva family**; references to rituals and nature.
9th Mandala	Known as **Soma Mandala**; entirely dedicated to **Soma** (sacred drink deity).
10th Mandala	Contains **philosophical hymns**; includes **Nasadiya Sukta (Creation Hymn)**.

Q.20 **Which is the most malleable metal?**

A. Copper

B. Aluminiumur Person

C. Silver

D. Gold

Answer: D

Sol: The correct answer is: **(d) Gold**

Explanation:

Gold is the most malleable metal. It can be hammered into extremely thin sheets. More malleable than copper, silver and aluminium.

- Its atomic layers slide easily without breaking.

Information Booster:

- Gold leaf can be made very thin.
- Silver is the most ductile metal.
- Noble metals show high malleability.
- Gold is widely used in jewellery.
- Gold stays malleable at room temperature.

Additional Knowledge:

- Copper is malleable but less than gold.
- Silver is ductile, not most malleable.
- Gold is used in electronics due to stability.

Q.21 **Copper utensils turn green over time due to—**

A. Decomposition

B. Oxidation

C. Reduction

D. Sublimation

Answer: B

Sol: The correct answer is (b). **Explanation** Copper reacts with oxygen, CO_2, and moisture to form basic copper carbonate, giving the surface a greenish layer called patina.

Additional Information • Option {a} involves breakdown reactions. • Option {c} involves electron gain, not loss. • Option {d} is unrelated to metals.

Q.22 **Why does a balloon filled with helium shrink when kept in a refrigerator?**

A. Helium liquefies at low temperature

B. Helium atoms escape through rubber

C. Average kinetic energy of gas molecules decreases

D. Pressure inside balloon increases

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is (c). **Explanation** Cooling reduces kinetic energy of helium atoms, lowering internal pressure, causing the balloon to **shrink**. **Additional Information** • Option {a} helium liquefies only at extremely low temperatures. • Option {b} diffusion occurs but not the main reason for immediate shrinking. • Option {d} pressure actually decreases, not increases.

Q.23 **The Sultan who was also known as 'Lakh Baksh' is:**

A. Muhammad bin Tughlaq
B. Iltutmish
C. Qutbuddin Aibak
D. Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq

Answer: C

Sol:

- Qutbuddin Aibak, the founder of the Delhi Sultanate, was famously known as **'Lakh Baksh'**, which means "giver of lakhs" (a reference to his generosity).
- He earned this title because of his generosity in distributing wealth and gifts to his subjects, especially during his reign as the Sultan of Delhi.

Additional Information:

- **Qutbuddin Aibak** was originally a slave of Muhammad Ghori, the ruler of the Ghurid dynasty, and later rose to power as a military commander. After the death of Muhammad Ghori, Aibak declared himself the Sultan of Delhi in 1206.
- He is also known for his contributions to architecture, most notably starting the construction of the **Qutb Minar** in Delhi, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Other Options:

- **Muhammad bin Tughlaq** : He was a Sultan of the Delhi Sultanate known for his ambitious but often failed policies. He was not known by the title 'Lakh Baksh'.
- **Iltutmish :** Hewas a prominent ruler of the Delhi Sultanate and the father of Raziya Sultana. He is known for consolidating and strengthening the Delhi Sultanate but was not referred to as 'Lakh Baksh'.
- **Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq** : He was the founder of the Tughlaq dynasty. He is not known by the title 'Lakh Baksh'.

Q.24 **Indira Point, the southernmost tip of India, is located on which island?**

A. Car Nicobar Island
B. Great Nicobar Island
C. Nancowry Island
D. Little Nicobar Island

Answer: B

Sol: **The correct answer is (B) Great Nicobar Island**

Explanation:

- Indira Point is the **southernmost point of India's territory**.
- It is located on the **Great Nicobar Island** in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- It was earlier known as **Pygmalion Point** until renamed in 1984.
- The 2004 tsunami submerged parts of Indira Point, including its lighthouse.
- It lies close to the **10° Channel**, separating India and Indonesia.

Information Booster:

- Geographic coordinates: **6°45'10'' N latitude**.
- Indira Point is named after **Prime Minister Indira Gandhi**.
- It lies in the **Indian Ocean**, near the Malacca Strait route.
- Great Nicobar Island hosts **Campbell Bay**, a strategic naval base.
- Part of the **Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve** declared by UNESCO.

Q.25 **The Nagarhole National Park is located in _____.**

A. Arunachal Pradesh
B. Karnataka
C. Tamil Nadu

D. Goa

Answer: B

Sol: **Correct Answer: (B) Karnataka**

Explanation:

- **Nagarhole National Park**, also known as **Rajiv Gandhi National Park**, is located in the state of **Karnataka**.
- It is part of the **Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve** and shares boundaries with **Bandipur National Park** (Karnataka) and **Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary** (Kerala).
- The park is famous for its rich wildlife, including **tigers, elephants, leopards, gaurs, and deer**.

Information Booster:

- Nagarhole was declared a **Tiger Reserve** under **Project Tiger** in **1999**.
- The park gets its name from "Naga" (snake) and "Hole" (streams), referring to its winding water streams.
- It is one of the best places in India for **wildlife safaris**, especially for spotting **Asian elephants** and **royal Bengal tigers**.

Q.26 **Which Article of the Indian Constitution permits the State to make special provisions for women and children?**

A. Article 21(5)
B. Article 19
C. Article 15(3)
D. Article 14

Answer: C

Sol: **The Correct Answer is Article 15(3)**
Explanation
Article **15(3)** allows the State to make **special provisions for women and children** as an exception to the general rule of non-discrimination under Article 15(1).

Key Points

- Article **15** prohibits discrimination based on **religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth**.
- Clause **(3)** enables **positive discrimination** for women and children, supporting **reservations and welfare schemes**.

Additional Information

- **Article 21(5)** deals with personal liberty but not special provisions.
- **Article 19** ensures freedoms like speech and movement.
- **Article 14** guarantees **equality before the law** but allows reasonable classification.

Q.27 **In which year did the Government of India launch the Antyodaya Anna Yojana?**

A. 1995
B. 2000
C. 2005
D. 1998

Answer: B

Sol: **Correct Answer: (B) 2000**

Explanation:

- **Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY)** was launched **on 25th December 2000** by the Government of India.
- The scheme aims to provide **highly subsidized food grains** to the **poorest of the poor** households.

Information Booster:

- Under AAY, eligible families receive:
  - **35 kg of food grains per month**
  - **Rice at ₹3/kg**
  - **Wheat at ₹2/kg**
- The scheme was launched under the **Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution**.
- It initially targeted **1 crore families**, later expanded based on poverty levels.

Q.28 A force of 12 N moves an object through a distance of 6 m in the direction of the force. What is the work done?

A. 36 J
B. 60 J
C. 72 J
D. 18 J

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is (c).
Explanation
Additional Information • Option {a} 36 J is incorrect because it assumes force 6 N instead of 12 N. • Option {b} 60 J is incorrect because distance mistakenly taken as 5 m. • Option {d} 18 J is incorrect because it misuses the formula or divides instead of multiplying.

Q.29 Where is the Genome India data officially hosted during its launch in 2025?

A. National Genome Archive
B. HealthTech Data Repository
C. Indian Science Informatics Centre
D. Indian Biological Data Centre

Answer: D

Sol: The correct answer is: **(d) Indian Biological Data Centre**

Explanation:
• Genome India Project data is officially hosted at the Indian Biological Data Centre (IBDC), Faridabad.
• IBDC acts as the national repository for life-science and genomic data generated under publicly funded research in India.
• The repository includes whole-genome sequencing data, metadata, and phenotype information from thousands of Indian individuals.
• This data forms the foundation for research in genomics, medicine, and population genetics.
• Ensures secure storage, access, and management of large-scale genomic datasets for scientific use.

Q.30 The Shore Temple, which is a UNESCO Heritage Site, is located in the state of _____.

A. Tamil Nadu
B. Karnataka
C. Maharashtra
D. Madhya Pradesh

Answer: A

Sol: **Correct Answer: (A) Tamil Nadu**

Explanation:

- The **Shore Temple** is located in **Mahabalipuram (Mamallapuram)** in the state of **Tamil Nadu**.
- It is one of the oldest structural stone temples in South India, built during the reign of the **Pallava dynasty** (8th century CE).
- The temple is part of the **UNESCO World Heritage Site** titled *Group of Monuments at Mahabalipuram*.

Information Booster:

- Built by **Narasimhavarman II (Rajasimha)**, Pallava ruler.
- Famous for its **Dravidian architectural style**.

- Known as "Shore Temple" because it overlooks the **Bay of Bengal**.
- Other monuments at Mahabalipuram include Arjuna's Penance, Pancha Rathas, and Varaha Cave Temple.

Q.31 **'Karagam' is a folk dance of which of the following states of India?**

A. Odisha
B. Tamil Nadu
C. Rajasthan
D. Assam

Answer: B

Sol: The correct answer is (b) Tamil Nadu.
• Karagam is a **traditional folk dance** dedicated to **Goddess Mariamman**.
• Performed while **balancing a decorated pot** (karagam) on the head.
• It is especially popular during **Tamil festivals & temple celebrations**.
Information Booster:
• Mainly performed in **Tanjore, Salem & Madurai regions**.
• Associated with **good health & rainfall**.
• Often performed during **Aadi month (July–August)**.
• It has two types — **Aatta Karagam** & **Sakai Karagam**.
• It includes both **dance & acrobatic movements**.
Additional Knowledge:
• Odisha – Known for **Ghumura** and **Goti Pua** dance.
• Rajasthan – Famous for **Ghoomar & Kalbelia** dance.
• Assam – Celebrated for **Bihu dance**, marking the New Year.
• Tamil Nadu – Formed in **1956**, capital: **Chennai**.

Q.32 **Which substance will show the highest electrical conductivity when molten?**

A. Wax
B. Sugar
C. Sodium chloride
D. Sulphur

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is (c). **Explanation** Molten NaCl contains freely moving ions that allow electric current to pass. In solid state, ions are fixed, but in molten form, conductivity increases sharply.
Additional Information • Option {a} and {b} are covalent and do not ionize. • Option {d} is also non-ionic and poor conductor.

Q.33 **According to Census of India 2011, which group of states has the lowest female literacy rates?**

A. Mizoram and Kerala
B. Rajasthan and Bihar
C. Kerala and Tamil Nadu
D. Sikkim and Nagaland

Answer: B

Sol: The correct answer is (b) Rajasthan and Bihar

• As per **Census 2011**, **Bihar (51.5%) and Rajasthan (52.1%)** recorded the **lowest female literacy rates**.

• Other given states like Kerala, Mizoram & Tamil Nadu have high female literacy rates.

Information Booster:

• **Kerala** – Highest female literacy (92.0%) in 2011.

• **National female literacy rate (2011)** – 65.46%.

• **Bihar (2011)** – Lowest overall literacy rate (63.8%).

• Literacy increased in all states from **2001 to 2011**.

• **Female literacy gap** between rural & urban areas remains high in many states.

Additional Knowledge:

• **Mizoram & Kerala (option a)** – Among the highest female literate states.

• **Kerala & Tamil Nadu (option c)** – Both are top performers in literacy.

• **Sikkim & Nagaland (option d)** – Have moderate to high female literacy levels.

• Literacy is measured under **Census Act, 1948** every 10 years.

Q.34 **What is the dominant soil type in the Great Plains of India?**

A. Laterite soil
B. Black cotton soil
C. Alluvial soil
D. Red soil

Answer: C

Sol: **The correct answer is (C) Alluvial soil**

Explanation:

● The **Great Plains of India** are formed by the deposition of sediments brought by the **Indus, Ganga, and Brahmaputra rivers**.

● These plains are therefore dominated by **alluvial soil**, which is extremely fertile and supports dense agriculture.

● This soil is found extensively in states like Punjab, Haryana, UP, Bihar, and West Bengal.

Information Booster:

● Alluvial soils are of two types: **Khadar (new alluvium)** and **Bhangar (old alluvium)**.

● Rich in potash and lime, but low in nitrogen.

● Ideal for crops like **wheat, rice, sugarcane, and pulses**.

Additional Knowledge:

● **Laterite soil** – Found in high rainfall areas (Kerala, Karnataka).

● **Black cotton soil** – Found in Deccan Plateau; suitable for cotton.

● **Red soil** – Found in southern and eastern India (TN, Karnataka, Odisha).

Q.35 **Which two new wetlands in Bihar were declared Ramsar sites in 2025?**

A. Kanwar Lake and Kusheshwar Asthan
B. Gokul Jalashay and Udaipur Jheel
C. Baraila Tal and Gogabil Lake
D. Bhagalpur Tal and Surha Tal

Answer: B

Sol: The correct answer is **(b) Gokul Jalashay and Udaipur Jheel**

Explanation:

· **Gokul Jalashay (448 ha, Buxar district)** and **Udaipur Jheel (319 ha, West Champaran)** were declared Ramsar sites in 2025.

Information Booster:

· India now has **93 Ramsar sites**.

· Wetlands are crucial for migratory birds & fish biodiversity.

· Udaipur Jheel is part of **Udaypur Wildlife Sanctuary**.

· Support local livelihoods & agriculture.

· Enhance climate resilience in Bihar.

Additional Knowledge:

· Kanwar Lake (Begusarai) – Bihar's first Ramsar site (2019).

· Gogabil Lake – Another notified bird habitat in Bihar.

Q.36 **Ringworm is a common skin infection caused by:**

A. virus
B. fungus
C. bacteria

D. protozoa

Answer: B

Sol: **The correct answer is (B) fungus**

Explanation:

- Ringworm is **not caused by a worm**, but by a **fungal infection** known as **dermatophytes**.
- It affects the skin, scalp, nails, and causes red, itchy, circular patches.
- It spreads through skin contact, contaminated towels, or pets.

Information Booster:

- Medical term: **Tinea infection**.
- Common fungi: *Trichophyton* & *Microsporum*.
- Highly contagious skin disease.
- Antifungal creams are used for treatment.
- Maintained by proper hygiene & cleanliness.

Additional Knowledge:

- Virus – Causes diseases like flu & measles.
- Bacteria – Cause typhoid, pneumonia, etc.
- Protozoa – Cause malaria & amoebiasis.

Q.37 **Who among the following was the renowned poet-saint of the Bhakti movement known for composing dohas (couplets)?**

A. Bhasa
B. Kabir
C. Kalidasa
D. Bharavi

Answer: B

Sol: **Correct Answer:** B

Explanation:

- **Kabir** was a famous **poet-saint of the Bhakti movement** known for composing **dohas (couplets)**.
- His dohas emphasized **devotion, humanity, equality, and criticism of ritualism**.
- Written in simple language, his verses appealed to both common people and scholars.

Information Booster:

- Kabir's hymns are included in the **Guru Granth Sahib**.
- His teachings promoted **nirguna bhakti** (devotion to a formless God).
- He belonged to the **15th-century Bhakti tradition** of North India.

Additional Knowledge :

- **A. Bhasa:**
  - Ancient Sanskrit dramatist known for plays like *Svapnavasavadatta*.
- **C. Kalidasa:**
  - Classical Sanskrit poet-dramatist; wrote *Meghaduta*, *Shakuntalam*.
- **D. Bharavi:**
  - Sanskrit poet known for *Kiratarjuniya*.

Q.38 **Consider the following statements:**
1. The Karakoram Range is the northernmost range of the Trans-Himalayas.
2. The Ladakh Range lies to the north-east of the Karakoram.
3. The Zanskar Range lies to the south of the Ladakh Range.
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A. 1 and 3 only
B. 2 and 3 only
C. 1 only
D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: A

Sol: Correct Answer: (A) 1 and 3 only

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct — The Karakoram is indeed the northernmost range of the Trans-Himalayas.

Statement 2: Incorrect — The Ladakh Range lies south (not north-east) of the Karakoram.

Statement 3: Correct — The Zanskar Range lies further south of the Ladakh Range.

→ Thus, the spatial order from north to south is: Karakoram → Ladakh → Zanskar.

→ Therefore, only statements 1 and 3 are correct.

Information Booster:

→ The Trans-Himalayas run parallel to the Greater Himalayas.

→ Karakoram includes peaks like K2.

→ Ladakh plateau lies between Karakoram and Zanskar ranges.

→ Zanskar is famous for the frozen river trek in winter.

→ These ranges formed due to the Indo-Eurasian plate collision.

Q.39 **Which of the following Articles of the Indian Constitution states about the Official Language Commission in India?**

A. Article 344
B. Article 343
C. Article 342
D. Article 341

Answer: A

Sol: **The correct answer is (A) Article 344**

Explanation:

- **Article 344** provides for the appointment of an **Official Language Commission**.
- The Commission recommends the use of Hindi for official purposes of the Union.
- It also advises on restrictions on the use of English after a certain period.
- The first Official Language Commission was set up in **1955** under B. G. Kher.
- The Article aims to guide India's language transition policy.

Information Booster:

- Article 343 – Declares **Hindi in Devanagari script** as the official language.
- Article 345 – State official language provisions.
- Article 351 – Directive for development of Hindi.
- 8th Schedule – Lists **22 languages**.
- Official Languages Act, **1963** governs practical use of Hindi & English.

Additional Knowledge:

- Article 342 – Deals with **Scheduled Tribes**.
- Article 34 – Relates to **restriction on fundamental rights** during martial law.

Q.40 **The resistance of a conductor is directly proportional to:**

A. Area of cross section
B. Electric current
C. Coulomb
D. Length

Answer: D

Sol: The correct answer is **(D) Length**

Explanation:

- The **resistance (R)** of a conductor is **directly proportional to its length (L)** and **inversely proportional to its area of cross-section (A)**.
- This relationship is given by **Ohm's Law** and expressed as:

$$R = \rho \frac{L}{A}$$

where **ρ (rho)** is the **resistivity** of the material.

- Hence, as the **length increases**, the **resistance also increases**.

Information Booster:

- SI unit of resistance: **Ohm (Ω)**
- Good conductors have **low resistivity**, insulators have **high resistivity**.
- Example: Long wires have greater resistance than short wires of the same material and thickness.

Additional Knowledge:

- Electric current – Does not determine resistance; it depends on voltage and material.
- Coulomb – Unit of electric charge.

Q.41 **Bholanath Singh was the leader of which of the following revolts?**

A. Farazi Movement
B. Wahabi Movement
C. Tamar Revolt
D. Santhal Revolt

Answer: C

Sol: **The correct answer is (C) Tamar Revolt**

Explanation:

- **Bholanath Singh** was a major leader of the **Tamar Revolt**, which occurred in the **Chotanagpur region** (present-day Jharkhand).
- The revolt was against **British exploitation and land policies**.
- It involved tribal communities resisting colonial rule.

Information Booster:

- Tamar Revolt → took place in the **early 19th century**.
- Mainly led by **tribals of Munda and other communities**.
- They protested **high land revenue and forced labour**.
- Bholanath Singh organized local resistance movements.
- British suppressed the revolt using military force.

Additional Knowledge:

- Farazi Movement – Led by **Haji Shariatullah** in Bengal (religious-cum agrarian revolt).
- Wahabi Movement – Led by **Syed Ahmed Barelvi**, anti-British Islamic reform movement.
- Santhal Revolt – Led by **Sidhu & Kanhu Murmu** (1855–56).

Q.42 **According to the Charter Act of 1853, how many legislative members were there in the Council of the Governor General?**

A. 14
B. 4
C. 2
D. 12

Answer: D

Sol: The correct answer is (d) 12

Explanation:

The Charter Act of 1853 reorganised the Governor-General's Council by separating its legislative and executive functions.
It created a distinct Legislative Council consisting of **12 members**.
These included the Governor-General, the Commander-in-Chief, four members of the Executive Council, and six new legislative members.
The six legislative members were appointed for legislative work only.
This structure marked the beginning of a more representative law-making process in British India.

Information Booster:

The Act also introduced an open competitive system for Civil Services, giving rise to the ICS (Indian Civil Service).
It was the last Charter Act passed by the British Parliament for the East India Company.

Q.43 **Which of the following states is NOT covered by the Ganga Plain?**

A. Bihar
B. Haryana
C. Punjab
D. West Bengal

Answer: C

Sol: **The correct answer is (C) Punjab**

Explanation:

- The Ganga Plain extends across **Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal**, and parts of **Haryana and Delhi**.
- Punjab lies in the **Indus River system**, not in the Ganga basin.

- Punjab's plains are drained mainly by the **Sutlej, Beas, Ravi**, not by the Ganga.
- Therefore, Punjab is not part of the Ganga Plain.
- Haryana (eastern part) is partially covered by the Ganga–Yamuna doab area.

Information Booster:

- Ganga Plain is a part of the **Northern Plains** of India.
- Formed by alluvial deposits of **Ganga, Yamuna, Ghaghara, Kosi** etc.
- Extremely fertile and agriculturally productive region.
- Divided into **Upper, Middle, and Lower Ganga Plains**.
- Major crops: **rice, wheat, sugarcane, jute**.

Q.44 **Who among the following Mughal rulers introduced the Mansabdari system that became the basis of Mughal military organisation and civil administration?**

A. Aurangzeb
B. Babur
C. Jehangir
D. Akbar

Answer: D

Sol: **The correct answer is (d) Akbar**

Explanation:

- The **Mansabdari system** was introduced by **Emperor Akbar** in the **16th century**.
- It was a **bureaucratic and military ranking system** that classified officials and nobles according to **rank (mansab)** and **number of troops they maintained**.
- This system became the **foundation of Mughal military organisation and civil administration**, ensuring **efficient governance and control over the nobility**.

Information Booster:

- Mansabdars were assigned **zat (personal rank)** and **sawar (cavalry rank)**.
- They were responsible for **maintaining troops** according to their mansab.
- Salaries of mansabdars were partly in **cash and partly in jagirs (land revenue assignments)**.
- The system helped integrate **Rajputs and other nobles** into the Mughal administration.
- It ensured **loyalty, administrative efficiency, and centralized control** in the Mughal Empire.

Q.45 **Which of the following is a non-living component present in phloem?**

A. Phloem parenchyma
B. Phloem fibres
C. Companion cells
D. Sieve tube

Answer: B

Sol: **The correct answer is (B) Phloem fibres**

Explanation:

- **Phloem fibres** (also called bast fibres) are the **only non-living components** of phloem.
- They are made of **sclerenchyma**, which becomes dead at maturity.
- All other phloem elements—sieve tubes, companion cells, and phloem parenchyma—are living.

Information Booster:

- Sieve tubes are living but lack a **nucleus**.
- Companion cells help in **loading and unloading** of sugars.
- Phloem transports **food (sucrose)** from leaves to other plant parts.
- Phloem fibres provide **mechanical strength**.
- Phloem parenchyma stores **starch, resins, latex**.

Additional Knowledge:

- Xylem has both living (xylem parenchyma) and non-living elements.
- Phloem fibres are used commercially as **jute, flax, hemp**.
- Primary phloem forms first; secondary phloem forms later by **vascular cambium**.

Q.46 **What is acid rain caused by?**

A. Increased levels of nitrogen oxides and sulphur in the atmosphere

B. The release of carbon dioxide from burning fossil fuels
C. The combustion of methane
D. High temperatures during the day

Answer: A

Sol: **Correct Answer: (A) Increased levels of nitrogen oxides and sulphur in the atmosphere**

Explanation:

→ Acid rain forms when sulphur dioxide (SO_2) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x) mix with atmospheric moisture.
→ These gases come primarily from vehicles, coal-based power plants, and industrial emissions.
→ **They convert into sulphuric and nitric acids, which fall as acid rain.**
→ Acid rain damages vegetation, aquatic systems, soil quality, and monuments.
→ Therefore, increased sulphur and nitrogen pollutants directly cause acid rain.

Information Booster:

→ **Acid rain is considered harmful when pH falls below 5.**
→ Taj Mahal's marble faces deterioration due to acidic pollutants.
→ Northern India's industrial clusters show higher acid deposition risk.
→ Acid rain weakens buildings, bridges, and metallic structures.
→ Scandinavia and North America recorded severe lake acidification episodes historically.

Additional Information (Other Options):

Option (B) Carbon dioxide release from fossil fuels: CO_2 causes global warming, not acid rain.
Option (C) Combustion of methane: Methane contributes to greenhouse effect, not acidification.
Option (D) High temperatures during the day: Temperature does not cause acid rain.

Q.47 **A ray of light travels in glass at 2×10^8 m/s. What is the refractive index of glass? (Speed of light in air = 3×10^8 m/s)**

A. 1.25
B. 1.33
C. 1.4
D. 1.5

Answer: D

Sol: The correct answer is (d). **Explanation** Refractive index = {Speed in air ÷ Speed in medium} = $3 \times 10^8 \div 2 \times 10^8 = 1.5$.
Additional Information • Option {a} corresponds to speed 2.4×10^8 m/s. • Option {b} matches water, not glass. • Option {c} corresponds to speed 2.14×10^8 m/s.

Q.48 **Which of the following explains why noble gases have extremely low boiling points?**

A. Strong intermolecular forces
B. Presence of covalent bonds
C. Weak van der Waals forces
D. High atomic mass

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is (c). **Explanation** Noble gases exist as single atoms with very weak **interatomic forces**, causing extremely low boiling points.
Additional Information • Option {a} contradicts the actual weak forces present. • Option {b} no bonds exist between atoms since they are monoatomic. • Option {d} higher atomic mass does not reduce boiling point.

Q.49 **The highest poverty ratio of 64.75% is in the _____ district of Bihar.**

A. Kishanganj
B. Madhepura
C. Supaul
D. Araria

Answer: A

Sol: The correct answer is (a) Kishanganj.

• As per **NITI Aayog's Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2023**, Kishanganj has the **highest poverty rate in Bihar – 64.75%**.
• Bihar is India's **poorest state** with 33.7% population below poverty line (MPI Report).
• Other high-poverty districts in Bihar include Araria, Supaul & Madhepura.

• Poverty is calculated on **nutrition, health, education & living standards**.

Information Booster:

• MPI Report released by NITI Aayog – **2023**.
• Bihar poverty: **33.76%**, highest in India.
• National poverty (MPI) fell from **24.85% (2015-16)** → **14.96% (2019-21)**.
• Rural poverty > Urban poverty in Bihar.
• Lowest poverty state: **Kerala (0.71%).**

Additional Knowledge:

• Kishanganj borders West Bengal & Bangladesh.
• Araria is among India's most flood-prone districts.
• Supaul was part of Saharsa district till **1991**.
• MPI uses **10 indicators** across 3 dimensions.
• Economist Amartya Sen developed capability approach behind poverty studies.

Q.50 The _____ in India are generally known as 'Tidal Forests'.

A. desert forests
B. mountain forests
C. dry lands
D. wetlands

Answer: D

Sol: The correct answer is **(D) Wetlands**

Explanation:

● **Tidal forests** in India are also known as **mangrove forests** and are found in **wetland coastal areas** influenced by tides.
● These forests grow in the **delta regions** of rivers where saltwater and freshwater mix.
● The trees here have **stilt roots** or **prop roots** to withstand tidal waves.

Information Booster:

● Major tidal forests in India are found in the Sundarbans (West Bengal), Mahanadi delta (Odisha), and Godavari-Krishna delta (Andhra Pradesh).
● The **Sundari tree** is the most common species, giving the name *Sundarbans*.
● These forests protect coastlines from erosion and cyclones.
● Rich in biodiversity, providing habitat for the **Royal Bengal Tiger**.

Additional Knowledge:

● Desert forests – Found in arid regions like Rajasthan.
● Mountain forests – Found in Himalayan regions at higher altitudes.

Q.51 How many Fundamental Rights are given under the Constitution of India?

A. 7
B. 8
C. 5
D. 6

Answer: D

Sol:

- The Constitution of India originally provided **seven Fundamental Rights** under Part III.
- However, after the **44th Amendment Act of 1978**, the **Right to Property** (Article 31) was removed as a Fundamental Right and was made a legal right under Article 300A. As a result, there are now **six Fundamental Rights**:

1. **Right to Equality (Articles 14-18):** Ensures equality before the law and prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth. It also abolishes untouchability and titles.
2. **Right to Freedom (Articles 19-22):** Includes freedom of speech and expression, assembly, association, movement, residence, and the right to practice any profession.
3. **Right against Exploitation (Articles 23-24):** Prohibits human trafficking, forced labor, and child labor.
4. **Right to Freedom of Religion (Articles 25-28):** Guarantees freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess, practice, and propagate religion.
5. **Cultural and Educational Rights (Articles 29-30):** Protects the rights of minorities to conserve their culture and establish educational institutions.
6. **Right to Constitutional Remedies (Article 32):** Empowers individuals to approach the courts for enforcement of Fundamental Rights through writs.

Additional Information:

- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar called **Article 32**, the Right to Constitutional Remedies, the "heart and soul of the Constitution" as it makes Fundamental Rights enforceable.

- Fundamental Rights are **justiciable**, meaning citizens can approach the judiciary if their rights are violated.
- Fundamental Rights can be restricted under certain circumstances, such as during **national emergencies**.

Q.52 **Which of the following is correctly matched regarding the fruit and seed formation?**

A. Seed - Ripened sepal
B. Seed - Ripened stigma
C. Fruit - Ripened petal
D. Fruit - Ripened ovary

Answer: D

Sol: **The correct answer is (D) Fruit – Ripened ovary**

Explanation:

- In flowering plants, the **ovary ripens to form the fruit** after fertilisation.
- The **ovule inside the ovary develops into the seed**.
- Thus, fruit and seed formation are direct results of fertilisation in angiosperms.

Information Booster:

- Petals, sepals usually wither after fertilisation.
- True fruits develop only from the **ovary**.
- Seeds contain the **embryo** and stored food.
- Fertilisation occurs when pollen fuses with the ovule.
- Fruits help in **seed dispersal**.

Additional Knowledge:

- Ripened sepals form no structures related to seeds.
- Stigma and petals do not form fruits or seeds.

Q.53 **The French East India Company was founded in:**

A. 1602
B. 1616
C. 1664
D. 1698

Answer: C

Sol: Correct Answer: (C) 1664

Explanation:

→ The French East India Company was established in 1664 by Jean-Baptiste Colbert under King Louis XIV.
→ Its purpose was to compete with the English and Dutch trading companies in Asia.
→ The company later established important trading centres in India such as Pondicherry, Chandernagore, Mahe, Karaikal, and Yanam.

Information Booster:

→ The French attempted to build a territorial empire in India under Dupleix.
→ They fought a series of conflicts with the British known as the Carnatic Wars.
→ Ultimately, the British emerged dominant, restricting French power to small enclaves.

Q.54 **What is the name of the genome-edited rice variety developed to improve yield and productivity in May 2025?**

A. Malaviya Manila Sinchit Dhan-1 and Pusa Basmati 1121
B. IR64 and Swarna Sub1
C. Samba Mahsuri and MTU 1010
D. DRR Dhan 100 (Kamala) and Pusa DST Rice 1

Answer: D

Sol: **The correct answer is:** (d) DRR Dhan 100 (Kamala) and Pusa DST Rice 1

Explanation:

- In May 2025, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) released India's first genome-edited rice varieties named **DRR Dhan 100 (Kamala)** and **Pusa DST Rice 1**.
- These varieties were developed using CRISPR-Cas based genome-editing technology — not by introducing foreign DNA, but by precise editing — to improve yield, stress (drought/salinity) tolerance, and resource-use efficiency.

Information Booster:

- DRR Dhan 100 (Kamala) focuses on high yield and improved grain quality.
- Pusa DST Rice 1 targets both yield enhancement and climate resilience.
- Genome-edited crops help in faster varietal development compared to conventional breeding.
- These varieties strengthen India's goal of sustainable and high-productivity agriculture.
- Part of India's ongoing research to reduce dependence on chemical inputs and enhance food security.

Q.55 **Which river in Jammu and Kashmir has the world's highest railway bridge built over it?**

A. Jhelum
B. Chenab
C. Ravi
D. Beas

Answer: B

Sol: **The correct answer is:** (b) **Chenab**

Explanation:

- The **Chenab River** in Jammu and Kashmir has the **world's highest railway bridge**, part of the **Udhampur–Srinagar–Baramulla rail link**.
- The bridge is **359 meters high** above the river bed and is an engineering marvel of India.
- It significantly improves **rail connectivity in the Kashmir Valley**.

Information Booster:

- Constructed by **IRCON International Ltd.**
- Part of the **Indian Railways project connecting Kashmir with the rest of India**.
- The bridge is made of **steel and concrete** and can withstand **earthquakes and strong winds**.
- It reduces travel time and enhances **regional connectivity and strategic mobility**.
- Opened for trial runs as part of **Bharatmala and railway expansion projects**.

Q.56 **Who along with Motilal Nehru formed the Swaraj Party within the Congress to argue for a return to council politics?**

A. CR Das
B. Jawaharlal Nehru
C. BR Ambedkar
D. Subhas Chandra Bose

Answer: A

Sol: **Ans. (a) CR Das**

Sol.Chittaranjan Das (CR Das), along with **Motilal Nehru**, founded the **Swaraj Party** in **1923** within the **Indian National Congress**. The party was formed to **contest elections to the legislative councils** established under the **Government of India Act, 1919** and to oppose British policies from within. CR Das was the **President**, and Motilal Nehru was the **Secretary** of the party. Their aim was to use constitutional means to **voice nationalist demands**, unlike the **Non-Cooperation Movement**, which advocated complete boycott.

Information Booster:

- The **Swaraj Party** was also called the **Congress-Khilafat Swaraj Party**.
- It was formed after the **suspension of the Non-Cooperation Movement (1922)** following the **Chauri Chaura incident**.
- **CR Das** was a respected nationalist leader and a strong advocate of **self-governance (Swaraj)**.
- The Swarajists aimed to **expose the flaws of British rule by obstructing council policies** rather than simply boycotting them.
- The party had **significant success in the 1923 elections**, winning many seats in **Central Legislative Assembly and provincial councils**.
- **CR Das became the Mayor of Calcutta (Kolkata) in 1924**, promoting nationalist policies at the municipal level.
- After **CR Das's death in 1925**, the party weakened, and its members rejoined the **Congress mainstream**.

Additional Information:

- **Jawaharlal Nehru (b) –** He was an important Congress leader but did not play a key role in forming the **Swaraj Party**. He was more inclined toward **mass movements and complete independence** rather than council politics.

- **BR Ambedkar (c) –** He was a leader of **Dalit rights and constitutional reforms**. He was not associated with the **Swaraj Party** but later formed the **Independent Labour Party (1936)** and played a crucial role in drafting the **Indian Constitution**.
- **Subhas Chandra Bose (d) –** A prominent Congress leader who later formed the **Forward Bloc (1939)**. He was not involved in the **Swaraj Party** but was a strong advocate of **complete independence (Purna Swaraj)**.

Q.57 **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar served as the Chairman of which landmark committee from 1946 to 1949?**

A. Finance Commission
B. National Planning Committee
C. Constituent Assembly's Drafting Committee
D. Law Commission of India

Answer: C

Sol:

The correct answer is **(c) Constituent Assembly's Drafting Committee**
Explanation:
· Dr. Ambedkar chaired the **Drafting Committee (1946–49)**, guiding the formation of India's Constitution.
· His contributions ensured principles of equality, justice, and liberty were embedded in the constitutional framework.
Information Booster:
· Dr. Ambedkar was awarded the **Bharat Ratna in 1990** for his monumental service to the nation.
· He also served as India's first **Law Minister**.

Q.58 **Which of the following is NOT a Fundamental Duty as per the Constitution of India?**

A. Duty to respect the National Flag of India
B. Duty to pay taxes
C. Duty to respect the National Anthem of India
D. Duty to protect the sovereignty and integrity of the country

Answer: B

Sol: The correct answer is (b) Duty to pay taxes.
• Paying taxes is a **legal obligation**, not listed among the 11 Fundamental Duties under Article 51A.
• Duties like respecting the National Flag, National Anthem, and protecting sovereignty are explicitly included in Article 51A.
Information Booster:
• Fundamental Duties were added by the **42nd Constitutional Amendment (1976)**.
• One more duty was added by the **86th Amendment (2002)**.
• These duties apply to **all citizens** of India.
• They are **non-justiciable** (not enforceable by courts).
• Inspired by the **USSR Constitution**.
Additional Knowledge:
• Legal duties like paying taxes come under statutory laws (e.g., IT Act).
• Respecting the flag & anthem is mandated by Flag Code and Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act.
• Protecting sovereignty is a core constitutional obligation for every citizen.

Q.59 **Which one of the following rivers has the largest riverine island in India?**

A. Brahmaputra – Majuli
B. Ganga – Srirangapatna
C. Godavari – Sriharikota
D. Narmada – Aliabet

Answer: A

Sol: **Correct Answer: (A) Brahmaputra – Majuli**
Explanation:
→ Majuli, located on the Brahmaputra River in Assam, is the largest inhabited riverine island in India.
→ It was once the largest in the world before recent erosion reduced its area.
→ Majuli is known for its cultural heritage, especially the Vaishnavite Satras established by Sankardeva.
→ Its formation is due to the Brahmaputra's dynamic flow and deposition processes.
→ The Government of India declared Majuli a district in 2016, highlighting its significance.
Information Booster:
→ Majuli faces rapid erosion due to frequent floods.

→ The island supports rich biodiversity including migratory birds.
→ It is formed by the Brahmaputra to the north and Subansiri to the west.
→ Majuli's soil is primarily alluvial, contributing to frequent land changes.
→ Efforts are underway to protect the island from shrinking further.

Additional Information (Other Options):

Option (B) Ganga–Srirangapatna: Located on the Kaveri River, not the Ganga.
Option (C) Godavari–Sriharikota: Sriharikota is a barrier island on the Bay of Bengal, not riverine.
Option (D) Narmada–Aliabet: A river island but much smaller than Majuli.

Q.60 **The Battle of Kalinga was fought in which year after which Ashoka embraced Buddhism?**

A. 240 BCE
B. 261 BCE
C. 273 BCE
D. 250 BCE

Answer: B

Sol: **Correct Answer:** B

Explanation:

- The **Battle of Kalinga was fought in 261 BCE**, during the 8th year of Ashoka's reign.
- The enormous bloodshed and suffering caused by the war led Ashoka to embrace **Buddhism** soon after.
- This marks a major turning point in Mauryan history, shifting from expansion to **Dhamma-based governance**.

Information Booster:

- Kalinga was a wealthy and strategically important region located in **present-day Odisha**.
- After the war, Ashoka issued **Major Rock Edict XIII**, expressing remorse and outlining his commitment to **non-violence, compassion, and welfare**.
- The war's devastating impact is recorded:
  - **1,00,000 killed**,
  - **1,50,000 deported**,
  - and "many times that number perished."

Q.61 **Which of the following classical dance forms' music belongs to the Carnatic system?**

A. Kathak
B. Kuchipudi
C. Odissi
D. Chhau

Answer: B

Sol: **Correct Answer:** B

Explanation:

- Kuchipudi is a classical dance form from **Andhra Pradesh**.
- Its music is based on the **Carnatic system**, which is the classical music tradition of South India.
- Kuchipudi uses **Carnatic ragas, talas, and compositions**, similar to Bharatanatyam.

Information Booster:

- **Carnatic music** is prominent in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Kerala.
- It is known for **kriti compositions**, **alapana**, and **complex rhythmic patterns**.
- Classical dances of South India (Bharatanatyam, Kuchipudi, Mohiniyattam, Kathakali) generally follow the Carnatic style.

Additional Knowledge:

- **Option A – Kathak:**
  - Belongs to North India.
  - Follows **Hindustani music**, not Carnatic.
- **Option C – Odissi:**

- From Odisha.
- Music based on **Odissi (Udra) tradition**, influenced by Hindustani.

- **Option D – Chhau:**
  - A semi-classical martial dance from Odisha, West Bengal, Jharkhand.
  - Music is tribal/folk-based, not Carnatic.

Q.62 Meiosis consists of _____ successive cell division(s).

A. two
B. one
C. three
D. four

Answer: A

Sol: **The correct answer is (A) two**

Explanation:

- Meiosis consists of **two successive cell divisions** — Meiosis I and Meiosis II.
- Meiosis I is the **reductional division**, reducing chromosome number to half.
- Meiosis II is the **equational division**, separating sister chromatids like mitosis.

Information Booster:

- Meiosis produces **four haploid daughter cells**.
- Occurs in **germ cells** during gamete formation.
- Introduces **genetic variation** through crossing over.
- Meiosis I includes stages like **prophase I, metaphase I, anaphase I, telophase I**.
- Meiosis helps maintain **chromosome number** across generations.

Additional Knowledge:

- Mitosis involves **only one division**, producing two identical cells.
- Meiosis occurs only in **sexually reproducing organisms**.
- Crossing over occurs in **pachytene stage of prophase I**.

Q.63 — is the headquarters of the North Eastern Railways of India.

A. Allahabad
B. Gorakhpur
C. Chennai
D. Mumbai CST

Answer: B

Sol: The correct answer is (b) Gorakhpur.

- The headquarters of **North Eastern Railway (NER)** is located in **Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh**.
- Gorakhpur Railway Station has the **longest railway platform in the world (1,366.33 m)**.
- North Eastern Railway was **formed on 14 April 1952**.
- It consists of **Lucknow, Varanasi & Izzatnagar divisions**.

Information Booster:

- Indian Railways founded – **16 April 1853** (Mumbai–Thane).
- Railway Board established – **1905**.
- Railway Budget merged with Union Budget – **2017**.
- **Railway Minister (2025)** – Ashwini Vaishnaw.
- Headquarters of Eastern Railway – **Kolkata**.

Additional Knowledge:

- Allahabad (Prayagraj) – HQ of *North Central Railway (NCR)*.
- Chennai – HQ of *Southern Railway (SR)*.
- Mumbai CST – HQ of *Central Railway (CR)*; renamed **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus** in 2017.
- Gorakhpur is also famous for **Gita Press (est. 1923)**.

Q.64 Which one of the following passes lies in the valley of the Chandra river?

A. Rohtang Pass
B. Shipki La
C. Baralacha La
D. Nathu La

Answer: C

Sol: Correct Answer: (C) Baralacha La

Explanation:

→ Baralacha La is a high-altitude Himalayan pass linking Lahaul (Himachal Pradesh) with Ladakh.

→ The Chandra river originates near this pass, placing Baralacha La within its upper valley region.

→ The pass lies at the junction of the Pir Panjal, Great Himalaya, and Zanskar ranges.

→ Its terrain is glaciated, and remains snowbound for most of the year.

→ Due to its geographical alignment, it is the only correct match to the Chandra river valley.

Information Booster:

→ Baralacha La has an altitude of ~4,890 m.

→ Chandra and Bhaga rivers meet to form the Chenab.

→ The Leh–Manali route crosses this pass.

→ It once served as a trade route for Himalayan communities.

→ Trekking in this region is popular during the short snow-free window.

Additional Information (Other Options):

Option (A) Rohtang Pass: Connects Kullu–Lahaul; unrelated to Chandra valley.

Option (B) Shipki La: Lies on the India–Tibet border.

Option (D) Nathu La: Located in Sikkim; not geographically connected.

Q.65 **Sunil Narine achieved his 600th T20 wicket while playing for which franchise?**

A. Kolkata Knight Riders
B. Trinbago Knight Riders
C. Abu Dhabi Knight Riders
D. Los Angeles Knight Riders

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is (c) Abu Dhabi Knight Riders.

• The milestone occurred during a World ILT20 2025 match where Narine represented Abu Dhabi Knight Riders.

• He dismissed Tom Abell of Sharjah Warriorz for the landmark wicket.

• A special jersey marked the celebration of his 600 wickets.

Information Booster:

• Date of achievement: 4 December 2025.

• Narine became the first bowler ever to reach 600 wickets in T20 history.

• The wicket came in a match between Abu Dhabi Knight Riders and Sharjah Warriorz.

• Narine has been active in T20 cricket for over 15 years.

Q.66 **The dry deciduous forest, Gir is in_____.**

A. Goa
B. Gujarat
C. Maharashtra
D. Chhattisgarh

Answer: B

Sol: The correct answer is **(B) Gujarat**

Explanation:

● **Gir Forest** is a dry deciduous forest located in **Gujarat**.

● It is the only natural habitat of the **Asiatic Lion**.

● The forest is dominated by dry teak-type vegetation.

Information Booster:

● Situated in the **Saurashtra region**.

● Includes **Gir National Park & Wildlife Sanctuary**.

● Declared a wildlife sanctuary in **1965**.

● Home to lions, leopards, deer and antelopes.

● Climate is **dry and semi-arid**, supporting deciduous forests.

Additional Knowledge:

● **Maharashtra** – Has deciduous forests but not Gir.

● **Chhattisgarh** – Known for sal forests, not Gir.

Q.67 **Which Directive Principles of State Policy Article focuses on the organisation of village panchayats?**

A. Article 36
B. Article 43
C. Article 40
D. Article 45

Answer: C

Sol: **Correct Answer: (c) Article 40**

Explanation:

- **Article 40** of the Directive Principles of State Policy directs the State to **organise village panchayats**.
- It aims to establish **self-governing units** at the village level.
- Promotes **decentralised democracy** and empowers local participation in governance.

Information Booster:

- Article 40 is inspired by **Gandhian principles** of grassroots democracy.
- It laid the foundation for the **73rd Constitutional Amendment (1992)** that gave *constitutional status* to Panchayati Raj institutions.
- Panchayats function as **institutions of local self-government** with regular elections every 5 years.
- The amendment introduced a **three-tier structure**:
  - Gram Panchayat
  - Panchayat Samiti
  - Zila Parishad

Additional Knowledge:

- **Article 36–51**: Range of Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP).
- **Article 43**: Promotion of cottage industries (Gandhian principle).
- **Article 45**: Early childhood care and education.
- **DPSP**: Non-justiciable but fundamental to the governance of the country.

Q.68 Who is 'Sahityakar' of Bihar ?

A. Ramdhari Singh 'Dinkar'
B. Gopal Singh 'Nepali'
C. Pandit Ram Avtar Sharma
D. All of above

Answer: A

Sol: **Correct Option: (A) Ramdhari Singh 'Dinkar'**

Explanation:

- **Ramdhari Singh 'Dinkar'** is popularly known as the **'Sahityakar of Bihar'**, meaning the **literary figure of Bihar**.
- He was a **celebrated Hindi poet**, **essayist**, and **freedom fighter**, often referred to as **"Rashtrakavi" (National Poet)** of India.
- His literary works are known for their **nationalistic spirit, heroic tone**, and **social consciousness**.

Information Booster:

- Dinkar's famous works include:
  1. **"Rashmirathi"** – based on **Karna** from the Mahabharata.
  2. **"Parshuram ki Pratiksha"**
  3. **"Kurukshetra"** – a poetic reflection on war and peace.
- He received several honors:
  - **Padma Bhushan** in 1959.
  - **Sahitya Akademi Award**.

- **Jnanpith Award (posthumously)** for his contributions to Hindi literature.

Q.69 **Which of the following is the correct sequence of Himalayan ranges from south to north?**

A. Himadri – Himachal – Shiwalik
B. Himachal – Himadri – Shiwalik
C. Shiwalik – Himachal – Himadri
D. Shiwalik – Himadri – Himachal

Answer: C

Sol: **Correct Answer: (C) Shiwalik – Himachal – Himadri**
Explanation:
→ The southernmost range is the Shiwalik, formed by unconsolidated sediments.
→ North of Shiwalik lies the Himachal (Lesser Himalayas) with major hill stations.
→ The northernmost range is the Himadri (Greater Himalayas), containing the highest peaks including Mount Everest.
→ This south–north arrangement reflects the geological uplift sequence.
→ Each range differs in height, rock composition, and settlement patterns.
Information Booster:
→ **Shiwalik:** Youngest range, height 600–1500 m, made of alluvial deposits.
→ **Himachal:** Includes Pir Panjal, Dhauladhar; home to Shimla, Mussoorie.
→ **Himadri:** Oldest and highest (above 6000 m), composed of granite.
→ Himadri contains major glaciers like Gangotri and Yamunotri.
→ The arrangement is important for climatic and river-system formation.

Q.70 **Yeast is commonly added in certain processes because it helps in producing which of the following substances?**

A. Curd
B. Sugar
C. Common salt
D. Alcohol

Answer: D

Sol: **The correct answer is (d) Alcohol.**
Explanation Yeast is a microorganism that performs fermentation, a process where it breaks down sugars in the absence of oxygen to form alcohol and carbon dioxide. This is why yeast is widely used in brewing industries for alcohol production and also in baking, where the carbon dioxide helps dough rise. Its unique ability to carry out anaerobic respiration makes it essential in producing alcoholic beverages.
Additional Information • **Option {a}** is incorrect because curd is prepared by *Lactobacillus* bacteria, not yeast. • **Option {b}** is incorrect since yeast does not create sugar; instead, it feeds on sugar. • **Option {c}** is incorrect because salt is obtained by evaporation or mining, with no role of yeast.

Q.71 **Which disease is caused by the accumulation of lipids in brain cells due to the deficiency or inactivation of lipid digesting enzymes?**

A. Alzheimer's disease
B. Huntington's disease
C. Parkinson's disease
D. Tay-Sachs disease

Answer: D

Sol: The correct answer is: **(D) Tay-Sachs disease**
Explanation:
● Tay-Sachs disease occurs due to the **deficiency of the enzyme Hexosaminidase-A**, which leads to the **accumulation of lipids (GM2 gangliosides)** inside brain nerve cells.
● This buildup causes progressive damage to the nervous system.
● It is a fatal **genetic disorder** usually seen in infants.
Information Booster:
● Caused by mutation in the **HEXA gene**.
● Inherited as an **autosomal recessive disorder**.
● Symptoms: paralysis, seizures, vision & hearing loss.
● No cure; supportive care only.
● Lipid buildup causes swelling and death of neurons.
Additional Knowledge:

- **Option A – Alzheimer's disease:** Caused by amyloid plaques & tau tangles.
- **Option B – Huntington's disease:** Caused by mutation in HTT gene (CAG repeats).
- **Option C – Parkinson's disease:** Caused by dopamine deficiency due to degeneration of substantia nigra.

Q.72 **Which two ministries jointly launched the paperless passport verification process through DigiLocker?**

A. MEITY and MHA
B. MEA and MHA
C. MEITY and MEA
D. MEA and UIDAI

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is (c) MEITY and MEA.
- The initiative is a joint effort of the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MEITY) and the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).
- It enables citizens to access their Passport Verification Records (PVRs) directly through DigiLocker.
- The integration supports paperless, contactless, and secure verification.

Information Booster:
- PVRs are now stored under the **Issued Documents** section in DigiLocker.
- Enables digital sharing with authorized agencies for background checks and processing.
- Supports Digital India by enhancing efficiency and reducing physical paperwork.
- Ensures authenticity through DigiLocker's secure digital verification system.
- Part of broader efforts to integrate more Official Verification Documents (OVDs) into DigiLocker.

Q.73 **The Chhath Puja of Bihar is dedicated to which deity?**

A. Chandra Dev
B. Indra Dev
C. Surya Dev
D. Vishnu Dev

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is (c) Surya Dev.
- **Chhath Puja** is an ancient Hindu festival mainly celebrated in **Bihar, Jharkhand, and eastern Uttar Pradesh**, dedicated to **Surya Dev (Sun God)** and his consort **Chhathi Maiya (Usha)**.
- Devotees offer *Arghya* to the setting and rising sun, expressing gratitude for sustaining life on Earth.
- The festival symbolizes purity, discipline, and devotion, lasting for four days with strict rituals and fasting.

Information Booster:
- Main Deity – Surya Dev (Sun God)
- Celebrated in – Bihar, Jharkhand, Eastern UP, and Nepal's Terai region
- Duration – 4 days (from Kartik Shukla Chaturthi to Saptami)
- Major Rituals – Nahay Khay, Lohanda & Kharna, Sandhya Arghya, Usha Arghya
- Aim – Thanking the Sun God for energy, prosperity, and well-being

Additional Knowledge:
- Offerings include *Thekua*, fruits, and sugarcane.
- Devotees stand in river water to offer prayers during sunrise and sunset.
- It is one of the few Hindu festivals where both rising and setting sun are worshipped.

Q.74 **Which Constitutional Amendment Act is known as the 'Right to Education' Amendment?**

A. 44th Amendment
B. 86th Amendment
C. 101st Amendment
D. 61st Amendment

Answer: B

Sol: **The correct answer is: (b) 86th Amendment**

Explanation:
- The **86th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2002** made **Right to Education** a Fundamental Right.
- It inserted **Article 21-A**, making free and compulsory education for children **6–14 years** a legal right.
- It also modified **Article 45** and added **Article 51A(k)** (parental duty).

Information Booster:
• Article 21A was enforced on **1 April 2010** along with the RTE Act, 2009.
• India became one of the few countries with education as a Fundamental Right.
• RTE provides norms on pupil–teacher ratio and compulsory admission.
• It prohibits capitation fees and mental/physical punishment.

Additional Knowledge:
• **44th Amendment** – Removed Right to Property from Fundamental Rights.
• **101st Amendment** – Introduced GST in India.
• **61st Amendment** – Lowered voting age from **21 to 18 years**.

Q.75 **Which one of the following is the oldest landform region of India?**

A. Peninsular Plateau
B. Indo-Gangetic Plain
C. Thar Desert
D. Himalayas

Answer: A

Sol: **Correct Answer: (A) Peninsular Plateau**
Explanation:
→ **The Peninsular Plateau is formed of ancient Archaean rocks, making it the oldest landmass in India.**
→ It predates the Himalayas and Indo-Gangetic plains by millions of years.
→ Its stability is due to minimal tectonic movement compared to northern India.
→ Features include the Deccan Plateau, Western Ghats, Eastern Ghats, and Central Highlands.
→ This region has undergone repeated cycles of erosion, shaping its present form.
Information Booster:
→ Some rocks here are over 3 billion years old.
→ Plateau rivers like Godavari and Krishna flow eastwards due to slope.
→ The region is rich in minerals like iron, manganese, and coal.
→ The Deccan Traps were formed due to massive volcanic eruptions.
→ Vindhyan and Satpura ranges form major structural divisions here.
Additional Information (Other Options):
Option (B) Indo-Gangetic Plain: Formed recently by alluvial deposits.
Option (C) Thar Desert: A relatively young desert formation.
Option (D) Himalayas: Among the youngest mountains globally.

Q.76 **Which European power introduced the printing press in India?**

A. Dutch
B. Portuguese
C. French
D. Danes

Answer: B

Sol: **Correct Answer: (B) Portuguese**
Explanation:
→ The Portuguese, the first Europeans to arrive in India by sea, introduced the printing press in Goa in 1556.
→ This was used initially for printing religious texts and helped spread Christianity.
→ The printing press later became important for Indian languages and educational works.
Information Booster:
→ Portuguese arrived in India in 1498 under Vasco da Gama.
→ They established trading centres at Goa, Daman, Diu, and Hooghly.
→ Goa became the earliest centre of European-language printing in Asia.
Additional Information (Other Options):
Option (A) Dutch: They focused mainly on trade, not early printing.
Option (C) French: Printing came much later under French influence.
Option (D) Danes: They introduced missionary schools but not the first printing press.

Q.77 **Which river system is known for forming gorges in the Himalayan region?**

A. Godavari
B. Tapti
C. Brahmaputra
D. Penner

Answer: C

Sol: **The correct answer is (C) Brahmaputra**

Explanation:

- The **Brahmaputra River** carves out deep gorges while flowing through the **Himalayan region**, especially in Tibet (Tsangpo Gorge) and Arunachal Pradesh.
- It cuts through young fold mountains due to its enormous volume and erosive power.
- Its antecedent nature allows it to maintain its course despite mountain uplift.
- The river forms one of the **deepest gorges in the world**.
- Hence, Brahmaputra is the correct river system known for gorge formation.

Information Booster:

- Yarlung Tsangpo Gorge (Tibet) is the **deepest gorge globally**.
- Rivers like Indus and Satluj also form Himalayan gorges.
- Gorges are steep-sided valleys formed by **vertical river erosion**.
- Brahmaputra enters India through the **Dihang Gorge**.
- Young Himalayan topography aids rapid down-cutting.

Additional Knowledge:

- Godavari – Peninsular river.
- Tapti – Flows through rift valleys in central India.

Q.78 **When a ray of light enters a denser medium from a rarer medium, which of the following changes MUST occur?**

A. Frequency decreases
B. Wavelength increases
C. Speed decreases
D. Amplitude increases

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is (c). **Explanation** In denser media, light interacts more with particles, causing a **reduction in speed** while the frequency remains constant.

Additional Information • Option {a} frequency remains unchanged. • Option {b} wavelength decreases, not increases, when speed decreases. • Option {d} amplitude is independent of medium density in this context.

Q.79 **The 'Blue Water Policy' was associated with:**

A. British
B. Portuguese
C. French
D. Dutch

Answer: B

Sol: **Correct Answer: (B) Portuguese**

Explanation:

→ **The 'Blue Water Policy' (Cartaz system) was introduced by Francisco de Almeida, the first Portuguese Viceroy in India.**
→ Its aim was to establish Portuguese supremacy in the Indian Ocean by controlling sea routes rather than expanding territorial power.
→ The policy focused on building a strong naval force to dominate sea trade.
→ The Portuguese issued cartaz (naval passes) to Asian traders and controlled maritime commerce.
→ It marked the beginning of European naval dominance in Indian waters.

Information Booster:

→ **Implemented around 1505–1509 during Almeida's tenure.**
→ Emphasised the importance of a powerful blue-water navy (deep-sea navy).
→ Intended to defeat Arab merchants and the Zamorins of Calicut.
→ Set the foundation for Portuguese monopoly over the spice trade.
→ Later replaced by Albuquerque's more territorial and aggressive expansion strategy.

Additional Information (Other Options):

Option (A) British: Focused more on land-based expansion, not blue-water naval domination.
Option (C) French: Known for Dupleix's territorial ambitions, not naval policies.
Option (D) Dutch: Used commercial strategies (VOC monopoly), not the Blue Water Policy.

Q.80 **Which of the following types of pressures is required for the transportation of food from phloem to tissues?**

A. Low pressure
B. Osmotic pressure
C. Partial pressure
D. No pressure

Answer: B

Sol: **The correct answer is (B) Osmotic pressure**

Explanation:

- The movement of food (mainly sucrose) through phloem occurs by **osmotic pressure**, which creates a pressure flow.
- High sugar concentration at the source increases osmotic pressure, drawing water in and generating **pressure for translocation**.
- This pressure drives food from **phloem to tissues** where it is needed.

Information Booster:

- Phloem transport follows the **Pressure Flow (Mass Flow) Hypothesis**.
- Sugar is loaded into phloem at **source**, unloaded at **sink**.
- High osmotic pressure develops at the source, low at the sink.
- Water enters phloem from **xylem** due to osmosis.
- Companion cells help in loading and unloading of sugars.

Additional Knowledge:

- Xylem transport uses **transpiration pull**, not osmotic pressure.
- Phloem transport is **bidirectional**, unlike xylem.

Q.81 **Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports is located in _____.**

A. Jhansi
B. Patiala
C. Imphal
D. Guwahati

Answer: B

Sol: **Correct Answer: (B) Patiala**

Explanation:

- The **Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports (NSNIS)**, also known as **NIS Patiala**, is located in **Patiala, Punjab**.
- It is Asia's largest sports institute and functions under the **Sports Authority of India (SAI)**.
- The institute offers:
  - Coaching programs
  - Sports science education
  - High-performance training
  - Facilities for national and international athletes

Information Booster:

- NSNIS was established in **1961**.
- It is located inside the historic **Moti Bagh Palace** in Patiala.
- It plays a major role in training Indian athletes for events like the Olympics, Commonwealth Games, and Asian Games.

Q.82 **Which foreign university has been approved under India's NEP framework to open its first campus in Gurugram by 2026?**

A. University of Melbourne
B. Victoria University
C. Australian National University
D. Monash University

Answer: B

Sol: The correct answer is (b) Victoria University.

- Victoria University (VU) from Australia is establishing its first Indian campus in Gurugram.
- It is among the first foreign universities licensed under India's NEP reforms.
- The campus will begin operations by mid-2026.

Information Booster:

• Programs offered: Business Administration, IT, Research & Innovation.
• Campus model inspired by VU's **City Tower Campus in Melbourne**.
• NEP 2020 allows top global universities to set up campuses in India.
• VU will bring its **Block Model** of teaching — one subject at a time for four-week blocks.
• Foundation stone laid in a ceremony attended by Indian and Australian dignitaries.

Q.83 **Why is the frequency of irrigation higher in the summer season?**

A. Due to the increased rate of evaporation
B. Because of less rainfall
C. Because crops need more nutrients
D. To protect crops from frost

Answer: A

Sol: **Correct Answer: (A) Due to the increased rate of evaporation**

Explanation:

→ High temperatures in summer cause rapid evaporation from soil and plant surfaces.
→ As moisture is lost quickly, the soil dries faster, demanding more frequent irrigation.
→ Crops transpire more in heat, requiring more water to maintain growth.
→ Adequate irrigation prevents wilting and yield loss.
→ This is especially important for water-sensitive crops like vegetables, paddy seedlings, etc.

Information Booster:

→ Evapotranspiration rates are highest in summer.
→ Sandy soils need even more frequent irrigation due to low water retention.
→ Drip irrigation is preferred in summer for water efficiency.
→ Summer crops like cotton and maize require consistent moisture.
→ Farmers usually irrigate early morning or late evening to reduce evaporation.

Additional Information (Other Options):

Option (B) Less rainfall: True but not the primary reason for higher frequency.
Option (C) More nutrients: Irrigation frequency is not linked to nutrient demand.
Option (D) Frost protection: Frost occurs in winter, not summer.

Q.84 **On 15 April 2025, in which city of India STREE Summit 2025 on Women's Safety and Empowerment was held?**

A. Patna
B. New Delhi
C. Ahmedabad
D. Hyderabad

Answer: D

Sol: **The correct answer is (D) Hyderabad**

Explanation:

● STREE Summit 2025 on women's safety and empowerment was held on **15 April 2025 in Hyderabad**.
● The summit focused on women's security, empowerment, and gender equality.
● It was organized by the **Hyderabad City Security Council (HCSC)**.

Information Booster:

● STREE stands for **Safety, Training, Respect, Empowerment & Equality**.
● Theme of STREE Summit 2025: **"Accelerate Action for Women Empowerment."**
● Venue: **Taj Deccan, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad**.
● It included workshops, discussions, and awareness sessions.
● Officials, NGOs, police, and experts participated.

Q.85 **In which landmark case did the Supreme Court of India rule that the Council of Ministers DOES NOT cease to hold office even after the dissolution of the Lok Sabha?**

A. Golaknath vs. State of Punjab, 1967
B. Kesavananda Bharati vs. State of Kerala, 1973
C. UNR Rao vs. Indira Gandhi, 1971
D. SR Bommai vs. Union of India, 1994

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is (C) UNR Rao vs. Indira Gandhi, 1971

Explanation:

- In **UNR Rao vs. Indira Gandhi (1971)**, the Supreme Court ruled that the **Council of Ministers does NOT cease to hold office even after dissolution of the Lok Sabha**.
- The Court stated that the Council continues to function and advise the President until a new Lok Sabha is formed.
- This upholds the principle of **continuity of the executive** in a parliamentary system.

Information Booster:

- Dissolution affects only the **Lok Sabha**, not the executive.
- Council of Ministers remains in office to avoid a constitutional vacuum.
- The Prime Minister continues even after dissolution.
- The Council acts as a **caretaker government** until the new House is constituted.
- Article 75 deals with the appointment and tenure of ministers.

Additional Knowledge:

- Golaknath (1967) – Related to Parliament's power to amend Fundamental Rights.
- Kesavananda Bharati (1973) – Gave the **Basic Structure Doctrine**.
- SR Bommai (1994) – Related to **President's Rule** and misuse of Article 356.

Q.86 **Which among the following is the longest bridge in India constructed over a bay?**

A. Netaji Bridge

B. Bhupen hazarika sety

C. Pamban bridge

D. Worli – Mumbai Sea link

Answer: C

Sol: **The correct answer is (c) Pamban Bridge**

Explanation:

- The Pamban Bridge is the longest bridge in India constructed over a bay.
- It connects the mainland of Tamil Nadu to Rameswaram Island over the Palk Strait in the Bay of Bengal.
- It is a cantilever bridge with a double-leaf bascule section, which allows ships and boats to pass through.

Information Booster:

- **The Pamban Bridge was India's first railway bridge over the sea, constructed by the British and opened in 1914.**
- The total length of the bridge is 2.34 km (2,065 meters), making it the longest bay-crossing bridge in India.
- It was India's longest sea bridge until the Bandra-Worli Sea Link was constructed in Mumbai.

Q.87 **The President's power to seek the Supreme Court's opinion on questions of law comes under _____.**

A. Article 226

B. Article 143

C. Article 131

D. Article 136

Answer: B

Sol: **Correct Answer: (B) Article 143**

Explanation:

- **Article 143** of the Indian Constitution empowers the **President of India** to **seek the advisory opinion of the Supreme Court** on:
  - Any **question of law**, or
  - Any **matter of public importance**.
- The Supreme Court may choose to give or refuse the opinion, but when given, it has high persuasive value.

Information Booster:

- This is known as the **Advisory Jurisdiction** of the Supreme Court.
- Presidents commonly use Article 143 for constitutional matters (e.g., **Ayodhya land dispute, 1960 Berubari case**).

- The opinion is **not binding**, but usually respected.

Additional Knowledge:

- **Article 226:**
  - Gives High Courts the power to issue **writs** for enforcement of rights.
- **Article 131:**
  - Deals with **original jurisdiction** of the Supreme Court in disputes between the Union and States.
- **Article 136:**
  - Provides the Supreme Court power to grant **special leave to appeal**.

Q.88 **Hair is primarily made up of which of the following proteins?**

A. Dystrophin
B. Tubulin
C. Keratin
D. Myosin

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is (c) Keratin.
• Keratin is the main structural protein found in human hair.
• It provides strength, elasticity, and protection to hair strands.
Information Booster:
• Keratin is also found in nails, skin, horns, feathers, and hooves.
• Hair is composed of ~95% keratin.
• Hair grows from follicles present in the dermis layer of skin.
• Keratin is rich in the amino acid cysteine, which forms disulfide bonds.
• Heat styling damages keratin bonds, weakening hair.
Additional Knowledge:
• **Dystrophin** – A muscle protein absent in Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.
• **Tubulin** – A protein forming microtubules involved in cell division.
• **Myosin** – A motor protein responsible for muscle contraction.

Q.89 **What major tax reform was introduced by the 101st Amendment Act, 2016?**

A. Goods and Services Tax (GST)
B. Income Tax
C. Wealth Tax
D. Excise Duty

Answer: A

Sol: **The correct answer is (A) Goods and Services Tax (GST)**
Explanation:
● The **101st Constitutional Amendment Act, 2016** introduced **GST (Goods and Services Tax)** in India.
● GST subsumed multiple indirect taxes like VAT, excise, and service tax.
● It aims to create **"One Nation, One Tax, One Market."**
Information Booster:
● GST was implemented on **1 July 2017**.
● GST Council is established under **Article 279A**.
● Chairman of GST Council → **Union Finance Minister**.
● Types of GST: **CGST, SGST, IGST, UTGST**.
● **Slogan:** Good & Simple Tax.
Additional Knowledge:
● Income Tax → Direct tax, governed under Income Tax Act 1961.
● Wealth Tax → Abolished in **2015**.
● Excise Duty → Now merged into GST (except on petroleum & liquor).

Q.90 **The conversion between the solid and the gaseous phases of matter, with no intermediate liquid state, is called:**

A. Sublimation
B. Solidification

C. Deposition
D. Vaporisation

Answer: A

Sol: The correct answer is (a) Sublimation.
• Sublimation: **solid** → **gas** directly without becoming liquid.
• Example: camphor, dry ice.
Information Booster:
• Reverse process (gas → solid) is **deposition**.
• Latent heat of sublimation involved.
• Occurs at specific pressure–temperature conditions.
• Used in freeze-drying.
Additional Knowledge:
• Phase diagram shows triple point where three phases coexist.
• Solidification = liquid → solid.
• Vaporisation = liquid → gas.
• Dry ice (CO_2) sublimes at −78.5°C.

Q.91 What is the theme of the 2025 G20 Johannesburg Summit?

A. Climate Action Now
B. Solidarity, Equality, Sustainability
C. Digital Transformation
D. Global Economic Recovery

Answer: B

Sol: **The correct answer is (B) Solidarity, Equality, Sustainability**
Explanation:
● The theme of the **2025 G20 Johannesburg Summit** is **"Solidarity, Equality, Sustainability."**
● This theme highlights global cooperation, fair development among nations, and long-term environmental responsibility.
● The summit will be hosted by **South Africa** in Johannesburg.
Information Booster:
● South Africa is the **first African nation** to host the G20 Summit.
● The G20 consists of **19 countries + European Union + African Union**.
● Aim: To discuss global economy, development, and climate challenges.
● The theme promotes **inclusive growth & sustainability**.
● G20 works on **finance, trade, health & digital issues**.

Q.92 Which state ranks first in the 2025 Smart Cities Mission update with the highest number of Smart Cities in India?

A. Maharashtra
B. Uttar Pradesh
C. Tamil Nadu
D. Madhya Pradesh

Answer: C

Sol: The correct answer is (c) Tamil Nadu.

- Tamil Nadu ranks **1st** with **12 Smart Cities**, the highest among all states.
- Madurai and Coimbatore achieved **100% project completion**.
- The state is highlighted for smart mobility and waste-management innovations.

Information Booster:

- Smart Cities Mission launched in **2015**.
- Overall national completion rate: **93% across 100 Smart Cities**.
- Smart Cities cover only **31% of population** but contribute **63% of India's GDP**.
- Over **₹1.5 lakh crore** invested in the mission.
- Tamil Nadu allocated **₹3,000 crore** state funding to accelerate progress.

Additional Knowledge:

- (a) Maharashtra has **10 Smart Cities** and ranks 3rd.
- (b) Uttar Pradesh also has **10 Smart Cities** and ranks 2nd due to readiness and fund utilisation.
- (d) Madhya Pradesh has **7 Smart Cities** and ranks 4th.
- Surat in Gujarat became the **first city to complete 100% projects**.
- Indore leads India with **80% waste recycling** under Smart Cities Mission.
- Bihar and UP used smart flood-tech to avoid **₹500 crore in annual losses**.
- Kochi achieved **95% completion**, strengthening Kerala's greenfield urban model.

Q.93 **What is the area around the equator called where the trade winds from both hemispheres converge?**

A. Polar Front
B. Subtropical High
C. Horse Latitudes
D. Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ)

Answer: D

Sol: **The correct answer is: (D) Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ)**

Explanation:

- The **Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ)** is the region near the **equator where the trade winds from the Northern and Southern Hemispheres meet**.
- This convergence causes **warm, moist air** to rise, leading to **heavy rainfall, thunderstorms, and cloud formation**.
- The ITCZ shifts north and south with the seasons, following the position of the **Sun's direct rays**.
- It plays a major role in influencing global climate patterns, including **monsoons** in South Asia and Africa.

Information Booster:

- Also known as the **Doldrums** due to calm winds and low pressure.
- The ITCZ moves north in summer and south in winter.
- It affects tropical weather and cyclogenesis in nearby oceanic regions.
- The position of the ITCZ determines rainfall patterns in equatorial countries.
- Appears as a **band of clouds** in satellite images.

Q.94 **After the revolt of which year did the British implement measures that reduced the proportion of Indian soldiers in the army and increased the number of European soldiers?**

A. 1857
B. 1806
C. 1874
D. 1841

Answer: A

Sol: **Correct Answer: (A) 1857**

Explanation

- After the **Revolt of 1857**, the British Raj made major changes to the Indian Army's composition.
- They **reduced the proportion of Indian soldiers** (sepoys) and **increased the number of European soldiers** to prevent future large-scale rebellions.

Information Booster

- **European troops to Indian troops ratio** was fixed at **1:2** after 1857.
- Indian soldiers were reorganized on the principle of **"divide and rule"**, mixing castes, regions, and religions to prevent unity.
- Key artillery units were kept **exclusively under British control**.

Additional Knowledge

- Administration shifted from **East India Company to the British Crown** after 1857.
- The revolt led to wide-ranging reforms in **military, administrative, and financial** structures.

Q.95 How many holes of a Shahnai are used for playing?

A. 5
B. 7
C. 8
D. 10

Answer: B

Sol: **Correct Answer: (b) 7**

Explanation:

- A traditional **Shahnai (Shehnai)** typically has **7 finger holes** used for playing and producing various musical notes.
- These holes help control pitch, melody, and modulation.

Shahnai (Shehnai)

- A **double-reed** wind instrument made of wood with a flared metal bell.
- Produces a **soft, melodious yet powerful tone**.
- Widely used in **Hindustani classical music** and in **auspicious ceremonies** (weddings, temple rituals).
- Considered a **mangal vadya** (instrument symbolizing prosperity).

Important Related Persons

Ustad Bismillah Khan

- The most renowned Shehnai maestro.
- Credited with bringing the Shehnai to the **concert stage** in classical music.
- Awarded **Bharat Ratna (2001)** — only Shehnai player to receive it.
- Performed at the **1947 Independence ceremony** at Red Fort.
- Known for his mastery in **Banarasi style** of Shehnai playing.

Ali Ahmad Hussain Khan

- A leading Shehnai player of the **Kolkata Gharana**.
- Recipient of the **Sangeet Natak Akademi Award**.

Anant Lal

- Known for his Shehnai performances in **All India Radio (AIR)**.
- Trained in **Banaras Gharana**, contributed significantly to classical Shehnai repertoire.

Q.96 Which of the following movements was led by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar to fight for Dalit access to public water sources?

A. Bardoli Satyagraha
B. Vaikom Satyagraha
C. Salt Satyagraha
D. Mahad Satyagraha

Answer: D

Sol:

The correct answer is (d) Mahad Satyagraha

Explanation:

· The **Mahad Satyagraha** was a pivotal movement led by **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar** in **1927** to secure the right of the **Dalit community** (then known as untouchables) to draw water from the public **Chavdar Tank** in Mahad, Maharashtra.

· This satyagraha, or non-violent resistance, became a foundational milestone in India's struggle for **social equality, dignity, and civil rights** for the marginalized, challenging the traditional Hindu caste hierarchy.

· Though the local municipality had already passed a resolution allowing Dalits access, the satyagraha was necessary to physically assert and enforce this right against caste Hindu resistance.

Information Booster:

· During the Mahad Satyagraha, Dr. Ambedkar publicly **burnt copies of the *Manusmriti*** (Laws of Manu) on December 25, 1927, as a powerful protest against the religious text that codified and perpetuated the system of caste discrimination and untouchability.

· This act is symbolic of his dedication to revolutionary social reform over incremental political change.

Additional Knowledge:

· **Vaikom Satyagraha (b):** A movement (1924–1925) in Travancore (Kerala) for the rights of lower castes to use the public roads surrounding the Vaikom Temple.

· **Salt Satyagraha (c):** Led by Mahatma Gandhi in 1930 against the British salt tax.

· **Bardoli Satyagraha (a):** Led by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in 1928 against unfair tax hikes on farmers.

Q.97 **Compressions and rarefactions are due to variability of:**

A. magnetic difference
B. ray refraction
C. air pressure
D. temperature difference

Answer: C

Sol: **Correct Answer: (c)** air pressure

Explanation:

- Sound travels through air by forming **compressions and rarefactions**.
- These are caused due to the **increase and decrease in air pressure** as the sound wave moves.
- **Compression:** Region of **high pressure** (particles come close).
- **Rarefaction:** Region of **low pressure** (particles move apart).

Information Booster:

- Sound is a **longitudinal wave**.
- Sound needs a **medium** to travel (air, water, solid).
- The **speed of sound** is highest in **solids** and lowest in **gases**.
- Human ear senses pressure variations as **sound**.
- Sound cannot travel in **vacuum**.

Additional Knowledge:

- **Magnetic difference (Option A):** Has **no role** in sound wave formation.
- **Ray refraction (Option B):** Related to **light**, not sound waves.
- **Temperature difference (Option D):** Affects **speed of sound**, not compressions/rarefactions.

Q.98 **Which of the following techniques was used in the production of the Harappan bronze statues?**

A. Lost wax technique
B. Sand casting technique
C. Direct carving technique
D. Stone carving technique

Answer: A

Sol: **Correct Answer: (A) Lost wax technique**

Explanation:

→ The Harappans produced beautiful bronze sculptures, the most famous being the Dancing Girl of Mohenjodaro.

→ These statues were made using the lost-wax technique, also called cire perdue, where a wax model is created, covered with clay, melted out, and replaced with molten metal.

→ This method allowed artisans to create fine details and smooth finishing, showing the technological advancement of the Indus craftsmen.

Information Booster:

→ The Harappans were skilled in metallurgy—working with copper, bronze, lead, and tin.

→ Metal objects found include: tools, vessels, jewelry, and figurines.

→ Lost-wax casting continued in India through later periods, influencing metal art traditions.

Additional Information (Other Options):

Option (B) Sand casting technique: This method was not used by Harappan artisans for bronze figurines.

Option (C) Direct carving technique: Bronze cannot be carved directly; carving is associated with stone or wood.

Option (D) Stone carving technique: This applies to steatite and sandstone objects, not bronze statues.

Q.99 **Gopuram is a feature of which of the following schools of architecture?**

A. Nagara
B. Odisha
C. Khajuraho
D. Dravidian

Answer: D

Sol: The correct answer is (d) Dravidian.

• Gopuram is the massive, ornamented entrance tower typical of **Dravidian temple architecture**.

• Seen prominently in temples of Tamil Nadu and South India.

• These gateway towers are richly carved with mythological figures.

Information Booster:

• Gopurams are usually taller than the main Vimana in Dravidian temples.

• Famous examples: Meenakshi Temple (Madurai), Srirangam Temple, Brihadeshwara Temple.

• Nagara style has a curvilinear Shikhara, not a Gopuram.

• Odisha temples follow Kalinga style with Rekha and Pidha Deulas.

• Khajuraho temples belong to the Nagara school.

Additional Knowledge:

• Dravidian temple style flourished under Pallavas, Cholas, Pandyas & Nayakas.

• The tallest Gopuram is the Srirangam Rajagopuram (Tamil Nadu).

• Granite is commonly used in South Indian temple construction.

Q.100 **The famous Kailasa temple at Ellora was built by which dynasty?**

A. Rashtrakutas
B. Hoysalas
C. Pallavas
D. Chalukyas

Answer: A

Sol: The correct answer is (a) Rashtrakutas

Explanation:

• The Kailasa temple at Ellora is one of the most iconic rock-cut monuments in India and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

• It was constructed during the reign of the Rashtrakuta dynasty, under King Krishna I in the 8th century CE.

• The temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva and represents Mount Kailasa, his mythical abode.

• The temple is entirely carved out of a single rock, making it one of the largest monolithic structures in the world.

• It is a masterpiece of Dravidian rock-cut architecture, showcasing immense skill in both engineering and art.

Information Booster:

• The Ellora Caves consist of 34 rock-cut temples, of which the Kailasa temple (Cave 16) is the most prominent.

• Construction is believed to have taken over 100 years, involving the removal of over 200,000 tonnes of rock.

Additional Knowledge:

Hoysalas (Option b)

• Known for soapstone temples at Belur and Halebidu, rich in intricate sculptures, built between the 10th–14th centuries CE.

• Their architectural style is distinct from rock-cut monuments like Kailasa.

Pallavas (Option c)

• They pioneered rock-cut temples in South India, especially at Mahabalipuram, but did not build Kailasa.

Chalukyas (Option d)

• Famous for temple architecture at Badami, Aihole, and Pattadakal, but the Kailasa temple was not built under their patronage