SSC CHSL 2025 Tier-1 (Held On: 21 Nov, 2025 Shift 3) (Previous Year Paper)

SSC Combined Higher Secondary Level (CHSL) • 2025 • 100 questions • 60 minutes • Answer key and solutions

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Q1. Identify the incorrect sentence.

(a) Beautiful furnitures made the house elegant.
(b) How much money do you want?
(c) Please hurry. It's getting late.
(d) He is a very good friend of mine.

Q2. Identify the part of the sentence that contains a grammatical error.

A. The company's data, B. which has been collected and analyzed C. for over a decade, D. support the conclusion that the new strategy is ineffective.

(a) The company's data,
(b) which has been collected and analyzed
(c) for over a decade,
(d) support the conclusion that the new strategy is ineffective.

Q3. Fill in the blank with the most appropriate preposition:

The policy was implemented ____ accordance with international standards.

(a) in
(b) by
(c) to
(d) under

Q4. Fill in the blank with the most appropriate conjunction:

She must complete the registration by Friday, ____ she won't be allowed to participate.

(a) or else
(b) unless
(c) and
(d) since

Q5. Choose the correctly spelt word:

(a) Abyeance
(b) Abeyance
(c) Abeeyance
(d) Abyeence

Q6. Select the most appropriate antonym of the word: Exquisite

(a) Beautiful
(b) Coarse
(c) Delicate
(d) Fine

Q7. Choose the correct one-word substitute for:

A government by a single person.

(a) Democracy
(b) Oligarchy
(c) Autocracy
(d) Plutocracy

Q8. Choose the most suitable option to replace the highlighted part of the sentence:

Peter did not speak to no one in the room.

(a) anyone
(b) no one
(c) somebody
(d) nobody

Q9. Select the most appropriate antonym of the word: Euphemism

(a) Understatement
(b) Directness
(c) Substitute
(d) Vagueness

Q10. Choose the correct indirect narration of the following statement from the given alternatives:

The mother said to the child, "Don't touch the hot iron."

(a) The mother warned the child not to touch the hot iron.
(b) The mother told the child not to touched the hot iron.
(c) The mother warned the child not to be touching the hot iron.
(d) The mother requested the child never to touching the hot iron.

Q11. Change the following sentence into the Active form.

The intricate design will have been conceived by a team of engineers.

(a) A team of engineers will conceive the intricate design.
(b) The intricate design will conceive a team of engineers.
(c) A team of engineers will have conceived the intricate design.
(d) The intricate design has been conceived by a team of engineers.

Q12. Fill in the blank with the correctly spelled word that means "excessively talkative, especially about trivial matters."

The ____ neighbor kept everyone awake with his endless stories.

(a) garulous
(b) garrulou
(c) garrulous
(d) garrlous

Q13. Choose the most suitable option to replace the highlighted part of the sentence:

As soon as Gita opened the umbrella, a scorpion fell about of it.

(a) fell up from
(b) fell off from
(c) fell out of
(d) fallen down of

Q14. Select the option that expresses the given sentence in direct voice.

The young artist confidently announced that she could paint a masterpiece if she were given enough time.

(a) The young artist announced, "I can paint a masterpiece if I am given enough time."
(b) The young artist said, "She could paint a masterpiece if she was given enough time."
(c) The young artist announced, "I could paint a masterpiece if I were given enough time."
(d) The young artist said, "I can paint a masterpiece if I were given enough time."

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Q15. Choose the correct passive voice transformation of the sentence:

The diligent worker performs his tasks with meticulous care every single day.

(a) His tasks are performed with meticulous care by the diligent worker every single day.
(b) His tasks were performed with meticulous care by the diligent worker every single day.
(c) His tasks are being performed with meticulous care by the diligent worker every single day.
(d) The diligent worker is performed with meticulous care by his tasks every single day.

Directions

Read the passage and answer the following questions:

In an era where urban dwellers frequently lament their paucity of time, cultivating plants that demand minimal vigilance have become almost axiomatic for those seeking verdant comfort within their domiciles. Certain species, endowed with remarkable resilience, can subsist with negligible intervention, thereby mitigating the anxieties often concomitant with horticulture.

The snake plant (Sansevieria trifasciata), for instance, is virtually indomitable. It thrives in variegated light conditions and can endure erratic watering schedules without forfeiting its structural elegance. Likewise, the pothos (Epipremnum aureum), with its luxuriant, trailing foliage, adapts to both dimly lit corners and well-illuminated spaces, performing photosynthesis with an almost stoic persistence.

Another exemplar is the aloe Vera, whose succulent leaves serve as reservoirs of moisture, rendering frequent irrigation superfluous. Beyond its ornamental utility, aloe Vera confers medicinal benefits, its gel being esteemed for dermal amelioration. Even the ZZ plant (Zamioculcas zamiifolia), seemingly sculpted from emerald wax, flourishes in neglect, tolerating prolonged droughts and low luminosity without capitulating to decay.

The allure of such flora lies not merely in their aesthetic contribution but in their implicit lesson: resilience is as captivating as fragility. In cultivating them, one engages in a quiet partnership where human oversight is ancillary, and nature's intrinsic mechanisms orchestrate survival with effortless grace.

Q16. "plants that demand minimal vigilance have become almost axiomatic for those seeking verdant comfort within their domiciles."

Convert the sentence into Interrogative sentence.

(a) plants that demand minimal vigilance have not become almost axiomatic for those seeking verdant comfort within their domiciles?
(b) Is plants that demand minimal vigilance have become almost axiomatic for those seeking verdant comfort within their domiciles?
(c) Why plants that demand minimal vigilance have become almost axiomatic for those seeking verdant comfort within their domiciles?
(d) Have plants that demand minimal vigilance become almost axiomatic for those seeking verdant comfort within their domiciles?

Q17. Rewrite the following sentence from the passage in passive voice without changing the tense:

"The snake plant (Sansevieria trifasciata) can endure erratic watering schedules without forfeiting its structural elegance."

(a) Erratic watering schedules can be endured by the snake plant without forfeiting its structural elegance.
(b) Erratic watering schedules are endured by the snake plant without forfeiting its structural elegance.
(c) Erratic watering schedules will be endured by the snake plant without forfeiting its structural elegance.
(d) Erratic watering schedules were endured by the snake plant without forfeiting its structural elegance.

Q18. The word "capitulating" in the sentence "tolerating prolonged droughts and low luminosity without capitulating to decay," most nearly means:

(a) Surrendering
(b) Strengthening
(c) Multiplying
(d) Regenerating

Q19. The phrase "verdant comfort" refers to:

(a) Emotional rest from green scenery
(b) A luxurious sofa
(c) Comfort provided by greenery

(d) Artificial decoration

Q20. In the passage, one plant is characterised not only by its ornamental value but also by a functional benefit derived from a substance within its leaves, which is esteemed for dermal amelioration. Which plant fits this description?

(a) Pothos (Epipremnum aureum)
(b) Aloe vera
(c) Snake plant (Sansevieria trifasciata)
(d) ZZ plant (Zamioculcas zamiifolia)

Q21. Rearrange the following sentences to form a meaningful and grammatically correct paragraph:

P. He fuelled his body for the rigorous workout by adhering to a particular diet and drinking plenty of water.

Q. He pushed his body to its limits by going on lengthy runs on the weekends.

R. Throughout the week, he increased his endurance by running shorter distances.

S. He was tired but elated when he crossed the finish line on race day.

(a) Q, R, P, S
(b) P, R, Q, S
(c) S, R, Q, P
(d) R, S, Q, P

Q22. Rearrange the following sentences to form a meaningful and grammatically correct paragraph:

P: The public park in the city was converted into a lively community centre with green areas and recreational facilities.

Q: It was a much-awaited project that united the community and had a friendly environment.

R: The park soon became a favourite destination for families, fitness buffs, and nature enthusiasts.

S: Volunteers and local businesses joined hands to donate resources such as plants, benches, and tools.

(a) P, S, Q, R
(b) Q, S, R, P
(c) S, P, R, Q
(d) R, S, P, Q

Q23. Which word is closest in meaning to parlour?

The night was cold and wet, but in the small parlour the blinds were drawn and the fire burned brightly.

(a) Tunnel
(b) Balcony
(c) Room
(d) Garden

Q24. Which of the following pairs of homonyms can be used to fill in the blanks most suitably?

As his __ ring slipped from his finger and sank into the pond, a curious __ paddled over and, mistaking it for food, swallowed it whole.

(a) symbol, cymbal
(b) signet, cygnet
(c) cygnet, signet
(d) cymbal, symbol

Q25. What is the term for someone who believes in more than one God?

(a) Monotheist
(b) Atheist
(c) Polytheist
(d) Agnostic

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE

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Q26. In this type of questions, question is provided with substitutes for various mathematical symbols, followed by a question involving calculation of an expression or choosing the correct/incorrect equation. You have to put the real signs in the given equation and then solve the questions as required.

If '?' stands for '÷ ', '!' stands for 'x', '%' stands for '+', '&' stands for '-', then find the value of: 6 ? 15 ! 5 & 8 = ?

(a) -8
(b) -6
(c) -7
(d) -5

Q27. In a row of 42 workers, Vikram is 14th from the left and Rohit is 11th from the right. How many workers are standing between Vikram and Rohit?

(a) 16
(b) 17
(c) 18
(d) 19

Q28. There are 15 bottles arraanged in a line. Bottle X is 3rd from the start and Bottle Y is 6th from the end. Find the number of bottles between X and Y.

(a) 5
(b) 6
(c) 7
(d) 8

Q29. If 881 # 88 ~ 11 = 873 and 606 # 323 ~ 19 = 589, then what is the value of 821 # 306 ~ 17?

(a) 801
(b) 800
(c) 806
(d) 803

Q30. Few of the letters are given followed by a question mark (?) these letters are following a specific pattern you have to give the correct option which can replace question mark.

Identify the next term: H, K, N, Q, ?

(a) S
(b) T
(c) U
(d) V

Q31. In three of the following pairs are same by same pattern except one pair. Which pair does not follow this pattern?

(a) 14 : 24
(b) 35 : 48
(c) 63 : 80
(d) 15 : 24

Q32. In three of the following pairs are same by same pattern except one pair. Which pair does not follow this pattern?

(a) 2 : 3
(b) 6 : 6
(c) 5 : 6
(d) 4 : 3

Q33. Directions: Select the related word from the given alternatives

Sleepy: Drowsy:: Anger: ?

(a) Blunder
(b) Rage
(c) Burn
(d) Vivid

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Q34. Directions: Pick the correct options from the given alternatives

201: 423 :: 501 :?

(a) 523
(b) 423
(c) 623
(d) 723

Q35. Direction: Choose the correct options from the alternative

52 :27:: 62:?

(a) 72
(b) 64
(c) 26
(d) 125

Q36. Which of the following options will replace the question mark (?) in the given series

A10, E8, I6, M4, ?

(a) Q2
(b) R1
(c) Q3
(d) S2

Q37. What comes next in the series?

BDF, GIK, LNP, ?

(a) QSU
(b) QST
(c) QTX
(d) RSV

Q38. Instructions: Carefully examine the Reference Statement. Then, identify the single option among the four alternatives (a, b, c, d) that is an EXACT AND COMPLETE REPLICATION of the Reference Statement. Pay exceptionally close attention to every character, number, symbol, space, and punctuation mark.

Reference: Tokyo; December 31st, 23:59 JST.

(a) Tokyo; December 31st, 23:59 JST.
(b) Tokyo, December 31st, 23:59 JST
(c) Tokyo; December 31.st, 23:59 Jst.
(d) Tokyo; Decembeer 31st, 23:59 JST.

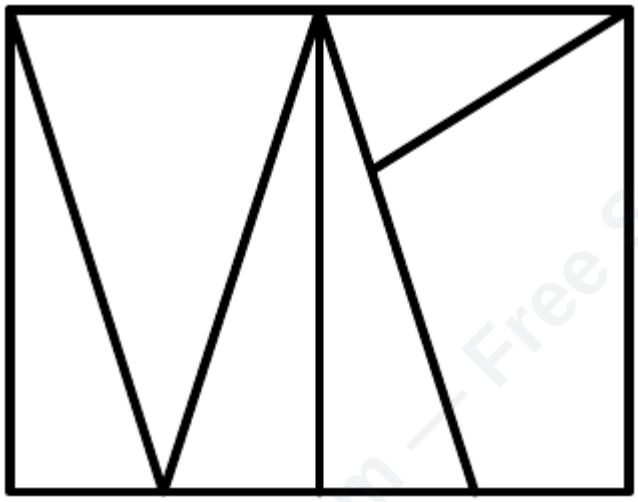
Q39. Instructions: Carefully examine the Reference Statement. Then, identify the single option among the four alternatives (a, b, c, d) that is an EXACT AND COMPLETE REPLICATION of the Reference Statement. Pay exceptionally close attention to every character, number, symbol, space, and punctuation mark.

Reference: Dublin_17 Mar_2025, 08:00 hrs.

(a) Dublin_17 Mar_2025, 08:00 hrs.
(b) Dublin_17 Mar_2025, 08:00 hr.
(c) Dublin_17 Mar_2025, 08:00 hrs..
(d) Dublin, 17 Mar, 2025, 08:00 hrs.

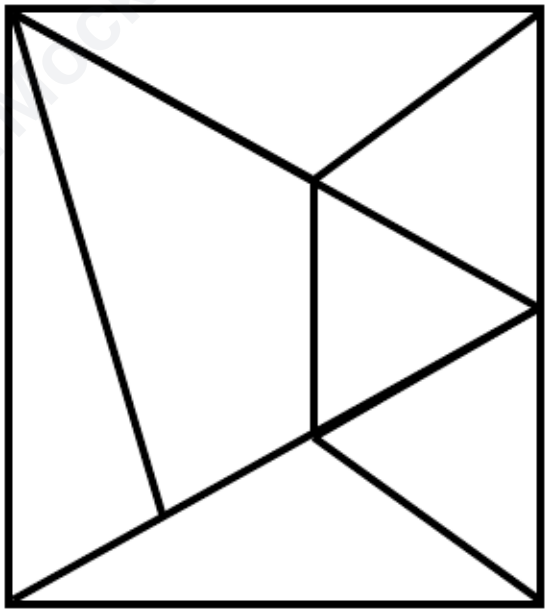
Q40. How many triangles are there in the given figure?

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(a) 5
(b) 6
(c) 7
(d) 8

Q41. How many triangles are there in the given figure?



(a) 8
(b) 9
(c) 10
(d) 11

Q42. Weight of 5 pens W, X, Y, Z and A is compared. Weight of no two pens is same. Weight of A is less than Z but more than X. Weight of Y is more than W. Weight of Y is second lowest. Weight of how many pens is more than Z?

(a) 0
(b) 1
(c) 3
(d) 2

Q43. 5 friends P, B, C, G and H are sitting around a circular table facing towards the centre (not necessarily in the same order). H is sitting to the immediate right of C. B is sitting third to the left of H. P is not an immediate neighbour of C. Who is to the immediate left of C?

(a) G
(b) B

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(c) P
(d) H

Q44. 8 girls P, Q, R, S, T, U, V and W are sitting in a row facing south (not necessarily in the same order). P is to the immediate right of T. P is fifth to the right of U. S is fifth to the left of T. W is third to the right of S. Only two girls sit between Q and V. V is an immediate neighbour of P. Which pair of girls is at the extreme ends of the row?

(a) U and V
(b) V and S
(c) P and S
(d) R and V

Q45. P walks 30 km towards north. He turns right and walks 60 km. He again turns right and walks 30 km. How far (in km) and in which direction is he now from the starting point?

(a) 60, West
(b) 50, East
(c) 50, West
(d) 60, East

Q46. P walks 30 km towards north and reaches point A. He turns right and walks 15 km to reach point B. He finally turns right and walks 20 km to reach point C. How far (in km) is point A from point C and in which direction is P facing now?

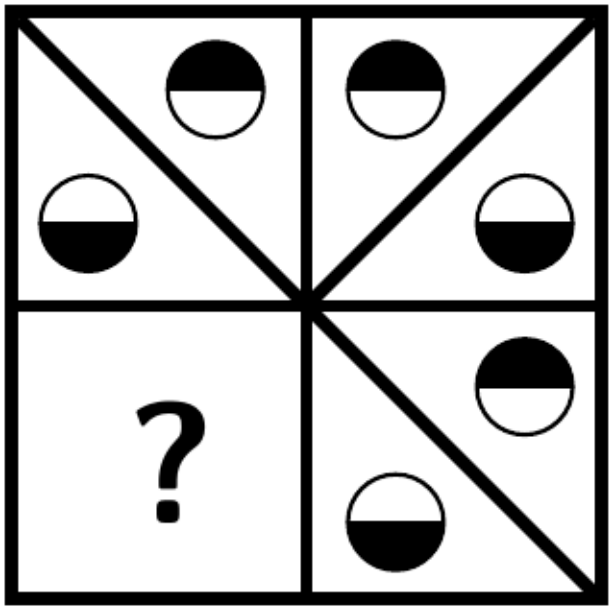
(a) 25, North
(b) 36, South
(c) 25, South
(d) 36, North

Q47. Three out of the following four are alike in a particular pattern and hence form a group. Find the one which does not belong to that group.

Python, Java, Linux, C++

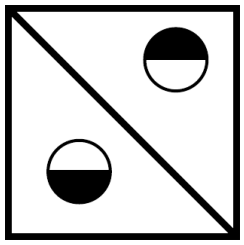
(a) Python
(b) Java
(c) Linux
(d) C++

Q48. Which option figure will complete the pattern in the question figure? (Rotation is not allowed)

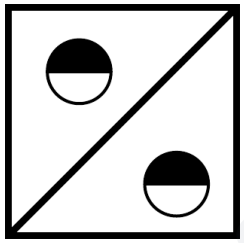


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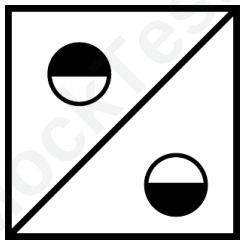
(a)



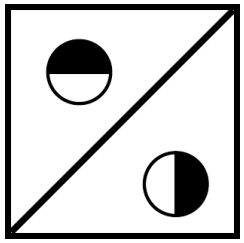
(b)



(c)



(d)



Q49. If 'A' means '+', 'B' means '÷', 'C' means 'x' and 'D' means '-', then 17 A 9 D 11 C 4 B 2 = ?

(a) 4
(b) 6
(c) 8
(d) 10

Q50. By interchanging the given two numbers (not digits) which of the following equation will be correct?

6 and 9

I. 7 x 9 + 6 - 5 ÷ 1 = 46

II. 3 x 9 + 6 - 8 ÷ 2 = 23

(a) Only I
(b) Only II
(c) Both I and II
(d) Neither I nor II

QUANTITATIVE APTITUDE

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Q51. What is the square root of 46656?

(a) 216
(b) 224
(c) 212
(d) 228

Q52. Find the value: √(?)+14 =√2601

(a) 1521
(b) 1369
(c) 1225
(d) 961

Q53. Simplify: (112/√196) × (√576/12) × (√256/8)

(a) 32
(b) 33
(c) 34
(d) 30

Q54. Average of 5 consecutive even numbers is 24. Find the largest number.

(a) 30
(b) 28
(c) 26
(d) 32

Q55. The average score of 4 innings is 50 runs. If the difference between the highest and lowest score is 30 and the remaining two scores are 48 and 52, find the highest score.

(a) 65
(b) 66
(c) 68
(d) 70

Q56. A value increases from 400 to 500. What is the percentage increase?

(a) 20%
(b) 25%
(c) 30%
(d) 35%

Q57. A number is increased by 40% and then decreased by 30%. What is the net percentage change?

(a) 2% increase
(b) 2% decrease
(c) 8% increase
(d) 8% decrease

Q58. A TV is marked at Rs. 15,000. A discount of 10% is offered. Find the selling price.

(a) Rs. 13,000
(b) Rs. 13,500
(c) Rs. 14,000
(d) Rs. 14,500

Q59. Marked price of a watch is Rs. 1,200. If a discount of 25% is given, what is the selling price?

(a) Rs. 800
(b) Rs. 850
(c) Rs. 900
(d) Rs. 950

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Q60. A product is marked at Rs. 8000 and sold at a discount of 15%. What is the selling price?

(a) Rs. 6800
(b) Rs. 6900
(c) Rs. 7000
(d) Rs. 7200

Q61. A can do a job in 12 days, B can do the same job in 8 days. How long will they take together?

(a) 5 days
(b) 4.8 days
(c) 4.9 days
(d) 4.5 days

Q62. A and B together do a piece of work in 10 days. B alone does it in 15 days. How long will A take alone?

(a) 20 days
(b) 25 days
(c) 30 days
(d) 35 days

Q63. A designer creates a regular polygonal clock with each internal angle 150°. How many sides does it have?

(a) 10
(b) 12
(c) 8
(d) 9

Q64. A 1.5 m stick casts a 2 m shadow. A nearby tree casts a 6 m shadow. What is the tree's height?

(a) 5 m
(b) 4.5 m
(c) 6.5 m
(d) 3.5 m

Q65. A missile adjusts its flight path using a triangle formed with height = 7 units and hypotenuse = 25 units. If θ is the angle opposite to height and θ lies in the 1st quadrant, find tan (θ).

(a) (24/7)
(b) (7/24)
(c) (25/7)
(d) (7/25)

Q66. Average of first 10 odd numbers is:

(a) 10
(b) 11
(c) 9
(d) 12

Q67. A certain sum amounts to Rs. 1,260 in 2 years and Rs. 1,350 in 5 years. Find the principal amount.

(a) Rs. 2,100
(b) Rs. 1,250
(c) Rs. 1,100
(d) Rs. 1,200

Q68. Simplify: (81^(3/4) × (1/27)^(-2/3))/((√32+√8)²-(√32-√8)²)

(a) 243/64
(b) 546/28
(c) 675/16
(d) 246/23

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Q69. A point P is outside a circle with radius 8 units. A secant line passing through P and the circle's center O intersects the circle at points A and B, where B is the point on the secant closer to P. A tangent from P touches the circle at T, and PT=15 units. Find the length of the segment PB.

(a) 17 units
(b) 30 units
(c) 9 units
(d) 18 units

Q70. A triangle has vertices with coordinates A(1,2), B(5,2), and C(3,8). What is the y-coordinate of its centroid?

(a) 2
(b) 5
(c) 6
(d) 4

Q71. In Δ ABC, the circumcenter is located at point O. The lengths of the sides are a,b,c. Which of the following statements about the distances from O is true?

(a) Distance from O to side a is equal to distance from O to vertex A
(b) Distance from O to side a is equal to distance from O to side b
(c) Distance from O to vertex A is twice the distance from O to vertex B
(d) Distance from O to vertex B is equal to distance from O to vertex C

Q72. In a triangle ABC, the angle bisector of angle A divides side BC at point D. If AB=8 cm, AC=12 cm, and BC=15 cm, what is the length of segment BD?

(a) 11 cm
(b) 3 cm
(c) 15 cm
(d) 6 cm

Q73. In the case of two intersecting circles of different radii, how many external common tangents are there?

(a) 0
(b) 2
(c) 3
(d) 4

Q74. If two circles have one point of intersection and the same radius, how many external tangents can be drawn?

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

Q75. The radii of two circles are 10 cm and 4 cm. The length of a common external tangent is 8 cm. What is the distance between their centers?

(a) 12 cm
(b) 10 cm
(c) 9 cm
(d) 15 cm

GENERAL AWARENESS

Q76. The first volume of ‘Akbar Nama’ focuses on which of the following?

(a) Akbar’s administration
(b) Events of Akbar’s reign
(c) Geography of the Mughal Empire
(d) Akbar’s ancestors

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Q77. Which Mughal emperor led a campaign against Kashmir, and in which year did it took place?

(a) Babur, 1531
(b) Humayun, 1538
(c) Akbar, 1586
(d) Jahangir, 1617

Q78. Which committee recommended a three-tier Panchayati Raj structure in the Indian constitution?

(a) Ashok Mehta Committee
(b) Balwant Rai Mehta Committee
(c) GVK Rao Committee
(d) L M Singhvi Committee

Q79. The report of _____ member Justice Hema Committee, formed in 2017 was released in 2024.

(a) 1
(b) 3
(c) 5
(d) 7

Q80. Smart Cities Mission in June 2025 completed how many years?

(a) 10
(b) 8
(c) 9
(d) 7

Q81. As per the Henley Passport Index 2025, what is India's rank in passport strength?

(a) 77th
(b) 65th
(c) 75th
(d) 90th

Q82. How many countries were ranked in the World Press Freedom Index 2025?

(a) 180
(b) 150
(c) 200
(d) 132

Q83. Which of the following is NOT one of the pillars of Export Preparedness Index of India?

I. Export policy
II. Business environment

(a) Only I
(b) Only II
(c) Both I and II
(d) Neither I nor II

Q84. The Flamingo Festival 2025 was conducted in _____ from January 18 to 20.

(a) Patna
(b) Tirupati
(c) Shimla
(d) Chandigarh

Q85. The Government of India has set a target of achieving 140 GW of wind power capacity by _____.

(a) 2026
(b) 2027
(c) 2030
(d) 2050

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Q86. Geostationary orbit satellites travel at about _____ km per second.

(a) 15
(b) 10
(c) 25
(d) 3

Q87. Which of the following statement is correct regarding force?

I. If an unbalanced force is applied on the object, there will be a change either in its speed or in the direction of its motion.

II. To accelerate the motion of an object, a balanced force is required.

(a) Only I
(b) Only II
(c) Both I and II
(d) Neither I nor II

Q88. From which island did DRDO conduct the 'Pralay' missile tests in July 2025?

(a) Nicobar Islands
(b) Lakshadweep island
(c) Andaman Islands
(d) Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Island

Q89. Which Mughal emperor ruled between 1713 and 1719?

(a) Ahmad Shah
(b) Farrukh Siyar
(c) Shah Alam II
(d) Alamgir II

Q90. Which military strategy did Shivaji often use against his opponents?

(a) Open field battle
(b) Warfare with the help of elephant
(c) Guerrilla warfare
(d) Siege tactics

Q91. The NSE introduced trading in Index Options (also based on Nifty 50) on June 4, _____.

(a) 2006
(b) 2001
(c) 2003
(d) 2005

Q92. The Hill area development programme was initiated during the _____ th five-year plan.

(a) 10
(b) 8
(c) 5
(d) 7

Q93. The AGMARK is the certification mark for _____ in India.

(a) industrial products
(b) software products
(c) agriculture products
(d) financial products

Q94. The first complete census of an Indian city was conducted in _____.

(a) 1830
(b) 1810
(c) 1840

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(d) 1820

Q95. In India, Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC) 2011 was conducted by which of the following?

I. Ministry of Rural Development

II. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

(a) Only I
(b) Only II
(c) Both I and II
(d) Neither I nor II

Q96. During British rule in India, caste data was regularly collected in decennial censuses from 1881 to _____.

(a) 1921
(b) 1911
(c) 1931
(d) 1901

Q97. Which of the following has amalgamated a large number of central and state taxes and cesses?

(a) Goods and Services Tax
(b) Customs duty
(c) Minimum Alternate tax
(d) Corporate tax

Q98. Which ancient Sanskrit grammarian lived during the time of the Nandas?

(a) Kalidasa
(b) Aryabhata
(c) Panini
(d) Patanjali

Q99. Who are traditionally believed to have composed the Vedic hymns in early Indian tradition?

(a) Kings
(b) Scholars from Nalanda
(c) Village elders
(d) Rishis and Rishikas

Q100. Which of the following statement is correct?

I. During the Vedic period the society was organised into four varnas.

II. Early Hindu philosophy prescribed the four stages of life.

(a) Only I
(b) Only II
(c) Both I and II
(d) Neither I nor II

ANSWER KEY

1	a	2	d	3	a	4	a	5	b	6	b	7	c	8	a	9	b	10	a
11	c	12	c	13	c	14	a	15	a	16	d	17	a	18	a	19	c	20	b
21	b	22	a	23	c	24	b	25	c	26	b	27	b	28	b	29	d	30	b
31	a	32	b	33	b	34	d	35	b	36	a	37	a	38	a	39	a	40	b
41	c	42	a	43	a	44	b	45	d	46	c	47	c	48	c	49	a	50	c
51	a	52	b	53	a	54	b	55	a	56	b	57	b	58	b	59	c	60	a
61	b	62	c	63	b	64	b	65	b	66	a	67	d	68	a	69	c	70	d
71	d	72	d	73	b	74	b	75	b	76	d	77	c	78	b	79	c	80	a

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81	a	82	a	83	d	84	b	85	c	86	d	87	a	88	d	89	b	90	c
91	b	92	c	93	c	94	a	95	c	96	c	97	a	98	c	99	d	100	c

SOLUTIONS

Q1. Answer: (a) Beautiful furnitures made the house elegant.

The correct answer is '1' i.e. Beautiful furnitures made the house elegant.

Key Points

• The word "furniture" is an uncountable noun in English.

• Uncountable nouns do not have a plural form and are always treated as singular. Therefore, the word "furnitures" is incorrect.

• The correct sentence should use the singular form "furniture", not its plural.

• Corrected sentence: Beautiful furniture made the house elegant.

Correct sentence: Beautiful furniture made the house elegant.

Additional Information

• Uncountable nouns:

• Definition: Nouns that cannot be counted and are treated as singular.

• Examples: furniture, information, water, advice, etc.

• Usage: Use singular verbs and quantifiers like "some," "a lot of," or "a piece of" for uncountable nouns.

• Countable nouns:

• Definition: Nouns that can be counted and have both singular and plural forms.

• Examples: chair, book, apple, etc.

Q2. Answer: (d) support the conclusion that the new strategy is ineffective.

The correct answer is 'D' i.e. support the conclusion that the new strategy is ineffective..

Key Points

• The error is in Part D of the sentence, specifically the verb "support."

• The subject of the sentence is "The company's data." In standard English and specifically in formal examination contexts (like SSC, UPSC, and Bank exams), the word "data" is often treated as a singular collective noun when it refers to a body of information as a whole.

• Subject-Verb Agreement: Since the subject is singular, the verb must also be singular. The singular form of the verb "support" is "supports."

• Furthermore, the non-restrictive clause in Part B ("which has been collected...") clearly treats "data" as a singular entity by using the singular auxiliary verb "has." Therefore, the main verb must remain consistent with this.

Correct sentence: The company's data, which has been collected and analyzed for over a decade, supports the conclusion that the new strategy is ineffective.

Additional Information

• Data (Singular vs. Plural): While "data" is technically the plural of the Latin datum, it is almost universally used as an uncountable/singular noun in modern English (like "information" or "evidence"). However, in strictly scientific or academic writing, some still treat it as plural. In competitive exams, look for consistency within the sentence to decide (in this case, "has" in Part B confirmed it should be singular).

• The "Interrupter" Rule: Phrases like "which has been collected..." are interrupters that come between the subject and the verb. Always ignore these to ensure the subject (data) matches the main verb (supports).

Q3. Answer: (a) in

The correct answer is '1' i.e. in.

Key Points

• The phrase "in accordance with" is a standard expression used to indicate that something complies with or agrees with rules, laws, or standards.

• The sentence refers to a policy being implemented following international standards, making the preposition "in" the most appropriate choice to complete the phrase.

• Other options such as "by," "to," or "under" do not fit the collocation or context of this sentence.

Correct sentence: The policy was implemented in accordance with international standards.

Additional Information

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• The phrase "in accordance with" is commonly used in formal or legal contexts to refer to compliance with established rules or guidelines.
• Examples of usage:
• The company operates in accordance with environmental regulations.
• All procedures were conducted in accordance with the law.

Q4. Answer: (a) or else

The correct answer is '1' i.e. or else.

Key Points

• The given sentence indicates a condition where two possible outcomes are mentioned: she completes the registration or she won’t be allowed to participate.
• The conjunction "or else" is used to specify the consequences of not fulfilling the condition.
• Other options like "unless," "and," or "since" do not fit the context of providing a consequence.

Correct sentence: She must complete the registration by Friday, or else she won’t be allowed to participate.

Additional Information

• Usage of Conjunctions:
• Or else: Used to indicate the consequence of an action. (e.g., Finish your homework, or else you won’t be allowed to play.)
• Unless: Indicates an exception. (e.g., You can’t go out unless you finish your work.)
• And: Connects two ideas or actions. (e.g., She read the book and wrote a review.)
• Since: Indicates a reason or time. (e.g., Since it was raining, we stayed indoors.)

Q5. Answer: (b) Abeyance

The correct answer is '2' i.e. Abeyance.

Key Points

• The word "Abeyance" is correctly spelt and means a state of temporary disuse or suspension.
• Option 1 (Abyeance) is incorrect as it is misspelt.
• Option 3 (Abeeyance) is incorrect as it contains an extra 'e'.
• Option 4 (Abyeence) is incorrect as it is also misspelt.

Correct usage: The project was held in abeyance due to unforeseen circumstances.

Additional Information

• Abeyance:
• Meaning: A state of temporary inactivity or suspension.
• Origin: Derived from the Old French word "abeance," meaning expectation or longing.
• Example: The court case was in abeyance pending further investigation.

Q6. Answer: (b) Coarse

The correct answer is '2' i.e. Coarse.

Key Points

• The word "exquisite" refers to something exceptionally beautiful, delicate, or finely crafted.
• The antonym of "exquisite" would be a word that conveys the opposite, such as something rough, unrefined, or coarse.
• Among the given options:
• Option 1: Beautiful - Similar in meaning to "exquisite," not an antonym.
• Option 2: Coarse - Opposite of "exquisite," meaning rough or unrefined. This is the correct answer.
• Option 3: Delicate - Similar to "exquisite," not an antonym.
• Option 4: Fine - Similar to "exquisite," not an antonym.

Correct answer: The most appropriate antonym of "exquisite" is coarse.

Additional Information

• The meaning of words is crucial when identifying antonyms. "Exquisite" often implies elegance and refinement, while "coarse" conveys the opposite.
• Pay attention to the context of the word in a sentence to ensure the correct antonym is selected.

Q7. Answer: (c) Autocracy

The correct answer is '3' i.e. Autocracy.

Key Points

• Democracy: A form of government in which the people have the authority to deliberate and decide legislation, or to elect governing officials.

• Oligarchy: A government by a small group of people, typically one that is corrupt or selfish.

• Autocracy: A government in which one person has unlimited power or authority.

• Plutocracy: A government controlled exclusively by the wealthy, either directly or indirectly.

Correct explanation: A government by a single person is defined as Autocracy. The term refers to a political system where absolute power is concentrated in the hands of one individual.

Additional Information

• Monarchy: A form of autocracy where a king, queen, or emperor exercises supreme authority, often inherited.

• Dictatorship: A form of autocracy where a single leader wields absolute power, often obtained through force or manipulation.

Q8. Answer: (a) anyone

The correct answer is '1' i.e. anyone.

Key Points

• The sentence contains a double negative: "did not" and "no one." In standard English grammar, double negatives are incorrect as they create a positive meaning, which is not intended here.

• The correct replacement for "no one" is "anyone" to eliminate the double negative while keeping the intended meaning intact.

• The revised sentence will be: "Peter did not speak to anyone in the room."

Correct sentence: Peter did not speak to anyone in the room.

Additional Information

• Double negatives:

• Double negatives involve two negative words in the same sentence.

• Example of incorrect usage: "I don’t have no money." (The correct form is: "I don’t have any money.")

• Use of "anyone":

• "Anyone" is used in negative sentences, questions, or conditional clauses to refer to a person, without specifying who.

• Example: "Did anyone call me?"

Q9. Answer: (b) Directness

The correct answer is '2' i.e. Directness.

Key Points

• The word Euphemism refers to a polite or mild word or expression used to refer to something unpleasant or embarrassing, often to soften the impact.

• An antonym for Euphemism would be a term that conveys bluntness or straightforwardness, without softening the expression.

• Directness, as an antonym, matches this idea as it involves being straightforward, candid, or frank, without using softer or gentler language.

Correct explanation: The word Euphemism contrasts with Directness, which involves stating things as they are without sugarcoating or softening the expression.

Additional Information

• Understatement: Refers to presenting something as smaller or less important than it actually is, which is not the opposite of Euphemism.

• Substitute: Refers to replacing one thing with another, which is unrelated to the antonym of Euphemism.

• Vagueness: Refers to a lack of clarity or precision, which is not directly opposite to Euphemism.

Q10. Answer: (a) The mother warned the child not to touch the hot iron.

The correct answer is '1' i.e. The mother warned the child not to touch the hot iron.

Key Points

• The given sentence is a direct speech in the form of an imperative sentence with a negative command: "Don't touch the hot iron."

• When converting such sentences into indirect speech, we use the reporting verb "warned" to indicate caution.

• The word "not" is used before the verb to maintain the negative meaning.

• The infinitive form of the verb ("to touch") is used in the indirect narration.

Correct sentence: The mother warned the child not to touch the hot iron.

Additional Information

• Incorrect Options:

• Option 2: "The mother told the child not to touched the hot iron."

Grammatically incorrect because "touched" is the past tense, whereas the infinitive "to touch" should have been used.

• Option 3: "The mother warned the child not to be touching the hot iron."

Incorrect because "not to be touching" is not a suitable structure in indirect speech.

• Option 4: "The mother requested the child never to touching the hot iron."

Incorrect because "requested" does not convey the warning tone, and "to touching" is grammatically wrong.

Q11. Answer: (c) A team of engineers will have conceived the intricate design.

The correct answer is '3' i.e. A team of engineers will have conceived the intricate design.

Key Points

• The sentence given is in the passive voice. The passive structure is: "Object + will have been + past participle + by + subject."

• To convert the sentence into the active voice, the subject and object swap places, and the verb form changes accordingly.

• The correct active voice structure would be: "Subject + will have + past participle + object."

Correct sentence: A team of engineers will have conceived the intricate design.

Additional Information

• Active Voice: The subject performs the action expressed by the verb.

• Example: The cat chased the mouse.

• Passive Voice: The subject receives the action expressed by the verb.

• Example: The mouse was chased by the cat.

Q12. Answer: (c) garrulous

The correct answer is '3' i.e. garrulous.

Key Points

• The word garrulous means excessively talkative, especially about trivial matters.

• From the options provided, option 3 is the correctly spelled word that fits the context of the sentence.

• The other options are misspelled and do not correspond to the correct spelling of the word.

Correct sentence: The garrulous neighbor kept everyone awake with his endless stories.

Additional Information

• Definition: Garrulous is derived from the Latin word garrulus, meaning talkative.

• Usage in context: It is often used to describe someone whose excessive talking can be annoying or disruptive.

Q13. Answer: (c) fell out of

The correct answer is '3' i.e. fell out of.

Key Points

• The given sentence indicates an event where a scorpion dropped from inside the umbrella when it was opened.

• The correct phrasal verb to describe something dropping or coming out from inside an object is "fell out of."

• Other options such as "fell up from," "fell off from," and "fallen down of" are grammatically or contextually incorrect in this scenario.

Correct sentence: As soon as Gita opened the umbrella, a scorpion fell out of it.

Additional Information

• "Fell out of": Used to describe something that exits or drops from an enclosed space or container.

• Example: The papers fell out of the folder.

• Incorrect options explanation:

• "Fell up from": Grammatically incorrect as "up" does not fit the context of falling.

• "Fell off from": Refers to something dropping from the surface of an object, not from inside it.

• "Fallen down of": Incorrect formation; "fallen down" is used for general movement downward, and "of" is misplaced.

Q14. Answer: (a) The young artist announced, "I can paint a masterpiece if I am given enough time."

The correct answer is '1' i.e. The young artist announced, "I can paint a masterpiece if I am given enough time.".

Key Points

• The given sentence is in the indirect speech, where the young artist reported her ability to paint a masterpiece under a certain condition.

• To convert it into the direct speech, the reporting verb remains in the past tense ("announced"), but the exact words of the speaker need to be quoted.

• When reporting in the direct voice, the speaker's original words are retained, and the pronouns are adjusted accordingly.

• The original sentence in direct speech would be: "I can paint a masterpiece if I am given enough time."

Correct sentence: The young artist announced, "I can paint a masterpiece if I am given enough time.".

Additional Information

• Difference between direct and indirect speech:

• Direct Speech: The exact words of the speaker are quoted within quotation marks. Example: She said, "I am happy."

• Indirect Speech: The speaker's words are paraphrased without quotation marks. Example: She said that she was happy.

• Tense Changes in Reported Speech:

• If the reporting verb is in the past tense, the tenses of the direct speech are usually shifted back in indirect speech.

• For example, "I can" becomes "she could" in indirect speech.

• However, for this question, the sentence is already provided in indirect speech, and we are converting it back to direct speech.

Q15. Answer: (a) His tasks are performed with meticulous care by the diligent worker every single day.

The correct answer is '1' i.e. His tasks are performed with meticulous care by the diligent worker every single day.

Key Points

• The original sentence is in the active voice, where the subject “the diligent worker” performs the action (performs his tasks).

• To convert this to the passive voice, the object of the active sentence “his tasks” becomes the subject of the passive sentence.

• The tense of the original sentence is present simple, so the passive form must use “are performed.”

• The correct structure is: Object + is/are + past participle + by + subject.

Correct sentence: His tasks are performed with meticulous care by the diligent worker every single day.

Additional Information

• Present Simple Passive Structure: Object + is/are + past participle.

• Example: The book is read by many people.

• Usage: Used to emphasize the action or the object of the action rather than the doer.

Q16. Answer: (d) Have plants that demand minimal vigilance become almost axiomatic for those seeking verdant comfort within...

The correct answer is Option 4.

Key Points

• Interrogative Transformation: To convert an assertive sentence into an interrogative one, we typically move the auxiliary verb to the beginning of the sentence. In the phrase "plants... have become," the auxiliary verb is "have".

• Correct Structure: Option 4 correctly places "Have" at the start, followed by the subject ("plants that demand minimal vigilance") and the past participle ("become"), ending with a question mark.

• Analysis of Incorrect Options:

• Option 1: Simply adds a question mark to a negative statement without correct inversion.

• Option 2: Incorrectly uses "Is" with a plural subject and the auxiliary "have."

• Option 3: While it uses "Why," it does not invert the subject and auxiliary verb, which is necessary for a standard interrogative structure.

Additional Information

• Axiomatic: In this context, it means something that is self-evident or unquestionable; it has become a "given" for urban dwellers.

• Verdant Comfort: This refers to the lush, green aesthetic provided by indoor plants, which the passage suggests mitigates the "anxieties concomitant with horticulture".

• Subject-Verb Agreement: Note that "plants" is a plural subject, hence the use of the plural auxiliary verb "have".

Q17. Answer: (a) Erratic watering schedules can be endured by the snake plant without forfeiting its structural elegance.

The correct answer is Option 1.

Key Points

• Passive Voice Transformation: To convert a sentence with a modal verb (like "can") into passive voice, the structure used is: Object + Modal Verb + be + Past Participle of the main verb + by + Subject.

• Tense Consistency: The original sentence uses the modal "can," which indicates capability in the present. Option 1 maintains this tense by using "can be endured".

• Analysis of Incorrect Options:

• Option 2: Changes the modal "can" to the simple present "are," losing the sense of "capability."

• Option 3: Changes the tense to the future ("will be").

• Option 4: Changes the tense to the past ("were").

Additional Information

• Indomitable: Used to describe the snake plant, this word means impossible to subdue or defeat, highlighting its extreme resilience.

• Erratic: Refers to watering schedules that are not even or regular in pattern; unpredictable.

• Snake Plant (Sansevieria): Noted for its structural elegance, it is one of the "axiomatic" plants for urban dwellers with a "paucity of time".

Q18. Answer: (a) Surrendering

The correct answer is Option 1.

Key Points

• Contextual Analysis: In the sentence, the ZZ plant is described as flourishing in neglect and tolerating droughts without "capitulating to decay." This implies the plant does not give in or yield to the process of rotting despite harsh conditions.

• Definition: Capitulate means to cease to resist an opponent or an unwelcome demand; to surrender. In a biological or horticultural context, it refers to a plant "giving up" its life functions to environmental stress.

• Vocabulary Substitute: Replacing the word in the sentence—"without surrendering to decay"—maintains the original meaning and logical flow of the passage.

Additional Information

• Incorrect Options: Options 2 (Strengthening), 3 (Multiplying), and 4 (Regenerating) all imply growth or positive development, which contradicts the negative context of "decay."

• Luminosity: This refers to the brightness or light conditions. The ZZ plant is noted for its ability to survive in "low luminosity" (dim light).

• Superfluous: In the third paragraph, the passage mentions that the aloe Vera's water-storing leaves make frequent irrigation superfluous, meaning unnecessary or more than enough.

Q19. Answer: (c) Comfort provided by greenery

The correct answer is Option 3.

Key Points

• Literal Meaning: The word "verdant" specifically refers to green grass, trees, or other flourishing vegetation. "Comfort" refers to a state of physical ease and freedom from pain or constraint.

• Contextual Analysis: In the passage, urban dwellers seek "verdant comfort within their domiciles" by cultivating plants like the snake plant and pothos. Therefore, the phrase refers to the physical or aesthetic ease provided by the presence of green plants.

• Analysis of Incorrect Options:

• Option 1: While greenery can provide emotional rest, the phrase "verdant comfort" in this context refers more broadly to the pleasant environment created by the plants themselves within the home.

• Option 2: This is an incorrect literal interpretation of "comfort" as furniture.

• Option 4: The passage specifically discusses living flora, which is the opposite of artificial decoration.

Additional Information

• Paucity of time: A sophisticated way of saying "lack of time," which explains why urban dwellers choose resilient plants.

• Domiciles: A formal term for homes or dwelling places.

• Axiomatic: The passage suggests that choosing low-maintenance plants has become self-evident or a common-sense decision for busy people.

Q20. Answer: (b) Aloe vera

The correct answer is Option 2.

Key Points

• Functional and Ornamental Value: The passage explicitly identifies Aloe vera as an exemplar that offers more than just aesthetic appeal. While it is used for "ornamental utility," it also "confers medicinal benefits."

• Dermal Amelioration: The text specifies that the gel found within the succulent leaves of the Aloe vera is "esteemed for dermal amelioration," which refers to the improvement or healing of the skin.

• Analysis of Other Plants:

• Snake plant: Praised for "structural elegance" and being "indomitable."

• Pothos: Characterized by "luxuriant, trailing foliage."

• ZZ plant: Described as appearing "sculpted from emerald wax" and flourishing in neglect.

Additional Information

• Amelioration: A formal term meaning the act of making something better or improving it. In this context, it refers to skin care or

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healing.

• Superfluous: The passage notes that the Aloe vera's ability to store moisture makes frequent irrigation "superfluous," meaning unnecessary or redundant.

• Ancillary: The author concludes that in growing these plants, human oversight is "ancillary" (secondary), as the plants' own mechanisms ensure their survival.

Q21. Answer: (b) P, R, Q, S

The correct answer is '2' i.e. P, R, Q, S.

Key Points

• The sentences describe the preparation and efforts of an individual leading up to race day, culminating in their success at the finish line.

• The most logical sequence is as follows:

• P: The individual starts by fuelling their body with the right diet and water, which is the foundation for their training.

• R: They gradually increase endurance during the week by running shorter distances.

• Q: On weekends, they push their body further with lengthy runs.

• S: Finally, their hard work pays off, and they feel elated upon completing the race on race day.

Correct sentence sequence: P, R, Q, S.

Additional Information

• This type of question requires careful analysis of the logical flow and progression of events.

• The sentences should be arranged in such a way that they form a coherent and meaningful paragraph, starting from preparation and leading to the outcome.

Q22. Answer: (a) P, S, Q, R

The correct answer is '1' i.e. P, S, Q, R.

Key Points

• The paragraph begins with sentence P, which introduces the idea of converting the park into a community center with green areas and recreational facilities. This sets the context for the rest of the passage.

• Sentence S logically follows as it describes the effort made by volunteers and local businesses to contribute resources for the transformation of the park.

• Sentence Q explains the significance of this project by mentioning how it united the community and provided a friendly environment.

• Finally, sentence R concludes the paragraph by describing the outcome — the park becoming a favorite destination for families, fitness enthusiasts, and nature lovers.

Correct paragraph: The public park in the city was converted into a lively community centre with green areas and recreational facilities. Volunteers and local businesses joined hands to donate resources such as plants, benches, and tools. It was a much-awaited project that united the community and had a friendly environment. The park soon became a favourite destination for families, fitness buffs, and nature enthusiasts.

Additional Information

• Rearrangement tips: Look for sentences that establish the context (introduction), provide supporting details, and conclude the passage. This logical sequence ensures the paragraph is meaningful and coherent.

• Pay attention to transitional words and logical connections between sentences to determine the correct order.

Q23. Answer: (c) Room

The correct answer is '3' i.e. Room.

Key Points

• In the given sentence, the word "parlour" refers to a small room in a house used for sitting or socializing.

• The context describes a warm and cozy environment in a small "parlour" where the blinds are drawn, and the fire is burning.

• Among the options provided, "Room" is the closest in meaning to "parlour."

Correct usage: The night was cold and wet, but in the small room the blinds were drawn, and the fire burned brightly.

Additional Information

• Parlour: Historically, a parlour was a formal sitting room in a house, used for receiving guests or for private family time.

• Other Options:

• 1) Tunnel: A passageway, typically underground.

• 2) Balcony: A platform projecting from the wall of a building, often outside an upper floor.

• 4) Garden: A plot of land used for growing plants, flowers, or vegetables.

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Q24. Answer: (b) signet, cygnet

The correct answer is '2' i.e. signet, cygnet.

Key Points

• The sentence requires a pair of homonyms that fit appropriately into the context of the blanks.

• The first blank refers to a type of ring. The word "signet" (a type of ring) fits perfectly here.

• The second blank refers to a creature paddling over in the pond. The word "cygnet" (a young swan) is ideal here.

• Therefore, the pair "signet" and "cygnet" best completes the sentence.

Correct sentence: As his signet ring slipped from his finger and sank into the pond, a curious cygnet paddled over and, mistaking it for food, swallowed it whole.

Additional Information

• Homonyms are words that sound the same or are spelled the same but have different meanings.

• In this question, the pair "signet" (a type of ring) and "cygnet" (a young swan) are homonyms that fit the context.

• Other options do not match the context of the sentence.

Q25. Answer: (c) Polytheist

The correct answer is '3' i.e. Polytheist.

Key Points

• The term "Polytheist" refers to someone who believes in more than one God.

• "Monotheist" (Option 1) refers to someone who believes in only one God.

• "Atheist" (Option 2) refers to someone who does not believe in God or gods.

• "Agnostic" (Option 4) refers to someone who believes that the existence of God or gods is unknown or unknowable.

Correct sentence: The term for someone who believes in more than one God is Polytheist.

Additional Information

• Polytheism: The belief in or worship of multiple deities typically assembled into a pantheon of gods and goddesses.

• Examples of polytheistic religions include Hinduism, Ancient Greek religion, and Norse mythology.

Q26. Answer: (b) -6

Given equation: 6 ? 15 ! 5 & 8 = ?

BODMAS Table:

Decoding the given information:

Symbol	?	!	%	&
Meaning	÷	×	•	•

Now replacing the sign from left to right using BODMAS Rule, we get:

=> 6 ÷ 15 × 5 − 8 = ?

=> 0.4 × 5 − 8 = ?

=> 0.4 × 5 − 8 = ?

=> 2 − 8 = ?

=> -6 = ?

Hence, the correct option is "Option 2".

Q27. Answer: (b) 17

The logic followed here is:

Total number of Workers = 42

Position of Vikram from the left = 14th

Position of Rohit from the right = 11th

Rohit’s position from left = 42 - 11 +1 = 43 - 11 = 32

Total number of workers between them = 32 − 14 − 1 = 32 - 15 = 17

So, workers are standing between Vikram and Rohit.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 2".

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Q28. Answer: (b) 6

The logic followed here is:
Total number of bottles = 15
Bottle X is 3rd from the start
Bottle Y is 6th from the end
So, Y's position from start =15 - 6 + 1= 16 - 6 = 10
Number of bottles between X and Y = 10 - 3 - 1 = 10 - 4 = 6
Thus, there are 6 bottles between X and Y.
Hence, the correct answer is "Option 2".

Q29. Answer: (d) 803

The logic followed here is:
Logic: a # b ~ c = a - (b ÷ c)
881 # 88 ~ 11 = 873
= 881 − (88 ÷ 11)
= 881 - 8
= 873
606 # 323 ~ 19 = 589
= 606 - (323 ÷ 19)
= 606 - 17
= 589
Similarly,
821 # 306 ~ 17?
= 821 - (306 ÷ 17)
= 821 - 18
= 803
So, 803 will come in the place of ?.
Hence, the correct answer is "Option 4".

Q30. Answer: (b) T

The position and positional values or English Alphabets are:
The logic followed here is:
Thus, T will come next in the series.
Hence, the correct answer is "Option 4".

Q31. Answer: (a) 14 : 24

The logic followed here is:
Logic: n × (n+2) : (n+1) × (n+3); n = 2, 5, 7, 3
1. 14 : 24 → 2 × 4 ≠ 14 : 3 × 5 ≠ 24
2. 35 : 48 → 5 × 7 : 6 × 8
3. 63 : 80 → 7 × 9 : 8 × 10
4. 15 : 24 → 3 × 5 : 4 × 6
Thus, "14 : 24" is the odd one out.
Hence, the correct answer is "Option 4".

Q32. Answer: (b) 6 : 6

The logic followed here is:
1. 2 : 3 → (Even : Odd)
2. 6 : 6 → (Even : Even)
3. 5 : 6 → (Odd : Even)
4. 4 : 3 → (Even : Odd)
All options except 6 : 6 follows (Even : Odd) pattern.
Thus, 6 : 6 is the odd one out.

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Hence, the correct answer is "Option 2".

Q33. Answer: (b) Rage

The logic followed here is:

Logic: Words are synonyms of each other.

Sleepy: Drowsy → Sleepy means Drowsy (Both have similar meanings.)

Similarly,

Anger: ? → Anger is synonym of Rage.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 2".

Q34. Answer: (d) 723

The logic followed here is:

Similarly,

So, 723 will come in the place of ?.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 4".

Q35. Answer: (b) 64

The logic followed here is:

Logic: (Difference between digits in the first number)^3 = Second number

52 : 27 → (5 - 2)^3 = 3^3 = 27

Similarly,

62 : ? → (6 - 2)3 = 43 = 64

So, 64 will come in the place of ?.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 2".

Q36. Answer: (a) Q2

The position and positional values or English Alphabets are:

Given: A10, E8, I6, M4, ?

The logic followed here is:

Thus, Q2 will replace the question mark (?) in the given series.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 1".

Q37. Answer: (a) QSU

The position and positional values or English Alphabets are:

The logic followed here is:

Thus, QSU comes next in the series.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 1".

Q38. Answer: (a) Tokyo; December 31st, 23:59 JST.

Reference: Tokyo; December 31st, 23:59 JST.

Option	Given Statement	Matching
1	Tokyo; December 31st, 23:59 JST.	This statement is exactly same as the reference.
2	Tokyo; December 31st, 23:59 JST	Missing the full stop (.) end.
3	Tokyo, December 31st, 23:59 JST.	Uses a comma (,) instead of a semicolon (;) after “Tokyo”.
4	Tokyo; Decembeer 31st, 23:59 JST.	“December” is misspelled as “Decembeer”.

So, option 1 is EXACT AND COMPLETE REPLICATION of the Reference Statement.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 1".

Q39. Answer: (a) Dublin_17 Mar_2025, 08:00 hrs.

Reference: Dublin_17 Mar_2025, 08:00 hrs.

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Option	Reference	Matching
1	Dublin_17 Mar_2025, 08:00 hrs.	The address matches exactly with the Master Address.
2	Dublin_17 Mar_2025, 08:00 hr.	's' is missing in hrs.
3	Dublin_17 Mar_2025, 08:00 hrs..	An extra full stop (.) is present after hrs.
4	Dublin, 17 Mar, 2025, 08:00 hrs.	After Dublin, instead of _, a comma (,) is given.

So, option 1 is EXACT AND COMPLETE REPLICATION of the Reference Statement.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 1".

Q40. Answer: (b) 6

The triangles are:

So, there are '6' triangles in the given figure.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 2".

Q41. Answer: (c) 10

The triangles are:

So, there are '10' triangles in the given figure.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 3".

Q42. Answer: (a) 0

Given: Weight of 5 pens W, X, Y, Z and A is compared. Weight of no two pens is same.

1. Weight of A is less than Z but more than X.

Z > A > X

2. Weight of Y is more than W.

Y > W

3. Weight of Y is second lowest.

_ > _ > _ > Y > _

Merging all the 3 statements together, we get:

Z > A > X > Y > W

Clearly, weight of 0 pens is more than Z.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 1".

Q43. Answer: (a) G

Given: 5 friends P, B, C, G and H are sitting around a circular table facing towards the centre (not necessarily in the same order).

1. B is sitting third to the left of H.
2. H is sitting to the immediate right of C.
3. P is not an immediate neighbour of C.

So, P sits between H and B.

Now, G occupies the only vacant position.

Thus, G is to the immediate left of C.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 1".

Q44. Answer: (b) V and S

Given: 8 girls P, Q, R, S, T, U, V and W are sitting in a row facing south (not necessarily in the same order).

1. P is fifth to the right of U.
2. P is to the immediate right of T.
3. S is fifth to the left of T.

The above statement is violated in Case I, so it is eliminated.

4. V is an immediate neighbour of P.

The above statement is violated in Case III, so it is eliminated.

5. W is third to the right of S.

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6. Only two girls sit between Q and V.
R, the only person left will occupy the vacant position.
Thus, V and S are the pair of girls who sits at the extreme ends of the row.
Hence, the correct answer is "Option 2".

Q45. Answer: (d) 60, East

Given:
P walks 30 km towards north.
He turns right and walks 60 km.
He again turns right and walks 30 km.
P is 60 km to the East now from the starting point.
Hence, the correct answer is "Option 4".

Q46. Answer: (c) 25, South

Given:
P walks 30 km towards north and reaches point A.
He turns right and walks 15 km to reach point B.
He finally turns right and walks 20 km to reach point C.
P is facing South.
Distance between point A from point C = $\sqrt{(15^2 + 20^2)}$ km = $\sqrt{(225 + 400)}$ km = $\sqrt{625}$ km = 25 km
Thus, point C is 25 km from point A, and P is facing South.
Hence, the correct answer is "Option 3".

Q47. Answer: (c) Linux

The logic followed here is:
1. Python → Python is a Programming language
2. Java → Java is a Programming language
3. C++ → C++ is a Programming language
4. Linux → Linux is a Operating system
So, all options except Linux are programming languages, while Linux is an operating system.
Hence, the correct answer is "Option 3".

Q48. Answer: (c) [figure]

The image that completes the pattern is:
Hence, the correct answer is "Option 3".

Q49. Answer: (a) 4

BODMAS Table:
Decoding the given information:

Letter	A	B	C	D
Meaning	•	÷	×	•

Given equation: 17 A 9 D 11 C 4 B 2 = ?
Now replacing the sign from left to right using BODMAS Rule, we get:
=> 17 + 9 − 11 × 4 ÷ 2 = ?
=> 17 + 9 − 11 × 2 = ?
=> 17 + 9 − 22 = ?
=> 26 − 22 = ?
=> 4 = ?
Hence, the correct option is "Option 1".

Q50. Answer: (c) Both I and II

BODMAS Table:
Given equation:

I. 7 x 9 + 6 - 5 ÷ 1 = 46

After interchanging the numbers 6 and 9 we get;

=> 7 × 6 + 9 − 5 ÷ 1 = 46

=> 7 × 6 + 9 − 5 = 46

=> 42 + 9 − 5 = 46

=> 51 − 5 = 46

=> 46 = 46

=> LHS = RHS

II. 3 x 9 + 6 - 8 ÷ 2 = 23

After interchanging the numbers 6 and 9 we get;

=> 3 × 6 + 9 − 8 ÷ 2 = 23

=> 3 × 6 + 9 − 4 = 23

=> 18 + 9 − 4 = 23

=> 27 − 4 = 23

=> 23 = 23

=> LHS = RHS

So, by interchanging the given two numbers, both I and II equation will be correct.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 3".

Q51. Answer: (a) 216

Given:

Number = 46656

Formula Used:

Square root of a number = √(Number)

Calculation:

=> √46656

=> 216

Therefore The correct answer is 216.

Q52. Answer: (b) 1369

Shortcut Trick

Identify √2601: Since $50^2 = 2500$, the next perfect square ending in 1 is $51^2 = 2601$.

The equation becomes √? + 14 = 51.

Subtract 14 from 51 to get √? = 37.

The value of ? is the square of 37 (37 × 37 = 1369).

Therefore The correct answer is 1369.

Alternate Method

Given: √? + 14 = √2601

Step 1: Find the square root of 2601.

=> √2601 = √(51 × 51)

=> √2601 = 51

Step 2: Substitute this value into the original equation.

=> √? + 14 = 51

Step 3: Isolate the square root term.

=> √? = 51 − 14

=> √? = 37

Step 4: Square both sides to find the missing value.

=> (?) = 37^2

=> ? = 37 × 37

=> ? = 1369

Therefore The correct answer is 1369.

Additional Information

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Perfect Square Estimation

To find the square root of a 4-digit number like 2601, check the nearest base squares ($50^2 = 2500$) and the unit digit (1 corresponds to 1 or 9).

Squaring Numbers Near 40

Use the identity $(a - b)^2 = a^2 - 2ab + b^2$. For 37^2, use $(40 - 3)^2 = 1600 - 240 + 9 = 1369$.

BODMAS / PEMDAS Rule

In simplification, always solve roots and exponents before performing addition or subtraction across the equality sign.

Unit Digit of Squares

A number ending in 7 (like 37) will always have a square ending in 9 ($7 \times 7 = 49$).

Q53. Answer: (a) 32

Given:

$(112 \div \sqrt{196}) \times (\sqrt{576} \div 12) \times (\sqrt{256} \div 8)$

Formula Used:

$\sqrt{a}$ where a is perfect square = integer

Calculation:

=> $\sqrt{196} = 14$

=> $\sqrt{576} = 24$

=> $\sqrt{256} = 16$

=> $(112 \div 14) \times (24 \div 12) \times (16 \div 8)$

=> $8 \times 2 \times 2$

=> 32

Therefore The correct answer is 32.

Q54. Answer: (b) 28

Given:

Average = 24

Number of terms = 5

Formula Used:

Average = (Sum of observations) ÷ (Number of observations)

Sum of n consecutive even numbers = n × Middle term

Calculation:

=> Sum = 24×5

=> Sum = 120

=> Let first even number = a

=> Numbers are a, a + 2, a + 4, a + 6, a + 8

=> $a + (a + 2) + (a + 4) + (a + 6) + (a + 8) = 120$

=> $5a + 20 = 120$

=> $5a = 120 - 20$

=> $5a = 100$

=> $a = 100 \div 5$

=> $a = 20$

=> Largest number = 20 + 8

=> Largest number = 28

Therefore The correct answer is 28.

Q55. Answer: (a) 65

Given:

Average = 50

Number of innings = 4

Two scores = 48 and 52

Difference between highest and lowest = 30

Formula Used:

Average = (Sum of observations) ÷ (Number of observations)
Difference = Highest − Lowest
Calculation:
=> Total sum = 50 × 4
=> Total sum = 200
=> Let lowest score = x
=> Highest score = x + 30
=> x + (x + 30) + 48 + 52 = 200
=> 2x + 130 = 200
=> 2x = 200 − 130
=> 2x = 70
=> x = 70 ÷ 2
=> x = 35
=> Highest score = 35 + 30
=> Highest score = 65
Therefore The correct answer is 65.

Q56. Answer: (b) 25%

Given:
Initial value = 400
Final value = 500
Formula Used:
Percentage Increase = [(Final value − Initial value) ÷ Initial value] × 100
Calculation:
=> Percentage Increase = [(500 − 400) ÷ 400] × 100
=> Percentage Increase = [100 ÷ 400] × 100
=> Percentage Increase = 0.25 × 100
=> Percentage Increase = 25%
Therefore The correct answer is 25%.

Q57. Answer: (b) 2% decrease

Given:
Initial increase = 40%
Subsequent decrease = 30%
Formula Used:
Net percentage change = (Increase% + Decrease% + (Increase% × Decrease%) ÷ 100)
Calculation:
=> Net percentage change = (40 - 30 + (40 × -30) ÷ 100)
=> Net percentage change = (40 - 30 - 1200 ÷ 100)
=> Net percentage change = (40 - 30 - 12)
=> Net percentage change = -2%
Therefore The correct answer is 2% decrease.

Q58. Answer: (b) Rs. 13,500

Given:
Marked Price = Rs. 15,000
Discount = 10%
Formula Used:
Discount Amount = (Marked Price × Discount%) ÷ 100
Selling Price = Marked Price - Discount Amount
Calculation:
=> Discount Amount = (15,000 × 10) ÷ 100
=> Discount Amount = 1,500

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=> Selling Price = 15,000 - 1,500
=> Selling Price = Rs. 13,500
Therefore The correct answer is Rs. 13,500.

Q59. Answer: (c) Rs. 900

Given:
Marked price of the watch = Rs. 1,200
Discount = 25%
Formula Used:
Selling Price = Marked Price × (1 - Discount ÷ 100)
Calculation:
=> Selling Price = 1,200 × (1 - 25 ÷ 100)
=> Selling Price = 1,200 × (1 - 0.25)
=> Selling Price = 1,200 × 0.75
=> Selling Price = Rs. 900
Therefore The correct answer is Rs. 900.

Q60. Answer: (a) Rs. 6800

Given:
Marked Price = Rs. 8000
Discount = 15%
Formula Used:
Selling Price = Marked Price × (1 - Discount/100)
Calculation:
=> Selling Price = 8000 × (1 - 15/100)
=> Selling Price = 8000 × (1 - 0.15)
=> Selling Price = 8000 × 0.85
=> Selling Price = Rs. 6800
Therefore The correct answer is Rs. 6800.

Q61. Answer: (b) 4.8 days

Given:
Time taken by A = 12 days
Time taken by B = 8 days
Formula Used:
Work = Time × Efficiency
Efficiency = Total work ÷ Time
Calculation:
=> LCM of 12 and 8 = 24
=> Total work = 24 units
=> Efficiency of A = 24 ÷ 12
=> Efficiency of A = 2 units/day
=> Efficiency of B = 24 ÷ 8
=> Efficiency of B = 3 units/day
=> Combined efficiency = 2 + 3
=> Combined efficiency = 5 units/day
=> Time taken together = 24 ÷ 5
=> Time taken together = 4.8 days
Therefore The correct answer is 4.8 days.

Q62. Answer: (c) 30 days

Given:
Time taken by A and B together = 10 days

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Time taken by B alone = 15 days
Formula Used:
Work = Time × Efficiency
Efficiency = Total work ÷ Time
Calculation:
=> LCM of 10 and 15 = 30
=> Total work = 30 units
=> Efficiency of A and B together = 30 ÷ 10
=> Efficiency of A and B together = 3 units/day
=> Efficiency of B = 30 ÷ 15
=> Efficiency of B = 2 units/day
=> Efficiency of A = 3 − 2
=> Efficiency of A = 1 unit/day
=> Time taken by A alone = 30 ÷ 1
=> Time taken by A alone = 30 days
Therefore The correct answer is 30 days.

Q63. Answer: (b) 12

Given:
Each internal angle = 150°
Formula Used:
Sum of internal angles of a polygon = (n - 2) × 180
Each internal angle = Sum of internal angles ÷ n
Calculation:
=> 150 = [(n - 2) × 180] ÷ n
=> 150 × n = (n - 2) × 180
=> 150n = 180n - 360
=> 180n - 150n = 360
=> 30n = 360
=> n = 360 ÷ 30
=> n = 12
Therefore The correct answer is 12.

Q64. Answer: (b) 4.5 m

Given:
Height of stick = 1.5 m
Shadow of stick = 2 m
Shadow of tree = 6 m
Formula Used:
Height ÷ Shadow = Constant
Height1 ÷ Shadow1 = Height2 ÷ Shadow2
Calculation:
=> 1.5 ÷ 2 = h ÷ 6
=> 1.5 × 6 = 2 × h
=> 9 = 2h
=> h = 9 ÷ 2
=> h = 4.5 m
Therefore The correct answer is 4.5 m.

Q65. Answer: (b) (7/24)

Given:
Perpendicular = 7 units
Hypotenuse = 25 units

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Angle lies in 1st quadrant
Formula Used:
tan θ = Perpendicular ÷ Base
Base² + Perpendicular² = Hypotenuse²
Calculation:
=> Base² + 7² = 25²
=> Base² + 49 = 625
=> Base² = 625 − 49
=> Base² = 576
=> Base = √576
=> Base = 24
=> tan θ = 7 ÷ 24
Therefore The correct answer is 7 ÷ 24.

Q66. Answer: (a) 10

Shortcut Trick
The average of the first n odd numbers is always equal to n.
In this question, we need the average of the first 10 odd numbers.
=> n = 10
=> Average = 10
Therefore The correct answer is 10.
Alternate Method
Given: First 10 odd numbers are 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, and 19.
Formula: Average = Sum of all terms ÷ Total number of terms
=> Sum of first 10 odd numbers = 1 + 3 + 5 + 7 + 9 + 11 + 13 + 15 + 17 + 19
=> This is an Arithmetic Progression (AP) with a = 1, l = 19, and n = 10.
=> Sum = (n ÷ 2) × (a + l)
=> Sum = (10 ÷ 2) × (1 + 19) = 5 × 20 = 100
=> Average = Sum ÷ n = 100 ÷ 10 = 10
Therefore The correct answer is 10.
Additional Information
Sum of First n Odd Numbers
The sum of the first n consecutive odd numbers starting from 1 is given by n².
Average of First n Even Numbers
The average of the first n even numbers (2, 4, 6, ...) is always (n + 1).
Average of First n Natural Numbers
The average of the first n natural numbers (1, 2, 3, ... n) is (n + 1) ÷ 2.

Q67. Answer: (d) Rs. 1,200

Given:
Amount in 2 years = 1260
Amount in 5 years = 1350
Time difference = 3 years
Formula Used:
Simple Interest = Principal × Rate × Time ÷ 100
Amount = Principal + Simple Interest
Calculation:
=> Interest for 3 years = 1350 − 1260
=> Interest for 3 years = 90
=> Interest for 1 year = 90 ÷ 3
=> Interest for 1 year = 30
=> Interest for 2 years = 30 × 2

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=> Interest for 2 years = 60
=> Principal = 1260 − 60
=> Principal = 1200
Therefore The correct answer is 1200.

Q68. Answer: (a) 243/64

Given:
(81^(3/4) × (1/27)^(-2/3))/((√32+√8)²-(√32-√8)²)
Formula Used:
a^m = (aⁿ)^(m/n)
(a+b)²-(a-b)²=4ab
Calculation:
=> 81^(3/4) = (3^4)^(3/4) = 3³ = 27
=> (1/27)^(-2/3) = 27^(2/3)
=> = (3³)^(2/3) = 3² = 9
=> 27 × 9 = 243
=> (√32+√8)²-(√32-√8)² = 4√32√8
=> = 4√256
=> = 4 × 16
=> = 64
=> = 243/64
Therefore The correct answer is 243/64.

Q69. Answer: (c) 9 units

Given:
Radius = 8 units
PT = 15 units
Formula Used:
Tangent–Secant Theorem: (PT)² = PB × PA
PA − PB = 2 × Radius
Calculation:
=> PA − PB = 2 × 8
=> PA − PB = 16
=> Let PB = x
=> PA = x + 16
=> (15)² = x × (x + 16)
=> 225 = x² + 16x
=> x² + 16x − 225 = 0
=> x² + 25x − 9x − 225 = 0
=> x(x + 25) − 9(x + 25) = 0
=> (x − 9)(x + 25) = 0
=> x = 9
Therefore The correct answer is 9 units.

Q70. Answer: (d) 4

Given:
y1 = 2
y2 = 2
y3 = 8
Formula Used:
y-coordinate of centroid = (y1 + y2 + y3) ÷ 3
Calculation:
=> y = (2 + 2 + 8) ÷ 3

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=> y = 12 ÷ 3
=> y = 4
Therefore The correct answer is 4.

Q71. Answer: (d) Distance from O to vertex B is equal to distance from O to vertex C

Given:
O is the circumcenter of triangle ABC
Formula Used:
Circumcenter is equidistant from all three vertices
Calculation:
=> OA = OB
=> OB = OC
=> OA = OB = OC
=> Distance from O to vertex B = Distance from O to vertex C
Therefore The correct answer is Distance from O to vertex B is equal to distance from O to vertex C.

Q72. Answer: (d) 6 cm

Given:
AB = 8 cm
AC = 12 cm
BC = 15 cm
Formula Used:
Angle Bisector Theorem: BD ÷ DC = AB ÷ AC
BD + DC = BC
Calculation:
=> BD ÷ DC = 8 ÷ 12
=> BD ÷ DC = 2 ÷ 3
=> Let BD = 2x
=> Let DC = 3x
=> 2x + 3x = 15
=> 5x = 15
=> x = 15 ÷ 5
=> x = 3
=> BD = 2 × 3
=> BD = 6 cm
Therefore The correct answer is 6 cm.

Q73. Answer: (b) 2

Given:
Two intersecting circles
Radii are different
Formula Used:
If two circles intersect, number of common tangents = 2
Calculation:
=> Intersecting circles have no internal common tangents
=> Only external common tangents are possible
=> Number of external common tangents = 2
Therefore The correct answer is 2.

Q74. Answer: (b) 2

Given:
Two circles have one point of intersection
Both circles have equal radius

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Formula Used:

If two circles touch externally, number of common tangents = 3

External common tangents = 2

Calculation:

=> One point of intersection means circles touch externally

=> Total common tangents = 3

=> External tangents = 2

Therefore The correct answer is 2.

Q75. Answer: (b) 10 cm

Given:

Radius1 = 10 cm

Radius2 = 4 cm

Length of common external tangent = 8 cm

Formula Used:

(Length of external tangent)² = (Distance between centers)² − (Difference of radii)²

Calculation:

=> $8^2 = d^2 - (10 - 4)^2$

=> $64 = d^2 - 6^2$

=> $64 = d^2 - 36$

=> $d^2 = 64 + 36$

=> $d^2 = 100$

=> $d = 10$

Therefore The correct answer is 10 cm.

Q76. Answer: (d) Akbar’s ancestors

The correct answer is Akbar’s ancestors.

Key Points

• The first volume of the Akbar Nama, written by Abu'l-Fazl, focuses on the history and genealogy of Akbar’s ancestors, including the lineage of the Mughal emperors.

• It provides detailed accounts of the ancestral history, including the reigns of Akbar’s predecessors like Babur and Humayun.

• This volume covers the founding of the Mughal Empire in India, its expansion under Babur, and the consolidation efforts by Humayun.

• It serves as an introductory text that contextualizes Akbar’s reign by delving into the Mughal dynasty’s lineage and its historical development.

• Abu'l-Fazl structured the Akbar Nama in three volumes: the first focusing on Akbar’s ancestors, the second on Akbar’s reign, and the third on administrative details.

Additional Information

• Akbar Nama:

• The Akbar Nama, authored by Abu'l-Fazl, is a comprehensive biographical account of Akbar’s life and governance.

• It was commissioned by Akbar himself and written in Persian, the official language of the Mughal court.

• The book is divided into three volumes:

• The first volume covers the history of Akbar’s ancestors and the foundation of the Mughal Empire.

• The second volume provides a detailed chronicle of events during Akbar’s reign.

• The third volume, known as Ain-i-Akbari, focuses on Akbar’s administrative system.

• The Akbar Nama is considered one of the most important historical records of the Mughal period.

• Akbar’s Ancestors:

• Akbar’s ancestry traces back to Genghis Khan and Timur, making him a descendant of two significant Central Asian rulers.

• His grandfather, Babur, founded the Mughal Empire after the victory at the First Battle of Panipat in 1526.

• Humayun, Akbar’s father, faced challenges maintaining the empire but laid the foundation for Akbar’s future success.

• Abu'l-Fazl:

• Abu'l-Fazl was a prominent court historian and one of Akbar’s Nine Gems (Navaratnas).

• He played a crucial role in documenting the history and governance of Akbar’s reign.

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• His works, including the Akbar Nama and Ain-i-Akbari, are considered masterpieces of Mughal historiography.

• Other Volumes of Akbar Nama:

• The second volume details the events of Akbar’s reign, including his military campaigns, alliances, and reforms.

• The third volume, Ain-i-Akbari, is an administrative document that provides insights into Akbar’s governance, revenue systems, and cultural policies.

Important Points

• Akbar’s Genealogy: Akbar’s family history is significant in understanding the Mughal Empire’s roots and the blend of Central Asian and Indian cultures.

• Historical Significance: The first volume of Akbar Nama provides a foundation for understanding the subsequent achievements of Akbar.

• Mughal Historiography: Works like Akbar Nama are essential for understanding the socio-political and cultural context of the Mughal era.

Q77. Answer: (c) Akbar, 1586

The correct answer is Akbar, 1586.

Key Points

• Akbar, the third Mughal emperor, launched a campaign against Kashmir in the year 1586 to expand the Mughal Empire and secure control over the northern frontiers.

• The campaign was a part of Akbar's broader strategy of territorial expansion, which aimed to consolidate the Mughal Empire in India.

• Before Akbar's campaign, Kashmir was ruled by independent local rulers. By 1586, after significant resistance, Akbar annexed Kashmir into the Mughal Empire.

• Akbar's governance style ensured that Kashmir became a prosperous region, and it was integrated into the empire's administration under the Mansabdari system.

• This campaign was significant not only for territorial consolidation but also for ensuring the political and economic stability of the northern regions of the empire.

Additional Information

• Babur:

• Babur was the founder of the Mughal Empire, ruling between 1526-1530. He was known for his victories, such as the First Battle of Panipat (1526), but there is no historical record of him campaigning against Kashmir.

• Humayun:

• Humayun, Akbar's father, ruled from 1530-1556 (with interruptions). His reign was marked by struggles against Sher Shah Suri, and he did not launch any campaigns against Kashmir.

• Akbar:

• Akbar's reign (1556-1605) was notable for his military conquests, administrative reforms, and promotion of cultural integration.

• In 1586, Akbar annexed Kashmir, recognizing its strategic and economic importance. This region was later known for its contribution to art, culture, and trade in the Mughal Empire.

• Jahangir:

• Jahangir, Akbar's successor, ruled from 1605-1627. While he is remembered for his love of Kashmir and frequent visits there, he did not lead a campaign to conquer it, as it was already a part of the empire.

Important Points

• Kashmir under Mughals: After Akbar's annexation, Kashmir became a vital part of the Mughal Empire, known for its natural beauty and contribution to the empire's economy.

• Akbar's Mansabdari System: This administrative reform allowed efficient governance of vast territories, including newly annexed regions like Kashmir.

• Integration Policies: Akbar's policies focused on integrating diverse regions under one central authority, ensuring political stability and cultural harmony.

Q78. Answer: (b) Balwant Rai Mehta Committee

The correct answer is Balwant Rai Mehta Committee.

Key Points

• The Balwant Rai Mehta Committee was formed in 1957 to examine the working of the Community Development Programme (1952) and the National Extension Service (1953).

• The Committee recommended the establishment of a three-tier Panchayati Raj system in India to promote decentralization and democratic governance at the grassroots level.

• The three-tier structure proposed by the Committee consisted of:

• Gram Panchayat at the village level.

• Panchayat Samiti at the block level.

• Zila Parishad at the district level.

• The Committee advocated for the Panchayati Raj institutions to serve as instruments of rural development and involve local people in decision-making.

• The recommendations of the Balwant Rai Mehta Committee were implemented in 1959, with Rajasthan being the first state to launch the Panchayati Raj system, followed by Andhra Pradesh.

• The Committee emphasized the need for democratic decentralization to achieve effective governance and development at the grassroots level.

Additional Information

• Features of the Panchayati Raj System:

• The system is based on the principle of decentralization of power, ensuring that decisions are made at the lowest possible level.

• The three-tier structure consists of elected representatives at each level to ensure participatory governance.

• The primary functions of Panchayati Raj institutions include planning and implementing development programmes, resolving local disputes, and promoting social justice.

• The Panchayati Raj system is governed by the provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992, which gave it constitutional status.

• Key provisions of the 73rd Amendment include mandatory elections, reservation for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and women, and the establishment of a State Election Commission.

• Other Committees Related to Panchayati Raj:

• Ashok Mehta Committee (1977): Recommended a two-tier system and suggested measures to strengthen Panchayati Raj institutions.

• GVK Rao Committee (1985): Highlighted the need for decentralized planning and development through Panchayati Raj institutions.

• LM Singhvi Committee (1986): Recommended constitutional recognition for Panchayati Raj institutions, which was later implemented through the 73rd Amendment.

• Important Points:

• The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992, is a landmark reform in Indian governance that institutionalized the Panchayati Raj system.

• Panchayati Raj institutions play a crucial role in promoting rural development, ensuring social justice, and empowering local communities.

• The system has been instrumental in implementing various government schemes like MGNREGA and Swachh Bharat Abhiyan at the grassroots level.

Q79. Answer: (c) 5

The correct answer is Option 3.

Key Points

• The Justice Hema Committee was constituted in 2017 by the Government of Kerala to address gender-based issues in the Malayalam film industry.

• The committee aimed to study and suggest measures to tackle concerns related to sexual harassment, exploitation, and working conditions of women in the industry.

• The report, prepared by Justice Hema, consisted of recommendations for forming a safer and more inclusive work environment for women in the Malayalam cinema industry.

• Although the committee was formed in 2017, the findings and recommendations were finalized and released in 2024, marking a significant milestone for gender equality in the film industry.

• Reports like this hold importance in addressing systemic issues and providing a framework for policy implementation and legal reform. Hence, Option 3 is correct.

Additional Information

• Justice Hema Committee:

• The committee was headed by Justice Hema, a retired judge, and included other prominent members from Kerala.

• It was formed by the Kerala Government following allegations of harassment raised by women working in the Malayalam film industry.

• The committee focused on examining prevalent issues such as gender discrimination, harassment, and wage disparity.

• The recommendations emphasized the need for strict legal action, support mechanisms, and awareness campaigns to ensure dignity and safety for women.

• Importance of Gender Equality in Cinema:

• Film industries worldwide have faced criticism for their lack of equitable representation and treatment of women.

• Initiatives such as the Justice Hema Committee play a crucial role in addressing these disparities and creating a safer workspace.

• Such efforts align with global movements like #MeToo, which have highlighted workplace harassment in the entertainment sector.

• Government Interventions:

• Governments often establish committees or task forces to address systemic issues in specific industries.

• Reports from these committees serve as a basis for policy formulation and legal amendments.

• For instance, recommendations from the Justice Hema Committee could lead to new laws or guidelines governing the Malayalam film industry.

• Other Committees for Women's Welfare:

• Several committees have been established in India to address women's issues in various sectors, such as the National Commission for Women (NCW).

• The NCW focuses on legal reforms, awareness campaigns, and policy reviews to safeguard women's rights.

• State-specific initiatives, such as the Justice Hema Committee, supplement these efforts by addressing region-specific challenges.

Important Points

• Release Year of the Report: Although the committee was formed in 2017, the report was released in 2024, indicating the time taken for extensive research and consultation.

• Scope of the Report: The recommendations were focused specifically on the Malayalam film industry but could be extended to other regional industries facing similar challenges.

• Impact of the Report: The findings are expected to influence legislative reforms and create better working conditions for women, fostering gender equality in the entertainment sector.

Q80. Answer: (a) 10

The correct answer is 10 years.

Key Points

• The Smart Cities Mission was launched on 25 June 2015 by the Government of India under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

• It is an urban renewal and retrofitting program aimed at developing 100 smart cities across the country to make them citizen-friendly and sustainable.

• By June 2025, the mission will have completed a duration of 10 years.

• The mission's objectives include improving quality of life, providing a clean and sustainable environment, and applying smart solutions to urban challenges.

• As part of the mission, cities are selected through a competitive process, and their plans are implemented in phases.

Additional Information

• Components of the Smart Cities Mission:

• The mission primarily focuses on two aspects: Area-based development (ABD) and Pan-city initiatives.

• ABD involves retrofitting and redevelopment in a specific area of the city, whereas Pan-city initiatives aim to implement smart solutions across the city.

• Examples include smart water management systems, intelligent traffic management, and waste management solutions.

• Funding:

• The Central Government provides financial support of Rs. 48,000 crore over five years, which amounts to an average of Rs. 100 crore per city per year.

• The State Governments and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) are also expected to match the funding.

• Progress of the Mission:

• As of October 2023, substantial progress has been made, with many cities implementing projects related to urban mobility, energy efficiency, and waste management.

• Some prominent examples include the development of smart roads in Pune and the implementation of smart water management in Bhubaneswar.

• Expected Outcomes:

• The mission aims to promote sustainable and inclusive urban development.

• It focuses on fostering innovation, creating employment opportunities, and enhancing the quality of urban life.

Important Points

• Selection Process:
• The cities were selected based on a Smart City Challenge, where they submitted their proposals for development.
• This competitive approach ensured that cities with the most feasible and impactful plans were selected.
• Significant Achievements:
• Bhubaneswar, the first city selected under the mission, has made significant progress in urban mobility and IT-enabled services.
• Ahmedabad has implemented intelligent traffic management systems to reduce congestion and pollution.
• Global Recognition:
• India's Smart Cities Mission has been recognized globally for its innovative approach to urban planning and development.
• It aligns with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 11, which focuses on sustainable cities and communities.

Q81. Answer: (a) 77th

The correct answer is 77th.

Key Points

• The Henley Passport Index ranks passports based on their strength, determined by the number of destinations holders can access without a prior visa.
• In 2025, India's passport was ranked 77th, reflecting improvements in global mobility for Indian citizens.
• This index is updated periodically and is based on data from the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and independent research.
• India's ranking highlights the country's gradual enhancement in visa-free and visa-on-arrival access to other countries.
• Countries ranked higher than India typically have stronger diplomatic ties and agreements with other nations, enabling greater mobility.

Additional Information

• Henley Passport Index:
• The Henley Passport Index is a global ranking of countries based on the freedom of travel their citizens enjoy.
• It ranks passports by evaluating how many destinations a passport holder can visit without obtaining a visa beforehand.
• This index is a reliable measure of a country's global mobility and the quality of its diplomatic relationships.
• The index is based on data from the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and updated by Henley & Partners.
• India's Passport Evolution:
• India's passport ranking has shown improvement in recent years due to international agreements and enhanced diplomatic efforts.
• Citizens of India can now access more countries under visa-free or visa-on-arrival conditions compared to previous years.
• This reflects India's growing influence and stronger bilateral ties with other nations.
• Top-Ranked Countries:
• Countries like Japan, Singapore, and Germany consistently rank at the top of the Henley Passport Index due to their extensive visa-free access.
• These nations enjoy high mobility due to strong economic stability, robust diplomatic relations, and global reputation.
• Factors Impacting Rankings:
• Passport rankings are influenced by factors such as visa policies, international relations, and geopolitical stability.
• Countries with weak diplomatic ties or internal instability may rank lower on the index.

Important Points

• Henley Passport Index Methodology:
• The index uses data from IATA, covering approximately 199 passports and 227 travel destinations.
• Scores are based on the number of destinations accessible without a visa or with visa-on-arrival.
• India's Diplomatic Initiatives:
• India has signed agreements with several countries to facilitate easier visa access for its citizens.
• Efforts like e-visas and bilateral agreements have contributed to India's improved ranking.

Q82. Answer: (a) 180

The correct answer is 180.

Key Points

• The World Press Freedom Index is an annual ranking published by Reporters Without Borders (RSF), an international organization that evaluates press freedom worldwide.

• The index ranks a total of 180 countries and territories based on the level of freedom available to journalists in each region.

• The ranking is determined by assessing factors such as media independence, self-censorship, legal frameworks, and the safety of journalists.

• The World Press Freedom Index is a globally recognized tool used by governments, organizations, and individuals to understand the state of press freedom across different countries.

• Option 1, 180, is correct as the index consistently includes 180 countries in its rankings.

Additional Information

• Reporters Without Borders (RSF):

• RSF is an international non-profit organization founded in 1985 and headquartered in Paris, France.

• Its primary aim is to promote and defend freedom of information and the press.

• RSF conducts extensive research, publishes reports, and advocates for journalists' rights globally.

• Methodology of the World Press Freedom Index:

• The index is based on a comprehensive survey that evaluates pluralism, media independence, media environment, legislative framework, and violence against journalists.

• A questionnaire developed by RSF is distributed to experts, researchers, and media professionals worldwide.

• The data is then analyzed to assign scores to each country, which determines their ranking.

• Importance of the Index:

• The ranking highlights the challenges faced by journalists in different parts of the world.

• It serves as a reference for policy-makers, activists, and media organizations to understand and address press freedom issues.

• The index often correlates with overall democratic health in a country.

• Examples from the Index:

• Countries like Norway, Sweden, and Finland often rank at the top for having strong protections for press freedom.

• Countries with restrictive regimes, such as North Korea and Eritrea, typically rank at the bottom.

• India's performance in the index has been a topic of concern, with rankings fluctuating due to issues of violence against journalists and media restrictions.

Important Points

• Global Trends in Press Freedom:

• Recent years have seen an increase in attacks on media freedom, with journalists facing greater risks worldwide.

• Many countries have implemented laws restricting freedom of expression under the guise of national security.

• The rise of misinformation and fake news has also posed challenges to press freedom globally.

• Role of Technology:

• While digital platforms have expanded opportunities for independent journalism, they have also enabled state surveillance and censorship.

• Journalists increasingly rely on secure communication tools to protect themselves and their sources.

• Advocacy and Support:

• Organizations like RSF, UNESCO, and the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) work to protect journalists and promote press freedom.

• World Press Freedom Day, observed on May 3 annually, raises awareness about the importance of free and independent media.

Q83. Answer: (d) Neither I nor II

The correct answer is 4) Neither I nor II.

Key Points

• The Export Preparedness Index (EPI) of India is released by NITI Aayog to evaluate the export performance of Indian states and Union Territories.

• The EPI is designed to identify challenges and opportunities, enhance the export ecosystem, and help states benchmark their performance.

• The index is built upon four key pillars, which are:

• Policy: Examines the export-related policies of states to encourage exports.

• Business Ecosystem: Evaluates the ease of doing business, infrastructure, and other factors affecting export preparedness.

• Export Ecosystem: Analyzes the factors facilitating exports, such as logistics and export promotion councils.

• Export Performance: Measures the actual performance of states in terms of export volumes and value.

• Among the pillars mentioned, Export Policy and Business Environment are not standalone pillars of the Export Preparedness Index. Instead, they are components of broader frameworks like Policy and Business Ecosystem.

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• Hence, neither Export Policy nor Business Environment is a direct pillar of EPI, making the correct answer 4) Neither I nor II.

Additional Information

• Export Preparedness Index (EPI):

• The EPI was first introduced by NITI Aayog in 2020 as a framework to improve India's export competitiveness.

• It is structured into four key pillars, 11 sub-pillars, and 55 indicators, covering different dimensions of export preparedness.

• The index uses a combination of quantitative and qualitative metrics to rank states based on their export readiness.

• Objective of EPI:

• To promote regional competitiveness and improve the export capabilities of Indian states and Union Territories.

• To identify gaps in the export ecosystem and suggest actionable recommendations for improvement.

• Performance Highlights:

• As per the 2022 EPI report, states like Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Tamil Nadu performed well due to robust infrastructure and favorable policies.

• Hilly and Northeastern states face challenges due to logistical constraints and limited industrialization.

• Role of NITI Aayog:

• NITI Aayog plays a pivotal role in enhancing India's export ecosystem by publishing reports and facilitating policy discussions.

• It collaborates with state governments to address challenges and support the development of export-oriented strategies.

Important Points

• Key Metrics of EPI:

• The index evaluates states on parameters such as export promotion policies, ease of doing business, transport infrastructure, and trade support services.

• It emphasizes the need for regional diversification in exports and focuses on building a sustainable export ecosystem.

• Challenges Highlighted:

• Lack of adequate financial support for exporters and limited access to international markets.

• Infrastructure gaps, especially in landlocked states and remote regions, act as barriers to export growth.

• Recommendations:

• Strengthening export-oriented industries and improving trade facilitation services.

• Encouraging states to adopt innovative policies and collaborate with international trade organizations.

Q84. Answer: (b) Tirupati

The correct answer is Tirupati.

Key Points

• The Flamingo Festival is an annual event celebrated in Andhra Pradesh, focusing on migratory birds like flamingos that arrive in the region to nest and breed.

• The festival is primarily organized in Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh, known for its proximity to Pulicat Lake and the Nelapattu Bird Sanctuary, which are important habitats for flamingos.

• The 2025 edition of the Flamingo Festival was conducted from January 18 to January 20, attracting bird enthusiasts, environmentalists, and tourists from across the country.

• The festival highlights the importance of conservation, biodiversity, and sustainable tourism in preserving the ecosystem.

• Tirupati, apart from being a religious hub, plays an important role in hosting this ecological and cultural event, emphasizing the harmony between nature and human activities.

Additional Information

• Pulicat Lake:

• Pulicat Lake is the second-largest brackish water lagoon in India, located on the border of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

• The lake serves as a crucial habitat for flamingos and other migratory birds, especially during the winter season.

• It provides nesting grounds for birds and supports rich biodiversity, making it a vital ecological zone.

• Nelapattu Bird Sanctuary:

• Located near Tirupati, Nelapattu Bird Sanctuary is known for its large population of pelicans and flamingos.

• The sanctuary spans over 458 hectares and is a key attraction during the Flamingo Festival.

• It serves as a breeding ground for several bird species and promotes eco-tourism in the region.

• Importance of Flamingo Festival:

• The festival creates awareness about bird conservation and the need to protect migratory bird habitats.

• It provides an opportunity to study and appreciate the unique migratory patterns of flamingos and other birds.

• The event boosts local tourism, generating income for communities while promoting environmental sustainability.

• Tirupati:

• Tirupati is globally renowned for the Tirumala Venkateswara Temple and attracts millions of devotees annually.

• The city also plays a significant role in hosting cultural and ecological festivals, such as the Flamingo Festival, showcasing its diverse appeal.

• Its proximity to key ecological sites like Pulicat Lake and Nelapattu Bird Sanctuary makes it an ideal location for the festival.

Important Points

• Flamingos:

• Flamingos are known for their distinctive pink feathers, which are a result of carotenoid pigments found in their diet.

• They are migratory birds, traveling long distances to breed and feed in favorable climates.

• India hosts flamingos primarily in regions like Pulicat Lake, Rann of Kutch, and Chilika Lake.

• Eco-tourism:

• Eco-tourism focuses on responsible travel to natural areas, conserving the environment and improving the well-being of local people.

• The Flamingo Festival is a prime example of eco-tourism, blending environmental conservation with cultural celebration.

• It encourages sustainable practices and helps preserve the delicate ecosystems of migratory birds.

• Conservation Efforts:

• Events like the Flamingo Festival raise awareness about wildlife conservation and the importance of protecting natural habitats.

• Governments and NGOs collaborate to ensure the preservation of wetlands and biodiversity.

• Such initiatives contribute to maintaining ecological balance and support the global effort to combat climate change.

Q85. Answer: (c) 2030

The correct answer is 2030.

Key Points

• The Government of India has set an ambitious target of achieving 140 GW (Gigawatts) of wind power capacity by the year 2030.

• This goal aligns with India’s commitment under the Paris Agreement and its aim to transition to a sustainable energy future.

• Wind energy is a crucial component of India's renewable energy strategy, and it plays a significant role in reducing the nation's dependence on fossil fuels.

• India ranks as one of the world's largest producers of wind energy, with states like Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Rajasthan leading in wind power generation.

• The target of 140 GW is expected to be achieved through increased investments, technological advancements, and favorable policy frameworks like the National Wind-Solar Hybrid Policy and incentives for renewable energy projects.

Additional Information

• Wind Power in India:

• India is the fourth largest producer of wind power globally, following China, the USA, and Germany.

• As of 2023, India's installed wind energy capacity stands at approximately 44 GW, contributing significantly to the total renewable energy capacity.

• Wind energy projects are predominantly located in states with high wind potential, such as Tamil Nadu and Gujarat.

• Government Schemes and Policies:

• The National Wind-Solar Hybrid Policy, introduced in 2018, aims to promote large-scale grid-connected wind-solar hybrid systems for efficient utilization of renewable energy resources.

• Under the Renewable Energy Purchase Obligation (RPO), power distribution companies are mandated to purchase a certain percentage of their energy from renewable sources, including wind.

• The Accelerated Depreciation Benefit is provided to encourage investments in wind energy projects.

• Global Commitments:

• India’s wind energy target aligns with its commitment to achieve 500 GW of non-fossil fuel energy capacity by 2030 under the Paris Climate Agreement.

• It also contributes to the goal of reducing the carbon intensity of its GDP by 33-35% from 2005 levels by 2030.

• Technological Advancements:

• India has adopted cutting-edge technologies like onshore and offshore wind turbines, which improve efficiency and energy output.

• Significant focus is on offshore wind energy projects, with the government planning a 1 GW offshore wind energy project off the coast of Gujarat.

• Challenges:

• Despite its rapid growth, the wind energy sector in India faces challenges such as land acquisition issues, grid infrastructure

limitations, and high initial capital costs.

• The government is working on strategies to overcome these hurdles and ensure the smooth implementation of wind energy projects.

Important Points

• Paris Agreement:

• India is a signatory to the Paris Agreement, which aims to limit global warming to below 2°C above pre-industrial levels.

• As part of its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), India pledged to increase its renewable energy capacity to 175 GW by 2022 and 500 GW by 2030.

• Renewable Energy Targets:

• India's renewable energy target of 500 GW by 2030 includes contributions from solar, wind, hydro, and biomass projects.

• The government has introduced various incentives, such as tax benefits and subsidies, to promote renewable energy adoption.

• Economic and Environmental Impact:

• Wind energy reduces dependence on fossil fuels, thereby cutting carbon emissions and promoting sustainable development.

• It also generates employment opportunities and contributes to energy security in the country.

• Offshore Wind Energy Potential:

• India's vast coastline provides significant potential for offshore wind energy, which is expected to play a crucial role in achieving the 2030 target.

• The government is encouraging private investments and international collaborations in this sector.

Q86. Answer: (d) 3

The correct answer is 3 km per second.

Key Points

• Geostationary orbit satellites are designed to remain stationary relative to a specific point on Earth's surface, making them crucial for applications like communication, weather monitoring, and broadcasting.

• These satellites are placed at an altitude of approximately 35,786 km above Earth's equator and revolve around the Earth in sync with its rotation.

• The orbital speed required for a geostationary satellite to maintain its position is around 3 km per second. This speed ensures that the satellite completes one orbit in 24 hours, matching Earth's rotational period.

• Geostationary satellites are positioned in the equatorial plane to achieve this synchronization and avoid drifting from their designated location.

• The velocity calculation is based on gravitational forces and orbital mechanics, ensuring the satellite remains in a stable orbit. Hence, the correct answer is 3 km per second.

Additional Information

• Geostationary Orbit Characteristics:

• Geostationary orbits are circular and lie in the Earth's equatorial plane.

• Satellites in these orbits maintain a constant position relative to Earth, appearing stationary from the ground.

• This orbit is highly advantageous for applications like telecommunication, satellite television, and weather forecasting.

• Orbital Speed Details:

• The orbital speed of a geostationary satellite is determined by balancing gravitational force with the centrifugal force due to the satellite's motion.

• It requires a precise speed of approximately 3 km per second to remain geostationary.

• Any deviation in speed or altitude can cause the satellite to drift away from its designated position.

• Applications of Geostationary Satellites:

• Used extensively for global communication networks like satellite internet and telephone services.

• Important for real-time weather monitoring and disaster management.

• Utilized in broadcasting services for television and radio.

• Supports navigation systems and space-based research.

• Difference from Low Earth Orbit (LEO) Satellites:

• LEO satellites orbit much closer to Earth, typically at altitudes of 500-2,000 km.

• They move faster relative to Earth's surface, completing several orbits per day.

• LEO satellites are ideal for applications requiring low latency, such as Earth observation and scientific experiments.

Important Points

• Gravitational Influence: The geostationary orbit is often referred to as the "Clarke orbit," named after Arthur C. Clarke, who first proposed its use for communication satellites.

• Satellite Design: Satellites used in geostationary orbits are equipped with solar panels and communication equipment to sustain operations and relay signals.

• Challenges: Maintaining geostationary satellites requires periodic adjustments to counteract minor deviations caused by gravitational perturbations from the Moon and Sun.

• Examples: Prominent geostationary satellites include INSAT series in India, GOES satellites used for weather monitoring in the USA, and the SES satellites for global broadcasting.

Q87. Answer: (a) Only I

The correct answer is Only I.

Key Points

• Statement I: If an unbalanced force is applied on an object, there will be a change either in its speed or in the direction of its motion.

• This statement is correct as it aligns with Newton's First Law of Motion (Law of Inertia) and Newton's Second Law of Motion.

• When a net or unbalanced force acts on an object, it results in a change in the state of motion, causing the object to either accelerate, decelerate, or change its direction of motion.

• For instance, when you push a stationary ball, it starts moving, or when you push a moving ball harder, its speed increases or it changes direction.

• Statement II: To accelerate the motion of an object, a balanced force is required.

• This statement is incorrect because balanced forces do not change the state of motion of an object.

• When forces acting on an object are balanced, their effects cancel each other out, and the object either remains at rest or continues to move with constant velocity.

• Acceleration of an object requires an unbalanced force, as per Newton's Second Law of Motion, which states that force equals mass times acceleration (F = ma).

• Hence, Statement I is correct, and Statement II is incorrect. The correct answer is Only I.

Additional Information

• Force:

• Force is defined as an interaction that, when unopposed, changes the motion of an object.

• It is a vector quantity, meaning it has both magnitude and direction.

• The SI unit of force is the Newton (N).

• Examples include gravitational force, frictional force, and applied force.

• Balanced Forces:

• When two or more forces acting on an object are equal in magnitude and opposite in direction, they are called balanced forces.

• Balanced forces do not change the state of motion of an object.

• Example: A book resting on a table experiences balanced forces—gravity pulling it down and the table exerting an upward force.

• Unbalanced Forces:

• When forces acting on an object are not equal and opposite, they are called unbalanced forces.

• Unbalanced forces cause a change in the object's speed or direction of motion.

• Example: Pushing a trolley with a greater force than friction causes it to move.

• Newton's Laws of Motion:

• First Law: An object remains at rest or in uniform motion in a straight line unless acted upon by an unbalanced force.

• Second Law: The acceleration of an object is directly proportional to the net force acting on it and inversely proportional to its mass (F = ma).

• Third Law: For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction.

• Applications:

• Understanding force and motion is crucial in fields like engineering, mechanics, and space exploration.

• Examples include designing vehicles for better acceleration and safety, calculating trajectories in sports, and analyzing structural stability.

Important Points

• Newton's Laws in Daily Life:

• First Law: Wearing seatbelts in a car prevents passengers from continuing to move forward when the car suddenly stops.

• Second Law: Pushing a lighter object requires less force compared to a heavier object for the same acceleration.

• Third Law: When you jump off a boat, the boat moves backward due to the reaction force.

• SI Units and Measurement:

• Force is measured in Newtons (N).

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• 1 Newton is the force needed to accelerate a 1 kg mass by 1 m/s².

• Force can be measured using instruments like spring balances.

Q88. Answer: (d) Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Island

The correct answer is Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Island.

Key Points

• Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Island, formerly known as Wheeler Island, is a prominent missile testing facility located off the coast of Odisha in the Bay of Bengal.

• The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted the test for the 'Pralay' missile from this island in July 2025.

• 'Pralay' is a short-range surface-to-surface tactical missile developed by the DRDO, designed for quick deployment during conflicts. It is capable of carrying both conventional and nuclear warheads.

• The successful test of the 'Pralay' missile highlights India's advancements in defense technology and strengthens its tactical strike capabilities.

• The island was renamed in honor of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, India's Missile Man and the 11th President of India, recognizing his immense contribution to India's missile and space programs.

Additional Information

• Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Island:

• Located approximately 10 kilometers off the Odisha coast, near Chandipur.

• Serves as a dedicated missile test facility for India's defense programs, managed by the DRDO.

• The island is equipped with state-of-the-art tracking systems, radars, and telemetry stations to monitor missile tests.

• 'Pralay' Missile:

• A highly maneuverable, short-range ballistic missile with a range of 150–500 kilometers.

• Developed to strike enemy targets with precision, it can carry a payload of up to 1,000 kilograms.

• Can operate in all weather conditions and is designed to evade interception systems.

• Strengthens India's tactical strike capabilities, complementing other missile systems like BrahMos and Agni.

• DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organisation):

• India's premier agency for defense research and development, under the Ministry of Defence.

• Established in 1958, DRDO has played a vital role in developing indigenous defense technologies, including missiles, aircraft, and radar systems.

• Other notable missile programs by DRDO include Agni, Akash, Nag, and BrahMos.

• Importance of Missile Tests:

• Enhances national security by demonstrating the capability to deter potential threats.

• Validates the performance and reliability of missile systems under real-world conditions.

• Contributes to India's self-reliance in defense technology and reduces dependency on foreign imports.

Important Points

• Other Options Explained:

• Nicobar Islands: Located in the Andaman and Nicobar archipelago, these islands are primarily known for their biodiversity and strategic location but are not used for missile tests.

• Lakshadweep Islands: An archipelago off the southwestern coast of India, primarily known for its tourism and maritime significance. No missile tests are conducted here.

• Andaman Islands: Part of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. While they hold strategic importance for India's defense, missile tests are not conducted here.

• The successful test of 'Pralay' from Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Island symbolizes India's growing capabilities in indigenous defense technology.

• Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Island continues to be a key site for India's missile development and testing programs, contributing to the nation's security and technological advancements.

Q89. Answer: (b) Farrukh Siyar

The correct answer is Farrukh Siyar.

Key Points

• Farrukh Siyar was the Mughal emperor who ruled from 1713 to 1719. His reign marked a politically unstable period for the declining Mughal Empire.

• Farrukh Siyar ascended the throne with the help of the influential Sayyid Brothers—Abdullah Khan and Husain Ali Khan, who acted as kingmakers during this period.

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• He is known for granting several farman (imperial orders) to the British East India Company, which included trading concessions that laid the groundwork for British economic dominance in India.

• Farrukh Siyar's reign is marked by internal court intrigues, including his strained relationship with the Sayyid Brothers, who eventually deposed and executed him in 1719.

• His reign witnessed a steep decline in the power and prestige of the Mughal Empire, with regional governors gaining autonomy.

Additional Information

• Sayyid Brothers:

• The Sayyid Brothers, known as the "Kingmakers", were instrumental in Farrukh Siyar's rise to power. They held significant influence over the Mughal court during his reign.

• They deposed Farrukh Siyar when he attempted to reduce their influence, showcasing the weakening authority of the Mughal emperor.

• British East India Company:

• During Farrukh Siyar's reign, the British East India Company was granted important trading privileges, such as duty-free trade in Bengal, which later became a cornerstone of British economic power in India.

• The farman issued by Farrukh Siyar in 1717 allowed the East India Company to trade freely without paying customs duties in Bengal, Gujarat, and Hyderabad.

• Mughal Decline:

• Farrukh Siyar's reign symbolizes the decline of the Mughal Empire, with growing autonomy of provincial governors and increasing interference from external powers like the British and the Marathas.

• His inability to maintain centralized control led to the fragmentation of the empire.

• Key Events During Farrukh Siyar's Reign:

• The execution of Banda Singh Bahadur, the Sikh leader, in 1716 marked the end of a significant Sikh uprising during his rule.

• The Sayyid Brothers' dominance and their practice of replacing emperors showcased the diminished authority of the Mughal throne.

Important Points

• Other Options:

• Ahmad Shah: He ruled from 1748 to 1754, long after Farrukh Siyar's reign.

• Shah Alam II: He ruled from 1759 to 1806, during the later Mughal period, after the British had already gained significant control in India.

• Alamgir II: He was the Mughal emperor from 1754 to 1759, after the assassination of Ahmad Shah Bahadur.

• Impact of Farrukh Siyar's Reign:

• His reign was critical in shaping the Mughal Empire's interactions with European powers, especially the British East India Company.

• The decline of the central authority during his rule set the stage for the eventual disintegration of the Mughal Empire.

Q90. Answer: (c) Guerrilla warfare

The correct answer is Guerrilla warfare.

Key Points

• Shivaji Maharaj, the founder of the Maratha Empire, is renowned for his use of Guerrilla warfare, a strategic method of fighting that involves ambushes, raids, and surprise attacks on enemy forces.

• This military strategy was crucial for Shivaji as it allowed him to combat larger and better-equipped armies of the Mughals and other adversaries effectively.

• The terrain of the Western Ghats, with its mountainous regions, dense forests, and fortresses, was ideal for implementing Guerrilla tactics. Shivaji’s deep understanding of the geography played a significant role in his success.

• Guerrilla warfare emphasized speed, mobility, and deception, enabling Shivaji's forces to conduct swift attacks and retreat into safe territories before the enemy could react.

• Shivaji also used strategic forts like Raigad, Pratapgad, and Rajgad as bases for launching raids and protecting his forces. These forts were strategically located to give him a stronghold in key areas.

Additional Information

• Characteristics of Guerrilla Warfare:

• This warfare strategy involves small, flexible units that use the element of surprise to attack larger forces.

• It includes tactics such as ambushes, sabotage, raids, and hit-and-run operations.

• Guerrilla warfare is often used by forces with limited resources to combat larger, more powerful armies.

• The focus is on creating confusion and weakening the enemy’s morale rather than engaging in direct, large-scale battles.

• Other Strategies Mentioned in the Question:

• Open Field Battle: This involves armies confronting each other in a traditional battlefield setting. Shivaji avoided such battles due to the numerical and technological superiority of his enemies.

• Warfare with Elephants: While elephants were used in battles during Shivaji's time, this was not a significant strategy employed by him as it was less effective in the hilly terrain of Maharashtra.

• Siege Tactics: Though Shivaji used sieges occasionally to capture forts, it was not his primary military strategy. Guerrilla warfare was more effective for him.

• Famous Campaigns of Shivaji Utilizing Guerrilla Warfare:

• The Battle of Pratapgad (1659): Shivaji's forces used guerrilla tactics to defeat Afzal Khan's army, marking one of his early significant victories.

• Shivaji's escape from Agra Fort in 1666 is another example of his strategic brilliance and use of deception.

• His campaigns against the Mughal Empire and other regional powers consistently demonstrated the effectiveness of guerrilla warfare.

• Impact of Guerrilla Warfare:

• Shivaji's innovative tactics inspired future military leaders and became a cornerstone of Maratha military strategies.

• It allowed the Marathas to establish a stronghold in the Deccan region, resisting Mughal dominance and European colonial powers.

• The success of guerrilla warfare also highlighted the importance of understanding and leveraging local geography in military campaigns.

Q91. Answer: (b) 2001

The correct answer is 2001.

Key Points

• The National Stock Exchange (NSE) introduced Index Options trading on June 4, 2001. This was based on the benchmark index Nifty 50.

• Index Options are a type of derivative instrument where the underlying asset is an index, such as the Nifty 50, which is a compilation of 50 top-performing companies in various sectors.

• The launch of Index Options in 2001 marked a significant milestone in the Indian financial markets, as it expanded the range of investment and hedging tools available to investors.

• The introduction of Index Options followed the launch of Index Futures, which commenced in June 2000, reflecting the gradual development of the derivatives market in India.

• This step was undertaken to enhance the efficiency, liquidity, and risk management options for market participants in India.

Additional Information

• Development of Derivatives Market in India:

• The derivatives market in India started with the introduction of Index Futures in June 2000, followed by Index Options in June 2001.

• In July 2001, trading in stock options commenced, and later in November 2001, stock futures were introduced.

• The regulatory framework for derivatives trading in India is governed by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), ensuring transparency and investor protection.

• Nifty 50 Index:

• The Nifty 50 is the flagship index of the NSE, comprising 50 stocks across 14 different sectors of the Indian economy.

• It represents about 65% of the free-float market capitalization of the stocks listed on NSE.

• The Nifty 50 is widely used as a benchmark for portfolio performance and as an underlying asset for various derivatives instruments.

• Benefits of Index Options:

• Index Options allow investors to hedge their portfolio risks effectively.

• They provide a cost-effective way to gain exposure to the broader market.

• Index Options reduce the need to buy multiple stocks as they represent the performance of the entire index.

• Other Relevant Developments in Financial Markets:

• The introduction of derivatives trading in India has led to the growth and maturity of the Indian financial markets.

• Technological advancements, such as the use of algorithmic trading and electronic trading platforms, have further improved market efficiency.

Important Points

• Key Features of Index Options:

• Underlying Asset: The performance of the option depends on the index, such as Nifty 50.

• European Style: Index Options in India are European-style options, meaning they can only be exercised on the expiry date.

• Cash Settlement: The settlement of Index Options is done in cash, and no physical delivery of stocks is involved.
• Future Implications:
• The growth of derivatives markets contributes to the stability and depth of financial markets.
• It empowers investors by offering diversified investment avenues and robust risk management tools.

Q92. Answer: (c) 5

The correct answer is 5th Five-Year Plan.

Key Points

• The Hill Area Development Programme was initiated during the 5th Five-Year Plan (1974-1979) in India.
• The programme was primarily aimed at promoting the socio-economic development of hilly regions and addressing challenges specific to these areas, such as infrastructure deficits and ecological fragility.
• This plan identified areas that required special development measures due to their unique geographical and socio-economic conditions.
• The focus of this programme was on agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, forestry, and eco-friendly development practices.
• The programme also emphasized environmental conservation and efforts to prevent soil erosion, deforestation, and other ecological issues.

Additional Information

• 5th Five-Year Plan (1974-1979):
• The 5th Five-Year Plan was introduced under the leadership of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.
• It focused on achieving self-reliance and promoting poverty alleviation through programmes like Garibi Hatao.
• The plan aimed to address regional disparities, including the development of hilly and backward areas.
• It was influenced by the global oil crisis of 1973 and emphasized energy security and resource optimization.
• Challenges in Hill Areas:
• Hilly regions often face challenges such as poor infrastructure, difficult terrain, ecological fragility, and limited economic opportunities.
• The Hill Area Development Programme aimed to mitigate these challenges through targeted investments and development strategies.
• Focus Areas of the Programme:
• Promoting agriculture and allied activities like horticulture and animal husbandry.
• Strengthening forestry and environmental conservation efforts.
• Developing infrastructure, such as roads, electricity, and water supply systems.
• Encouraging community participation in development activities.
• Impact of the Programme:
• It helped improve the socio-economic conditions of people living in hilly regions by creating livelihood opportunities.
• Contributed to environmental conservation and sustainable development practices.

Important Points

• Hill Area Development Programme vs Western Ghats Programme:
• The Hill Area Development Programme was distinct from the Western Ghats Programme, which targeted conservation and development in the Western Ghats region.
• Both programmes shared a focus on ecological sustainability, but their geographical coverage and objectives differed.
• Subsequent Plans:
• Later Five-Year Plans continued to support hilly regions under various schemes, emphasizing sustainable development and poverty reduction.
• Regional development initiatives like the Integrated Tribal Development Programmes also contributed to the welfare of communities in hill areas.

Q93. Answer: (c) agriculture products

The correct answer is agriculture products.

Key Points

• AGMARK is a certification mark used in India to ensure the quality and standardization of agricultural products.
• It is governed under the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act of 1937, which was amended in 1986 to include more agricultural commodities.
• This certification is provided by the Directorate of Marketing and Inspection (DMI), under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers

Welfare, Government of India.

• The AGMARK certification ensures that the agricultural products meet the specified standards of quality, purity, and hygiene.

• Products like fruits, vegetables, cereals, pulses, spices, honey, and edible oils are commonly certified under AGMARK.

• The certification helps to boost consumer confidence and ensures that agricultural commodities sold in the market are of the desired quality.

Additional Information

• History and Origin of AGMARK:

• The term AGMARK is derived from "Agricultural Marketing".

• The certification was introduced in India in 1937 under the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act.

• This act was designed to ensure fair trade practices and the provision of high-quality agricultural products to consumers.

• Role of Directorate of Marketing and Inspection (DMI):

• The DMI is responsible for implementing and overseeing the AGMARK certification process.

• It ensures that agricultural products comply with Indian quality standards and helps farmers get fair prices for their produce.

• DMI conducts inspections, quality tests, and certification processes for agricultural commodities.

• Products Certified under AGMARK:

• AGMARK certification is available for a wide range of products, including:

• Cereals: Wheat, rice, barley, etc.

• Pulses: Lentils, chickpeas, etc.

• Edible oils: Mustard oil, groundnut oil, etc.

• Spices: Turmeric, chili powder, etc.

• Honey and ghee are also certified under AGMARK.

• Benefits of AGMARK Certification:

• Consumers: It ensures that they receive high-quality, unadulterated agricultural products.

• Producers: Farmers and producers can earn better market value for their certified products.

• Export: AGMARK certification boosts the international credibility of Indian agricultural products, helping in exports.

Important Points

• Difference Between AGMARK and FSSAI:

• While AGMARK is specifically for agricultural products, FSSAI (Food Safety and Standards Authority of India) covers all food items, ensuring they are safe for consumption.

• FSSAI focuses on the health and safety standards, while AGMARK ensures quality and purity.

• Global Recognition:

• The AGMARK certification is recognized in various countries, enhancing the export opportunities for Indian agricultural products.

• It aligns with international standards to ensure global acceptance and trust.

• Recent Developments:

• The Government of India is working to digitize the AGMARK certification process, making it more accessible and efficient for farmers and producers.

• Efforts are being made to integrate AGMARK with other certification schemes to enhance transparency and traceability.

Q94. Answer: (a) 1830

The correct answer is 1830.

Key Points

• The first complete census conducted in an Indian city took place in the year 1830.

• This census was conducted under the British colonial rule, marking the beginning of organized population surveys in India.

• The census focused on collecting data related to population demographics, including age, gender, and occupation.

• The city covered in the census was Madras (now Chennai), a major administrative and trade hub during the colonial era.

• It laid the foundation for systematic data collection, which eventually evolved into the modern-day decennial census conducted by the Registrar General of India.

Additional Information

• Historical context of census in India:

• The first modern census in India was conducted in 1872 under British rule, but it was not synchronous.

• The first synchronous census, covering the entire country, was conducted in 1881.

• Significance of the 1830 census:

• It was among the earliest attempts at systematic population studies in India.

• The data collected helped in understanding the socio-economic conditions of the region and was used for administrative planning.

• Evolution of census in India:

• Post-independence, the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India took charge of conducting censuses.

• The Indian Census is now conducted every 10 years, with the latest census being planned for 2021.

• Key features of modern-day census:

• Collects data on demographics, literacy, employment, housing, and migration patterns.

• Data is crucial for policy-making, resource allocation, and tracking development indicators.

Important Points

• The first census in Madras (1830) set a precedent for organized data collection, which became crucial during later colonial governance.

• The census allowed colonial administrators to assess population density, urbanization, and resources available in cities like Madras.

• Modern Indian census, conducted under the Census Act of 1948, is one of the most comprehensive data collection exercises globally.

Q95. Answer: (c) Both I and II

The correct answer is Both I and II.

Key Points

• The Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC) 2011 was conducted in India to provide comprehensive data on various socio-economic and caste parameters.

• The SECC 2011 was undertaken by two ministries in collaboration:

• Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD): This ministry was responsible for conducting the SECC in rural areas of the country.

• Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA): This ministry conducted the SECC in urban areas.

• The SECC 2011 was a significant initiative to collect data for the proper targeting of government schemes and to ensure that the benefits reach the intended beneficiaries.

• The census captured key socio-economic indicators such as income, education, employment, and access to basic amenities.

• The SECC data was used to identify households eligible for government schemes like Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and National Food Security Act (NFSA).

Additional Information

• Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC):

• SECC 2011 was the first comprehensive exercise conducted in independent India to capture data on socio-economic and caste parameters.

• The SECC included data collection on household income, housing conditions, education levels, employment status, and ownership of assets.

• The census also sought to identify households living below the poverty line (BPL).

• Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD):

• The MoRD oversees key programs and schemes aimed at alleviating rural poverty and improving living standards.

• Examples of schemes under MoRD include Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY).

• Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA):

• The MoHUA is responsible for urban development and housing policies in India.

• Key schemes under MoHUA include Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) and Smart Cities Mission.

• Applications of SECC Data:

• The SECC data is utilized to identify beneficiaries for government welfare schemes.

• It is also used for policy formulation and to assess the socio-economic conditions of various communities.

• Key Findings of SECC 2011:

• Approximately 70% of India’s population resided in rural areas at the time of the census.

• The data revealed disparities in education, employment, and access to basic amenities across rural and urban areas.

Q96. Answer: (c) 1931

The correct answer is 1931.

Key Points

• Caste data in India was regularly collected during the decennial censuses conducted by the British from 1881 to 1931. The collection of such data was discontinued post-1931.

• The decision to stop collecting caste-based data after 1931 was influenced by administrative complexities and the financial constraints of the British government during the period of the Great Depression.

• The caste-based census provided detailed information on the caste composition of Indian society, which the British often used to implement their policy of "divide and rule."

• The 1931 census was the last census under British rule to enumerate caste data comprehensively. From 1941 onwards, caste data was not recorded in detail, and after India's independence in 1947, it was omitted from national censuses except for data on Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs).

• This data from 1931 is still referenced in various socio-economic studies and policies due to the lack of detailed caste data in subsequent censuses.

Additional Information

• History of Censuses in India:

• The first comprehensive census in India was conducted in 1872, but it was not considered complete or uniform. The first synchronized decennial census was conducted in 1881.

• The censuses conducted during the British era aimed to collect data on various socio-economic, demographic, and cultural factors, including caste, religion, and occupation.

• Role of Caste Data:

• Caste data collected during the census was used by the British to understand Indian society and implement policies that would consolidate their administrative control.

• It also served as a tool for implementing affirmative action policies for certain disadvantaged castes in post-independence India, such as reservations for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs).

• Post-Independence Census Practices:

• After India's independence, caste data collection was limited to the enumeration of SCs and STs for the purpose of policy-making and implementation of affirmative action programs.

• There has been an ongoing debate about whether caste data should be collected again in modern censuses to better understand and address socio-economic disparities.

• Relevance of 1931 Data:

• Since no comprehensive caste-based census has been conducted after 1931, this data is still used as a reference for socio-economic and political analysis in India.

• Many scholars and policymakers argue that caste data is essential for understanding inequalities and ensuring equitable distribution of resources.

Important Points

• 1931 Census Commissioner: The 1931 census was conducted under the supervision of J.H. Hutton, who provided detailed information about caste and its role in Indian society.

• 1941 Census and Limitations: The census conducted in 1941 was affected by World War II, and caste data was not collected in detail.

• Modern Caste Surveys: In the absence of caste data from national censuses, some states like Bihar and Karnataka have conducted their own caste surveys to inform policy decisions.

• Caste in Indian Politics: The caste system continues to play a significant role in Indian politics, influencing electoral strategies and public policies.

Q97. Answer: (a) Goods and Services Tax

The correct answer is Goods and Services Tax.

Key Points

• The Goods and Services Tax (GST) was introduced in India on 1st July 2017 as a comprehensive, multi-stage, destination-based tax that replaced a plethora of indirect taxes levied by the central and state governments.

• GST subsumed multiple central taxes such as Central Excise Duty, Service Tax, Countervailing Duty, and Special Additional Duty of Customs, along with state taxes like Value Added Tax (VAT), Entertainment Tax (except the tax levied by local bodies), Luxury Tax, and Entry Tax.

• By amalgamating a large number of central and state taxes, GST has streamlined the indirect taxation system in India, reducing the cascading effect of taxes.

• GST operates under a dual model in India, consisting of Central GST (CGST) and State GST (SGST), with an additional Integrated GST (IGST) for inter-state transactions.

• GST is governed by the GST Council, a constitutional body chaired by the Union Finance Minister, and includes representatives from all states and union territories with legislatures.

Additional Information

• Features of GST:

• GST is a destination-based tax, meaning the tax is collected by the state where the goods or services are consumed.

• It is levied at each stage of the supply chain and allows for input tax credit, ensuring that only the value addition is taxed at each stage.

• The GST structure comprises four tax slabs: 5%, 12%, 18%, and 28%, with a few items exempted or subject to a special rate.

• Advantages of GST:

• It eliminates the cascading effect of taxes, where tax is levied on tax, leading to reduced overall tax burden on goods and services.

• GST has simplified compliance through a unified tax system and the introduction of the GSTN (Goods and Services Tax Network), a centralized IT platform for returns filing and tax payment.

• The tax system has improved transparency, reduced tax evasion, and fostered a common national market.

• Other Tax Concepts in the Options:

• Customs Duty: It is a tax levied on the import and export of goods into or out of a country. It is not subsumed under GST but continues as a separate tax.

• Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT): It is a tax levied on companies that show low taxable income by availing exemptions under the Income Tax Act. It is a direct tax and not amalgamated under GST.

• Corporate Tax: It is a direct tax levied on the profits of companies and is not part of the GST framework.

• GST Council:

• The GST Council plays a crucial role in determining tax rates, exemptions, and operational protocols for GST.

• It ensures cooperative federalism by including both Central and State representatives.

• Significant decisions, such as rate adjustments and the inclusion/exclusion of items under GST, are taken during its meetings.

Q98. Answer: (c) Panini

The correct answer is Panini.

Key Points

• Panini was a renowned ancient Sanskrit grammarian who lived during the time of the Nandas, around the 4th century BCE.

• Panini is best known for his work Ashtadhyayi, which is regarded as one of the most comprehensive and systematic treatises on Sanskrit grammar.

• His grammar system laid the foundation for linguistic studies and is considered a milestone in language analysis and formal systems.

• The Nanda dynasty ruled Magadha before the Mauryan Empire, which aligns with Panini's time, making him a contemporary to the Nanda kings.

• Panini's contributions have influenced not only Indian linguistic traditions but also modern computational linguistics and language processing models.

Additional Information

• Panini's Ashtadhyayi:

• The Ashtadhyayi consists of 8 chapters and is a concise set of rules for Sanskrit grammar.

• It uses a unique system of metarules and technical terms to explain grammatical constructs and syntax.

• Panini's methodology is an early example of formal language theory, influencing fields like mathematics, computer science, and artificial intelligence.

• The Nanda Dynasty:

• The Nanda dynasty ruled between 345 BCE and 321 BCE in the Magadha region of India.

• It is known for its administrative efficiency and significant military strength, which paved the way for the Mauryan Empire.

• Panini lived during this period, as is evident from references to contemporary political and social conditions in his work.

• Other Contributions of Panini:

• Panini introduced the use of technical terms like samjna (definitions) and sutra (aphorisms) in his grammar system.

• His work became a cornerstone for subsequent grammarians like Patanjali, who wrote a commentary called Mahabhashya.

• Panini's grammar influenced European linguistics, particularly during the colonial period when Sanskrit studies gained attention.

• Comparison with Other Options:

• Kalidasa: A classical Sanskrit poet and dramatist who lived much later, around the 4th-5th century CE. He is not associated with the Nanda period.

• Aryabhata: An ancient Indian mathematician and astronomer, who lived around 476 CE, also much later than the Nanda dynasty.

• Patanjali: A grammarian who wrote a commentary on Panini's work, but lived in the Mauryan period, not during the Nandas.

Important Points

• Panini's Influence:

• Panini's work has been foundational for the study of Sanskrit and has influenced linguistics worldwide.

• His systematic approach to language analysis is still studied and admired for its precision and depth.

• The Ashtadhyayi is an essential text for understanding the development of ancient Indian knowledge systems.

• Historical Context:

• The Nanda dynasty provided a stable political environment conducive to scholarly pursuits like those of Panini.

• This period also saw the development of other fields like medicine, astronomy, and mathematics in ancient India.

Q99. Answer: (d) Rishis and Rishikas

The correct answer is Rishis and Rishikas.

Key Points

• In early Indian tradition, the Vedic hymns were composed by Rishis (sages) and Rishikas (female sages). These hymns form part of the sacred texts of the Vedas, which are the earliest literary and religious texts of ancient India.

• The Rishis and Rishikas were believed to have been divinely inspired and had the spiritual insight to hear and compose these sacred hymns, known as "Shruti," meaning "that which is heard."

• The hymns mainly comprise prayers, praises, and philosophical discourses dedicated to various deities such as Agni (fire), Indra (rain and thunder), and Varuna (cosmic order).

• These compositions were passed down orally through generations before being written down, showcasing the oral tradition of ancient India.

• The Vedic hymns encapsulate knowledge related to cosmology, rituals, ethics, and philosophical inquiry, forming the foundation of Hinduism and Indian culture.

Additional Information

• Rishis and Rishikas:

• The term "Rishi" refers to a sage or seer in ancient Indian tradition who was spiritually enlightened and capable of divine insight.

• Female sages, known as "Rishikas," also contributed to the composition of some hymns in the Vedas. For instance, notable Rishikas include Gargi and Maitreyi, who appear in philosophical discussions in texts like the Upanishads.

• Rishis were often regarded as the mediators between humans and the divine realm, interpreting cosmic truths through their hymns.

• Vedas:

• The Vedas consist of four collections: Rigveda, Samaveda, Yajurveda, and Atharvaveda. Each collection has its unique focus, ranging from hymns to rituals and philosophical discourses.

• The Rigveda, the oldest of the Vedas, contains more than 1,000 hymns dedicated to various deities.

• The Vedas were composed in Vedic Sanskrit, a language distinct from Classical Sanskrit and believed to be one of the oldest languages in the world.

• Oral Tradition:

• The Vedic hymns were transmitted orally for centuries before being written down, demonstrating a remarkable tradition of memorization and preservation.

• The oral tradition involved intricate techniques of recitation to ensure accuracy, including methods such as Padapatha and Krama Patha.

• Philosophical Contribution:

• The hymns composed by Rishis and Rishikas laid the groundwork for later philosophical texts like the Upanishads, which delve deeper into metaphysical concepts such as Brahman (ultimate reality) and Atman (soul).

• These texts also discuss the nature of existence, the universe, and the relationship between the divine and the individual.

• Other Options Explained:

• Kings: Kings in early Indian tradition were often patrons of religion and culture but did not compose the Vedic hymns.

• Scholars from Nalanda: Nalanda University was established much later, during the Gupta period, and its scholars mainly focused on Buddhist teachings and other disciplines.

• Village Elders: Village elders played important roles in local governance and social rituals but were not the composers of the Vedic hymns.

Q100. Answer: (c) Both I and II

The correct answer is Both I and II.

Key Points

• Statement I: During the Vedic period, society was organized into four varnas, namely Brahmins (priests and scholars), Kshatriyas (warriors and rulers), Vaishyas (merchants and agriculturists), and Shudras (laborers and service providers). This classification was based on occupation and duties, and it played a significant role in shaping the socio-economic structure of ancient India. Hence, statement I is correct.

• Statement II: Early Hindu philosophy prescribed the four stages of life, known as ashramas. These stages are Brahmacharya (student life), Grihastha (householder life), Vanaprastha (retired life), and Sannyasa (renunciation). Each stage emphasized specific duties and responsibilities, contributing to an individual's spiritual and social development. Hence, statement II is correct.

Additional Information

• Varna System:

• It was a social division based on occupation and responsibilities rather than birth during the early Vedic period.

• The system evolved over time and became rigid during the later Vedic period, leading to social stratification.

• The Brahmins performed religious rituals, the Kshatriyas protected the land, the Vaishyas engaged in trade and agriculture, and the Shudras provided labor and services.

• Ashramas:

• These stages reflect the philosophy of life in Hinduism, encouraging individuals to fulfill their duties in each stage.

• The Brahmacharya stage focused on education and discipline; the Grihastha stage emphasized family and societal responsibilities.

• During Vanaprastha, individuals prepared for spiritual pursuits, and Sannyasa involved renouncing worldly attachments to seek liberation (Moksha).

• Vedic Philosophy:

• The Vedic texts, including the Rigveda, Samaveda, Yajurveda, and Atharvaveda, were foundational to Hindu thought and practices.

• The Vedic period saw the development of concepts such as Dharma (duty), Karma (actions), and Moksha (liberation).

• The philosophical teachings were later elaborated upon in the Upanishads and Puranas.

• Role of Religion:

• Religion played a central role in shaping social norms, education, and governance during the Vedic period.

• The rituals performed by Brahmins were essential for societal harmony and prosperity.

Important Points

• The Varna system and Ashramas were integral to the societal and spiritual framework of ancient India.

• The Vedic philosophy emphasized the balance between material and spiritual goals, fostering holistic development.

• These concepts influenced the later development of Indian society and religion, shaping cultural practices and traditions.

• They also laid the foundation for the Hindu way of life, focusing on duties, ethics, and spiritual aspirations.

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