

UPSC PRELIMS GEOGRAPHY PAST YEAR QUESTION BANK [2012 TO 2019]

2012

1. Consider the following factors

1. Rotation of the Earth
2. Air pressure and wind
3. Density of ocean water
4. Revolution of the Earth

Which of the above factors influence the ocean currents?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1, 2 and 3
(c) 1 and 4 (d) 2, 3 and 4

2. When you travel in Himalayas, you will see the following :

1. Deep gorges
2. U-turn river courses
3. Parallel mountain ranges
4. Steep gradients causing land-sliding

Which of the above can be said to be the evidences for Himalayas being young fold mountains?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1, 2 and 4 only
(c) 3 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

3. Normally, the temperature decreases with the increase in height from the Earth's surface, because:-

1. the atmosphere can be heated upwards only from the Earth's surface
2. there is more moisture in the upper atmosphere
3. the air is less dense in the upper atmosphere

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

4. Consider the following agricultural practices

1. Contour bunding
2. Relay cropping
3. Zero tillage

In the context of global climate change, which of the above helps/helps in carbon sequestration/storage in the soil?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3 (d) None of them

5. Which of the following is the chief characteristic of 'mixed farming'?

- (a) Cultivation of both cash crops and food crops
- (b) Cultivation of two or more crops in the same field
- (c) Rearing of animals and cultivation of crops together
- (d) None of the above

6. Consider the following crops of India:-

1. Cowpea
2. Green gram
3. Pigeon pea

Which of the above is/are used as pulse, fodder and green manure?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

7. Consider the following crops of India:

1. Groundnut
2. Sesamum
3. Pearl millet

Which of the above is/are predominantly rain-fed crop/crops?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

8. Consider the following areas:

1. Bandipur
2. Bhitarkanika
3. Manas
4. Sunderbans

Which of the above are Tiger Reserves?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1, 3 and 4 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

9. In which one among the following categories of protected areas in India are local people not allowed to collect and use the biomass?

- (a) Biosphere Reserves
- (b) National Parks
- (c) Wetlands declared under Ramsar Convention
- (d) Wildlife Sanctuaries

10. Consider the following kinds of organisms:-

1. Bat
2. Bee
3. Bird

Which of the above is/are pollinating agent/agents?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

11. Which one of the following groups of animals belongs to the category of endangered species?

- (a) Great Indian Bustard, Musk Deer, Red Panda and Asiatic Wild Ass
- (b) Kashmir Stag, Cheetal, Blue Bull and Great Indian Bustard
- (c) Snow Leopard, Swamp Deer, Rhesus Monkey and Saras (Crane)
- (d) Lion-tailed Macaque, Blue Bull, Hanuman Langur and Cheetal

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12. A particular State in India has the following characteristics:

1. It is located on the same latitude which passes through northern Rajasthan.
2. It has over 80% of its area under forest cover.
3. Over 12% of forest cover constitutes Protected Area Network in this State.

Which one among the following States has all the above characteristics?

- (a) Arunachal Pradesh (b) Assam
(c) Himachal Pradesh (d) Uttarakhand

13. With reference to the wetlands of India, consider the following statements:

1. The country's total geographical area under the category of wetlands is recorded more in Gujarat as compared to other States.
2. In India, the total geographical area of coastal wetlands larger than that of wetlands.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

14. The acidification of oceans is increasing. Why is this phenomenon a cause of concern?

1. The growth and survival of calcareous phytoplankton will be adversely affected.
2. The growth and survival of coral reefs will be adversely affected.
3. The survival of some animals that have phytoplanktonic larvae will be adversely affected.
4. The cloud seeding and formation of clouds will be adversely affected.

Which of the statements given above is /are correct?

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

15. Which of the following can be threats to the biodiversity of a geographical area?

1. Global warming
2. Fragmentation of habitat
3. Invasion of alien species
4. Promotion of vegetarianism

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

2013

1. Variations in the length of daytime and night time from season to season are due to
(a) the earth's rotation on its axis
(b) the earth's revolution round the sun in an elliptical manner
(c) latitudinal position of the place
(d) revolution of the earth on a tilted axis

2. The annual range of temperature in the interior of the continents is high as compared to coastal areas.

What is / are the reason / reasons?

1. Thermal difference between land and water
2. Variation in altitude between continents and oceans
3. Presence of strong winds in the interior
4. Heavy rains in the interior as compared to coasts

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

3. The annual range of temperature in the interior of the continents is high as compared to coastal areas.

What is / are the reason / reasons?

1. Thermal difference between land and water
2. Variation in altitude between continents and oceans
3. Presence of strong winds in the interior
4. Heavy rains in the interior as compared to coasts

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

4. On the planet earth, most of the freshwater exists as ice caps and glaciers. Out of the remaining freshwater, the largest proportion.

- (a) is found in atmosphere as moisture and clouds
(b) is found in freshwater lakes and rivers
(c) exists as groundwater
(d) exists as soil moisture

5. Which of the following is / are the characteristic/ characteristics of Indian coal?

1. High ash content
2. Low sulphur content
3. Low ash fusion temperature

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

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6. Consider the following statements:

1. Natural gas occurs in the Gondwana beds.
2. Mica occurs in abundance in Kodarma.
3. Dharwars are famous for petroleum.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 only
 (c) 2 and 3 (d) None

7. During a thunderstorm, the thunder in the skies is produced by the:

1. meeting of cumulonimbus clouds in the sky
2. lightning that separates the nimbus clouds
3. violent upward movement of air and water particles

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3
 (c) 1 and 3 (d) None of the above

8. Consider the following crops.

1. Cotton
2. Groundnut
3. Rice
4. Wheat

Which of these are Kharif crops?

- (a) 1 and 4 (b) 2 and 3 only
 (c) 1, 2 and 3 (d) 2, 3 and 4

9. Contour bunding is a method of soil conservation used in:

- (a) desert margins, liable to strong wind action
 (b) low flat plains, close to stream courses, liable to flooding
 (c) scrublands, liable to spread of weed growth
 (d) None of the above

10. Which of the following statements regarding laterite soils of India are correct?

1. They are generally red in colour.
2. They are rich in nitrogen and potash.
3. They are well-developed in Rajasthan and UP.
4. Tapioca and cashew nuts grow well on these soils.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 (b) 2, 3 and 4
 (c) 1 and 4 (d) 2 and 3 only

11. Consider the following fauna of India:

1. Gharial
2. Leatherback turtle
3. Swamp deer

Which of the above is/are endangered?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
 (c) 1, 2 and 3 (d) None

12. Consider the following pairs:(2013)

1. Nokrek Bio-sphere Reserve : Garo Hills
2. Logtak (Loktak)Lake : Barail Range
3. Namdapha National Park : Dafla Hills

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
 (c) 1, 2 and 3 (d) None

13. Consider the following pairs:

1. Corbett National Park : Ganga
2. Kaziranga National Park : Manas
3. Silent Valley National Park : Kaveri

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

- (a) 1 and 2 (b) 3 only
 (c) 1 and 3 (d) None

14. In which of the following States is lion-tailed macaque found in its natural habitat?

1. Tamil Nadu
2. Kerala
3. Karnataka
4. Andhra Pradesh

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 2 only
 (c) 1, 3 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

15. Consider the following pair:-

1. Limboo (Limbu) : Sikkim
2. Karbi : Himachal Pradesh
3. Dongaria : Odisha
4. Bonda : Tamil Nadu

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2 and 4 only
 (c) 1, 3 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

2014

1. Which one of the following pairs of islands is separated from each other by the 'Ten Degree Channel'?

- a) Andaman and Nicobar
 b) Nicobar and Sumatra
 c) Maldives and Lakshadweep
 d) Sumatra and Java

2. Consider the following rivers:

1. Barak
2. Lohit
3. Subansiri

Which of the above flows / flow through Arunachal Pradesh?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
 (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

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3. Consider these pairs:-

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. Cardamom Hills: | Coromandel Coast |
| 2. Kaimur Hills: | Konkan Coast |
| 3. Mahadeo Hills: | Central India |
| 4. Mikir Hills: | North-East India |

Which of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| (a) 1 and 2 | (b) 2 and 3 |
| (c) 3 and 4 | (d) 2 and 4 |

4. The seasonal reversal of winds is the typical characteristic of :-

- Equatorial climate
- Mediterranean climate
- Monsoon climate
- All of the above climates

5. Which of the following statements is / are correct regarding vegetative propagation of plants? (2014)

- Vegetative propagation produces clonal population.
- Vegetative propagation helps in eliminating the virus.
- Vegetative propagation can be practiced most of the year.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| (a) 1 only | (b) 2 and 3 only |
| (c) 1 and 3 only | (d) 1, 2 and 3 |

6. With reference to 'Changpa' community of India, consider the following statement: (2014)

- They live mainly in the State of Uttarakhand.
- They rear the Pashmina goats that yield a fine wool.
- They are kept in the category of Scheduled Tribes.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- | | |
|------------|------------------|
| (a) 1 only | (b) 2 and 3 only |
| (c) 3 only | (d) 1, 2 and 3 |

7. Which of the following phenomena might have influenced the evolution of organisms?

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Continental drift | 2. Glacial cycles |
|----------------------|-------------------|

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| (a) 1 only | (b) 2 only |
| (c) Both 1 and 2 | (d) Neither 1 nor 2. |

8. Consider the following towns of India:

- Bhadrachalam
- Chanderi
- Kancheepuram
- Karnal

Which of the above are famous for the production of traditional sarees/ fabric?

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| (a) 1 and 2 only | (b) a and 3 only |
| (c) 1, 2 and 3 | (d) 1, 3 and 4 |

9. Consider the following pairs:-

- NH 4 - Chennai and Hyderabad
- NH 6 - Mumbai and Kolkata
- NH 15 - Ahmedabad and Jodhpur

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

- | | |
|------------------|------------|
| (a) 1 and 2 only | (b) 3 only |
| (c) 1, 2 and 3 | (d) None |

10. Turkey is located between

- Black Sea and Caspian Sea
- Black Sea and Mediterranean Sea
- Gulf of Suez and Mediterranean Sea
- Gulf of Aqaba and Dead Sea

11. What is the correct sequence of occurrence of the following cities in South-East Asia as one proceeds from south to north?

1. Bangkok 2. Hanoi 3. Jakarta 4. Singapore

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| (a) 4-2-1-3 | (b) 3-2-4-1 |
| (c) 3-4-1-2 | (d) 4-3-2-1 |

2015

1. Which one of the following National Parks has a climate that varies from tropical to subtropical, temperate and arctic?

- Khangchendzonga National park
- Nandadevi National Park
- Neora Valley National Park
- Namdapha National park

2. In India the steel production industry requires the import of

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------|
| a) saltpeter | b) rock phosphate |
| c) coking coal | d) All of the above |

3. Consider the following statements

- The winds which blow between 30 degrees N and 60 degrees S latitudes throughout the year are known as westerlies.
- The moist air masses that cause winter rains in North-Western region of India are part of westerlies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| (a) 1 only | (b) 2 only |
| (c) Both 1 and 2 | (d) Neither 1 nor 2 |

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4. In a particular region in India, the local people train the roots of living tree into robust bridges across the streams. As the time passes these bridges become stronger. These unique 'Living Root Bridges' are found in

- a) Meghalaya
- b) Himachal Pradesh
- c) Jharkhand
- d) Tamil Nadu

5. Tides occur in oceans and seas due to which of the following?

- 1. Gravitational Force of the Sun
- 2. Gravitational Force of the Moon
- 3. Gravitational Force of the Earth

Select the correct answer using the code given below

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2, and 3

6. Consider the following States:

- 1. Arunachal Pradesh
- 2. Himachal Pradesh
- 3. Mizoram

In which of the following states do "Tropical Wet Evergreen Forests" occur?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

7. Which one of the following countries of South-West Asia does not open out to the Mediterranean Sea?

- a) Syria
- b) Jordan
- c) Lebanon
- d) Israel

8. In India, in which one of the following types of forests is teak a dominant tree species?

- a) Tropical moist deciduous forest
- b) Tropical rain forest
- c) Tropical thorn scrub forest
- d) Temperate forest with grasslands

9. "Each day is more or less the same, the morning is clear and bright with a sea breeze; as the sun climbs high in the sky, heat mounts up, dark clouds form, then rain comes with thunder and lightning. But rain is soon over."

Which of the following regions is described in the above passage?

- a) Savannah
- b) Equatorial
- c) Monsoon
- d) Mediterranean

10. Which one of the following is the best description of the term "ecosystem"?

- a) A community of organisms interacting with one another
- b) That part of the Earth which is inhabited by living organisms
- c) A community of organisms together with the environment in which they live.
- d) The flora and fauna of a geographical area.

11. In the South Atlantic and South Eastern Pacific regions in tropical latitudes, cyclone does not originate. What is the reason?

- a) Sea Surface temperature are low
- b) Inter Tropical Convergence Zone seldom occurs
- c) Coriolis force is too weak
- d) Absence of land in those regions

12. Which of the following pairs of States of India indicates the easternmost and Westernmost State?

- a) Assam and Rajasthan
- b) Arunachal Pradesh and Rajasthan
- c) Assam and Gujarat
- d) Arunachal Pradesh and Gujarat

13. Which of the following National Parks is unique in being a swamp with floating vegetation that supports a rich biodiversity?

- a) Bhitarkanika National Park
- b) Keibul Lamjao National Park
- c) Keoladeo Ghana National park
- d) Sultanpur National park

14. What explains the eastward flow of the equatorial counter-current?

- a) The Earth's rotation on its axis
- b) Convergence of the two equatorial currents
- c) Difference in salinity of water
- d) Occurrence of the belt of calm near equator

15. Consider the following pairs:

- 1. Srisailem : Nallamala Hills
- 2. Omkareshwar : Satmala Hills
- 3. Pushkar : Mahadeo Hills

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

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16. With reference to 'dugong', a mammal found in India, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is a herbivorous marine animal.
2. It is found along the entire coast of India
3. It is given legal protection under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- a) 1 and 2 b) 2 only
c) 1 and 3 d) 3 only

17. Which one of the following is the national aquatic animal of India?

- a) Saltwater crocodile b) Olive ridley turtle
c) Gangetic dolphin d) Gharial

18. The area known as 'Golan Heights' sometimes appears in the news in the context of the events related to:

- a) Central Asia b) Middle East
c) South-East Asia d) Central Africa

19. Consider the following rivers:

1. Vamsadhara
2. Indravati
3. Pranahita
4. Pennar

Which of the above are tributaries of Godavari?

- a) 1,2 and 3 b) 2,3 and 4
c) 1,2 and 4 d) 2 and 3 only

20. Which one of the following regions of India has a combination of mangrove forest, evergreen forest and deciduous forest?

- a) North Coastal Andhra Pradesh
b) South-West Bengal
c) Southern Saurashtra
d) Andaman and Nicobar Islands

21. The term 'Goldilocks Zone' is often seen in the news in the context of

- a) the limits of habitable zone above the surface of the Earth
- b) regions inside the Earth-like planets in outer space
- c) search for the Earth-like planets in outer space
- d) search for meteorites containing precious metals

22. Which of the following statements regarding 'Green Climate Fund' is/are correct?

1. It is intended to assist the developing countries in adaptation and mitigation practices to counter climate change.
 2. It is founded under the aegis of UNEP, OECD, Asian Development Bank and World Bank
- Select the correct answer using the code given below.
- a) 1 only b) 2 only
c) Both 1 and 2 d) Neither 1 nor 2

2016

1. Which of the following is/are tributary/tributaries of Brahmaputra?

1. Dibang
2. Kameng
3. Lohit

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

2. What is/are unique about 'Kharai Camel', a breed found in India?

1. It is capable of swimming up to three kilometres in seawater.
2. It survives by grazing on mangroves.
3. It lives in the wild and cannot be domesticated.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

3. Recently, our scientists have discovered a new and distinct species of banana plant which attains a height of about 11 metres and has orange-coloured fruit pulp. In which part of India has it been discovered?

- (a) Andaman Islands
(b) Anaimalai Forests
(c) Maikala Hills
(d) Tropical rain forests of northeast

4. With reference to 'Red Sanders', sometimes seen in the news, consider the following statements:

1. It is a tree species found in a part of South India.
2. It is one of the most important trees in the tropical rain forest areas of South India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

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5. Which of the following statements is/are correct?
Proper design and effective implementation of UN-REDD+ Programme can significantly contribute to

1. protection of biodiversity
2. resilience of forest ecosystems
3. poverty reduction

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

6. What is/are the purpose/purposes of 'District Mineral Foundations' in India?

1. Promoting mineral exploration activities in mineral-rich districts
2. Protecting the interests of the persons affected by mining operations
3. Authorizing State Governments to issue licences for mineral exploration

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

7. In which of the following regions of India are shale gas resources found?

1. Cambay Basin
2. Cauvery Basin
3. Krishna-Godavari Basin

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

8. Which of the following is/are the advantage /advantages of practicing drip irrigation?

1. Reduction in weed
2. Reduction in soil salinity
3. Reduction in soil erosion

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) None of the above

9. Recently, linking of which of the following rivers was undertaken?

- (a) Cauvery and Tungabhadra
(b) Godavari and Krishna
(c) Mahanadi and Son
(d) Narmada and Tapi

10. In the cities of our country, which among the following atmospheric gases are normally considered in calculating the value of Air Quality Index?

1. Carbon dioxide
2. Carbon monoxide
3. Nitrogen dioxide
4. Sulfur dioxide
5. Methane

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 4 and 5 only (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

11. Recently, which of the following states has explored the possibility of constructing an artificial inland port to be connected to sea by a long navigational channel?

- (a) Andhra Pradesh (b) Chhattisgarh
(c) Karnataka (d) Rajasthan

12. In which of the following regions of India are you most likely to come across the 'Great Indian Hornbill' in its natural habitat?

- (a) Sand deserts of northwest India
(b) Higher Himalayas of Jammu and Kashmir
(c) Salt marshes of western Gujarat
(d) Western Ghats

2017

1. From the ecological point of view, which one of the following assumes importance in being a good link between the Eastern Ghats and the Western Ghats?

- (a) Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve
(b) Nallamala Forest
(c) Nagarhole National Park
(d) Seshachalam Biosphere Reserve

2. At one of the places in India, if you stand on the seashore and watch the sea, you will find that the sea water recedes from the shore line a few kilometres and comes back to the shore, twice a day, and you can actually walk on the sea floor when the water recedes.

This unique phenomenon is seen at:-

- (a) Bhavnagar (b) Bheemunipatnam
(c) Chandipur (d) Nagapattinam

3. With reference to river Teesta, consider the following statements:

1. The source of river Teesta is the same as that of Brahmaputra but it flows through Sikkim.
2. River Rangeet originates in Sikkim and it is a tributary of river Teesta.
3. River Teesta flows into Bay of Bengal on the border of India and Bangladesh.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

4. According to the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, which of the following animals cannot be hunted by any person except under some provisions provided by law?

1. Gharial
2. Indian wild ass
3. Wild buffalo

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Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

5. If you travel by road from Kohima to Kottayam, what is the minimum number of States within India through which you can travel, including the origin and the destination?

- (a) 6 (b) 7 (c) 8 (d) 9

6. Mediterranean Sea is a border of which of the following countries?

1. Jordan
2. Iraq
3. Lebanon
4. Syria

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 and 4 only (d) 1, 3 and 4 only

7. Consider the following statements:

1. In India, the Himalayas are spread over five States only.
2. Western Ghats are spread over five States only.
3. Pulicat Lake is spread over two States only.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1 and 3 only

8. With reference to 'Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD)' sometimes mentioned in the news while forecasting Indian monsoon, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. IOD phenomenon is characterised by a difference in sea surface temperature between tropical Western Indian Ocean and tropical Eastern Pacific Ocean.
2. An IOD phenomenon can influence an El Nino's impact on the monsoon.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

9. If you want to see gharials in their natural habitat, which one of the following is the best place to visit?

- (a) Bhitarkanika Mangroves (b) Chambal River
(c) Pulicat Lake (d) Deepor Beel

10. Which of the following practices can help in water conservation in agriculture?

1. Reduced or zero tillage of the land
2. Applying gypsum before irrigating the field
3. Allowing crop residue to remain in the field

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

11. In India, if a species of tortoise is declared protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, what does it imply?

- (a) It enjoys the same level of protection as the tiger.
(b) It no longer exists in the wild, a few individuals are under captive protection; and now it is impossible to prevent its extinction.
(c) It is endemic to a particular region of India.
(d) Both (b) and (c) stated above are correct in this context.

12. Recently there was a proposal to translocate some of the lions from their natural habitat in Gujarat to which one of the following sites?

- (a) Corbett National Park
(b) Kuno Palpur Wildlife Sanctuary
(c) Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary
(d) Sariska National Park

13. Which of the following is geographically closest to Great Nicobar?

- (a) Sumatra (b) Borneo
(c) Java (d) Sri Lanka

2018

1. Consider the following phenomena :

1. Light is affected by gravity.
2. The Universe is constantly expanding.
3. Matter warps its surrounding space-time.

Which of the above is/are the prediction/predictions of Albert Einstein's General Theory of Relativity, often discussed in media?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

2. Which of the following leaf modifications occur(s) in the desert areas to inhibit water loss?

1. Hard and waxy leaves
2. Tiny leaves
3. Thorns instead of leaves

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 2 and 3 only (b) 2 only
(c) 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

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3. Which of the following has/have shrunk immensely/dried up in the recent past due to human activities?

1. Aral Sea
2. Black Sea
3. Lake Baikal

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3
(c) 2 only (d) 1 and 3

4. Consider the following statements:

1. The Earth's magnetic field has reversed every few hundred thousand years.
2. When the Earth was created more than 4000 million years ago, there was 54% oxygen and no carbon dioxide.
3. When living organisms originated, they modified the early atmosphere of the Earth.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

5. With reference to the circumstances in Indian agriculture, the concept of "Conservation Agriculture" assumes significance" Which of the following fall under the Conservation Agriculture?

1. Avoiding the monoculture practices
2. Adopting minimum tillage
3. Avoiding the cultivation of plantation crops
4. Using crop residues to cover soil surface
5. Adopting spatial and temporal crop sequencing/crop rotations

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1, 3 and 4 (b) 2, 3, 4 and 5
(c) 2, 4 and 5 (d) 1, 2, 3 and 5

6. Which one of the following is an artificial lake?

- (a) Kodaikanal (Tamil Nadu)
(b) Kolleru (Andhra Pradesh)
(c) Nainital (Uttarakhand)
(d) Renuka (Himachal Pradesh)

7. Which of the following is/are the possible consequence/s of heavy sand mining in riverbeds?

1. Decreased salinity in the river
2. Pollution of groundwater
3. Lowering of the water-table

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

8. With reference to agricultural soils, consider the following statements:

1. A high content of organic matter in soil drastically reduces its water holding capacity.
2. Soil does not play any role in the sulphur cycle.
3. Irrigation over a period of time can contribute to the salinization of some agricultural lands.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

9. Consider the following statements:

1. The Barren Island volcano is an active volcano located in the Indian Territory.
2. Barren Island lies about 140 km east of Great Nicobar
3. The last time the Barren Island volcano erupted was in 1991 and it has remained inactive since then.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only (d) 1 and 3

10. Why is a plant called *Prosopis juliflora* often mentioned in news?

- (a) Its extract is widely used in cosmetics.
(b) It tends to reduce the biodiversity in the area in which it grows
(c) Its extract is used in the pesticides.
(d) None of the above

11. Consider the following statements:

1. Most of the world's coral reefs are in tropical waters.
2. More than one-third of the world's coral reefs are located in the territories of Australia, Indonesia and Philippines.
3. Coral reefs host far more number of animal phyla than those hosted by tropical rainforests.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

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12. Consider the following pairs:

Serial Nos.	Regions sometimes mentioned in news	Country
1	Catalonia	Spain
2	Crimea	Hungary
3	Mindanao	Philippines
4	Oromia	Nigeria

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 3 and 4 only
 (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 2 and 4 only

13. Consider the following statements

- In India, State Governments do not have the power to auction non-coal mines.
- Andhra Pradesh and Jharkhand do not have gold mines.
- Rajasthan has iron ore mines.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 only
 (c) 1 and 3 (d) 3 only

14. Among the following cities, which one lies on a longitude closest to that of Delhi?

- (a) Bengaluru (b) Hyderabad
 (c) Nagpur (d) Pune

15. In which one of the following States is Pakhui Wildlife Sanctuary located?

- (a) Arunachal Pradesh (b) Manipur
 (c) Meghalaya (d) Nagaland

16. Consider the following statements:

- The definition of "Critical Wildlife Habitat is incorporated in the Forest Rights Act, 2006.
- For the first time in India, Baigas have been given Habitat Rights.
- Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change officially decides and declares Habitat Rights for Primitive and Vulnerable Tribal Groups in any part of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1, 2 and 2 only
 (c) 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

17. Consider the following:

- Birds
- Dust blowing
- Rain
- Wind blowing

Which of the above spread plant diseases?

- (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 3 and 4 only
 (c) 1, 2 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

18. Consider the following pairs:-

Serial Nos.	Towns sometimes mentioned	Country
1	Aleppo	Syria
2	Kirkuk	Yemen
3	Kirkuk	Palestine
4	Mazar-i-sharif	Afghanistan

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) 1 and 2 (b) 1 and 4
 (c) 2 and 3 (d) 3 and 4

2019

1. With reference to the cultivation of Kharif crops in India in the last five years, consider the following statements:

- Area under rice cultivation is the highest.
- Area under the cultivation of jowar is more than that of oilseeds.
- Area of cotton cultivation is more than that of sugarcane.
- Area under sugarcane cultivation has steadily decreased.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2, 3 and 4 only
 (c) 2 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

2. Consider the following statements:

The Environment Protection Act, 1986 empowers the Government of India to

- state the requirement of public participation in the process of environmental protection, and the procedure and manner in which it is sought
- lay down the standards for emission or discharge of environmental pollutants from various sources

Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

3. As per the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 in India, which one of the following statements is correct?

- (a) Waste generator has to segregate waste into five categories.
 (b) The Rules are applicable to notified urban local bodies, notified towns and all industrial townships only.

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(c) The Rules provide for exact and elaborate criteria for the identification of sites for landfills and waste processing facilities.

(d) It is mandatory on the part of waste generator that the waste generated in one district cannot be moved to another district.

4. Recently, scientists observed the merger of giant 'blackholes' billions of light-years away from the Earth.

What is the significance of this observation?

- (a) 'Higgs boson particles' were detected.
- (b) 'Gravitational waves' were detected.
- (e) Possibility of inter-galactic space travel through 'wormhole' was confirmed.
- (d) It enabled the scientists to understand 'singularity'.

5. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Asiatic lion is naturally found in India only.
- 2. Double-humped camel is naturally found in India only.
- 3. One-horned rhinoceros is naturally found in India only.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

6. Consider the following pairs:-

Serial Nos.	Famous places	Rivers
1	Pandharpur	Chandrabhaga
2	Tiruchirapalli	Cauvery
3	Hampi	Malaprabha

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

7. Which of the following are in Agasthyamala Biosphere Reserve?

- (a) Neyyar, Peppara and Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuaries; and Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve
- (b) Mudumalai, Sathyamangalam and Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuaries; and Silent Valley National Park
- (c) Kaundinya, Gundla Brahme-swaram and Papikonda Wildlife Sanctuaries; and Mukurthi National Park
- (d) Kawal and Sri Venkateswara Wildlife Sanctuaries; and Nagarjunasagar-Srisailem Tiger Reserve

8. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Some species of turtles are herbivores.
- 2. Some species of fish are herbivores.
- 3. Some species of marine mammals are herbivores.

4. Some species of snakes are viviparous.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- (e) 2 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

9. Consider the following pairs:-

Sl. Nos.	Wildlife	Naturally found in
1	Blue-finned Mahseer	Cauvery river
2	Irrawady dolphins	Chanbal river
3	Rusty-spotted cat	Eastern Ghats

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

10. Which one of the following National Parks lies completely in the temperate alpine zone?

- (a) Manas National Park
- (b) Namdapha National Park
- (c) Neora Valley National Park
- (d) Valley of Flowers National Park

11. On 21st June, the Sun

- (a) does not set below the horizon at the Arctic Circle
- (b) does not set below the horizon at Antarctic Circle
- (c) shines vertically overhead at noon on the Equator
- (d) shines vertically overhead at the Tropic of Capricorn

12. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Agricultural soils release nitrogen oxides into environment.
- 2. Cattle release ammonia into environment.
- 3. Poultry industry releases reactive nitrogen compounds into environment.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 2 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

13. Why are dewdrops not formed on a cloudy night?

- (a) Clouds absorb the radiation released from the Earth's surface.
- (b) Clouds reflect back the Earth's radiation.
- (c) The Earth's surface would have low temperature on cloudy nights.
- (d) Clouds deflect the blowing wind to ground level.

14. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Coal sector was nationalized by the Government of India under Indira Gandhi.
- 2. Now, coal blocks are allocated on lottery basis.
- 3. Till recently, India imported coal to meet the shortages of domestic supply, but now India is self-sufficient in coal production.

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Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

15. Consider the following States:

1. Chhattisgarh
2. Madhya Pradesh
3. Maharashtra
4. Odisha

With reference to the States mentioned above, in terms of percentage of forest cover to the total area of State, which one of the following is the correct ascending order?

- (a) 2-3-1-4 (b) 2-3-4-1
(c) 3-2-4-1 (d) 3-2-1-4

16. Which of the following statements are correct about the deposits of 'methane hydrate'?

1. Global warming might trigger the release of methane gas from these deposits.
2. Large deposits of 'methane hydrate' are found in Arctic Tundra and under the seafloor.
3. Methane in atmosphere oxidizes to carbon dioxide after a decade or two.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

17. Consider the following pairs:-

Sl. Nos.	Sea	Bordering country
1	Adriatic Sea	Albania
2	Black Sea	Croatia
3	Caspian Sea	Kazakhstan
4	Mediterranean Sea	Morocco
5	Red Sea	Syria

Which of the pair given above are correctly matched?

- (a) 1, 2 and 4 only (b) 1, 3 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 5 only (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

18. Among the following, which one is the largest exporter of rice in the world in the last five years?

- (a) China (b) India
(c) Myanmar (d) Vietnam

19. Consider the following pairs:-

Sl. Nos.	Glacier	River
1	Bandarpunch	Yamuna
2	Bara Shigri	Chenab
3	Milam	Mandakini
4	Siachen	Nubra
5	Zemu	Manas

Which of the pair given above are correctly matched?

- (a) 1, 2 and 4 only (b) 1, 3 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 5 only (d) 3 and 5

20. Consider the following statements:

1. Under Ramsar Convention, it is mandatory on the part of the Government of India to protect and conserve all the wetlands in the territory of India.
2. The Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2010 were framed by the Government of India based on the recommendations of Ramsar Convention.
3. The Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2010 also encompass the drainage area or catchment regions of the wetlands as determined by the authority.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3