SSC CHSL 2025 Tier-1 (Held On: 29 Nov, 2025 Shift 1) (Previous Year Paper)

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

Take this paper as a timed mock test

Practise under exam conditions, then review your answers after you submit.

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Scan the QR code or click the link to open it.

1 question is in Hindi and not printed here. Each one links to the online version, where you can read it.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Q1. Choose the correct option to give a one-word substitution for the sentence given:

Killing of an unborn baby.

(a) Homicide
(b) Paternity
(c) Maternity
(d) Foeticide

Q2. Select the alternative which best expresses the meaning of idioms/phrases:

Look before you leap.

(a) Hide something
(b) Analyze the consequences before making a decision
(c) Depending on others for task completion
(d) Always be humble to people of lower designation

Q3. Choose the option that has an error in the sentence:

"I'm lucky that I have been doing a job I enjoy all my working life."

(a) I'm lucky that
(b) I have been doing a job
(c) I enjoy all my working life.
(d) No correction required

Q4. Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error:

"No sooner had she left the room when the lights went out."

(a) No sooner
(b) had she left
(c) the room when
(d) the lights went out

Q5. Fill in the blank with the most appropriate preposition:

The manager was taken aback _____ the sudden resignation of three key employees.

(a) by
(b) at
(c) for
(d) over

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Q6. Choose the correct word to complete the sentence:

They built a _____ to cross the river.

(a) bred
(b) bread
(c) bredge
(d) bridge

Q7. Choose the correctly spelt word:

(a) Sacrilegious
(b) Sacriligious
(c) Sacreligous
(d) Secreligeous

Q8. Choose the best option to replace the underlined part to improve the given sentence. If no substitution is required, select "No substitution."

The plane flew on the city, offering a great view.

(a) over the city
(b) in the city
(c) at the city
(d) No substitution

Q9. Choose the best option to replace the underlined part to improve the given sentence. If no substitution is required, select "No substitution."

"The company has done away for unnecessary paperwork by going completely digital."

(a) Done away with
(b) Done off
(c) Done in for
(d) No substitution

Q10. From the alternatives given below, select the correct passive voice of the following sentence:

The students were imitating the way of the description by the teacher.

(a) The way of the description by the teacher was imitated by the students.
(b) The way of the description by the teacher were being imitated by the students.
(c) The way of the description by the teacher had been imitated by the students.
(d) The way of the description by the teacher was being imitated by the students.

Q11. Choose the option that is the most appropriate conversion of the following sentence into Active Voice:

All the arrangements had been made by the organizers before we arrived.

(a) The organizers made all the arrangements before we arrived.
(b) The organizers will have made all the arrangements before we arrive.
(c) The organizers had made all the arrangements before we arrived.
(d) The organizers have made all the arrangements before we arrived.

Q12. Choose the correct indirect narration of the following statement from the given alternatives:

Snigdha said, "What a beautiful day today is!"

(a) Snigdha exclaimed that that day has been a very beautiful day.
(b) Snigdha exclaimed that that day a very beautiful day was.
(c) Snigdha exclaimed that day was a very beautiful day.
(d) Snigdha exclaimed that that day was a very beautiful day.

Q13. Choose the option that is the most appropriate conversion of the following sentence into Direct Speech:

They asked if I knew the way to the museum.

(a) They asked, "Do you know the way to the museum?"
(b) They asked, "Did you know the way to the museum?"

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(c) They ask, "If I know the way to the museum?"

(d) They said, "Did you know the way to the museum?"

Q14. The following sentence has two blanks. Choose the most suitable set of prepositions from the given options to fill in the blanks and complete the sentence meaningfully:

His fascination ____ mythology grew ____ exposure to ancient texts.

(a) of, by

(b) with, through

(c) for, from

(d) at, under

Q15. Choose the option that is the most appropriate conversion of the following sentence into Direct Speech:

He said that by the time she arrived, the guests had already started leaving.

(a) He said, "By the time she has arrived, the guests were already leaving."

(b) He said, "By the time she had arrived, the guests had already started leaving."

(c) He said, "By the time she arrived, the guests had already started leaving."

(d) He said, "By the time she arrived, the guests had already started to leave."

Q16. Change the following sentence into the Active form.

It was widely considered that the ancient ruins were believed to have been constructed by a previously unknown civilization.

(a) They widely considered that a previously unknown civilization believed to have constructed the ancient ruins.

(b) People widely considered that a previously unknown civilization was believed to have constructed the ancient ruins.

(c) People widely considered that a previously unknown civilization had constructed the ancient ruins.

(d) It was believed that a previously unknown civilization had constructed the ancient ruins, it was widely considered.

Q17. One of these words is spelled incorrectly. Which one is it?

(a) Acknowledgment

(b) Proficiency

(c) Perseverence

(d) Reputable

Q18. Choose the correct passive voice transformation of the sentence:

Bob was drawing the portrait.

(a) The portrait is being drawn by Bob.

(b) The portrait was being drawn by Bob.

(c) The portrait has been drawn by Bob.

(d) The portrait was drawn by Bob.

Directions

Read the passage and answer the following question:

Japan is often admired around the world for its high level of discipline and social order. From childhood, Japanese people are taught to respect rules, value punctuality, and prioritise community welfare over individual interests. This cultural emphasis on discipline has played a major role in Japan's remarkable progress and social harmony.

One can see examples of discipline in everyday life, people stand in neat lines at stations, streets are clean despite a lack of dustbins, and public spaces are rarely damaged. The Japanese education system also strongly focuses on moral training, teamwork, and responsibility. Such habits help develop a sense of collective responsibility among citizens.

During times of crisis, such as natural disasters, the discipline of Japanese people becomes even more evident. They remain calm, organised, and cooperative, which makes recovery faster and more effective. This cultural value has not only strengthened their society internally but has also earned Japan a reputation for efficiency and respect on the global stage.

Q19. "From childhood, Japanese people are taught to respect rules, value punctuality, and prioritise community welfare over individual interests."

What is the part of speech of the word "punctuality"?

(a) Verb

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(b) Adjective
(c) Noun
(d) Adverb

Q20. "The Japanese education system also strongly focuses on moral training, teamwork, and responsibility,"
why is the verb "focuses" used instead of "focus"?
(a) Because "training" is the object
(b) Because "system" is a singular subject
(c) Because "education" is uncountable
(d) Because the sentence is in passive voice

Q21. "This cultural value has not only strengthened their society internally but has also earned Japan a reputation for efficiency and respect on the global stage."
What is the closest synonym for the word "efficiency"?
(a) Freedom
(b) Effectiveness
(c) Popularity
(d) Ambition

Q22. "This cultural emphasis on discipline has played a major role in Japan's remarkable progress and social harmony," what does the word "emphasis" most likely mean in this context?
(a) Opposition
(b) Rejection
(c) Special importance or attention
(d) Lack of interest

Q23. What is the main idea of the passage?
(a) Japanese people dislike rules
(b) Discipline is deeply rooted in Japanese culture and benefits society
(c) Japan struggles to maintain cleanliness
(d) Japan does not value teamwork

Q24. What is the antonym of "Surreptitious"?
(a) Covert
(b) Furtive
(c) Overt
(d) Stealthy

Q25. What is the antonym of "Noisome"?
(a) Fragrant
(b) Rancid
(c) Putrid
(d) Malodorous

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE

Q26. Find the next element that replaces the ? logically:
6, 23, 74, 227, ?
(a) 686
(b) 681
(c) 683
(d) 704

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Q27. In a queue, John is 13th from the front and Mary is 15th from the back. If there are 5 people between them, and John is ahead of Mary, what is the total number of people in the queue?

(a) 33
(b) 34
(c) 35
(d) 36

Q28. In a row, Ram is 12th from the front and Shyam is 18th from the back. If there are 4 persons between them, and Shyam is ahead of Ram, what is the total number of persons in the row?

(a) 24
(b) 25
(c) 26
(d) 27

Q29. If 117 * 78 = 13 and 192 * 9 = 61, then what is the value of 114 * 12?

(a) 34
(b) 31
(c) 28
(d) 37

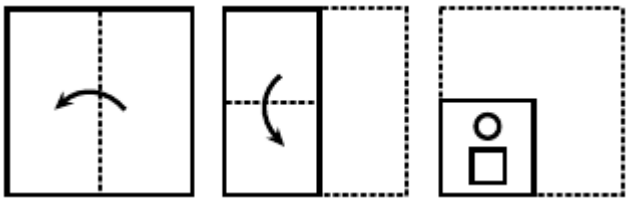
Q30. If 3 ? 50 = 900 and 19 ? 27 = 3078, then what is the value of 38 ? 49?

(a) 11154
(b) 11172
(c) 11166
(d) 11178

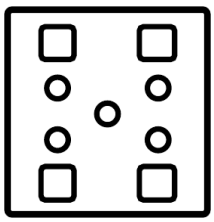
Q31. Find the next element that replaces the ? Logically 990, 1321, 1718, 2187, ?

(a) 2728
(b) 2742
(c) 2745
(d) 2734

Q32. A piece of paper is folded and punched as shown below in the question figures. From the given option figures, indicate how it will appear when opened.

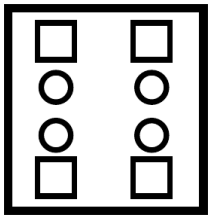


(a)

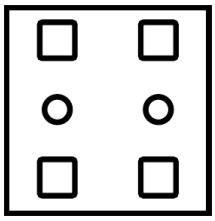


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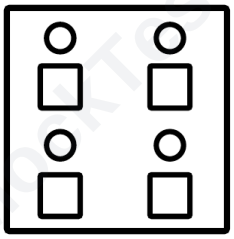
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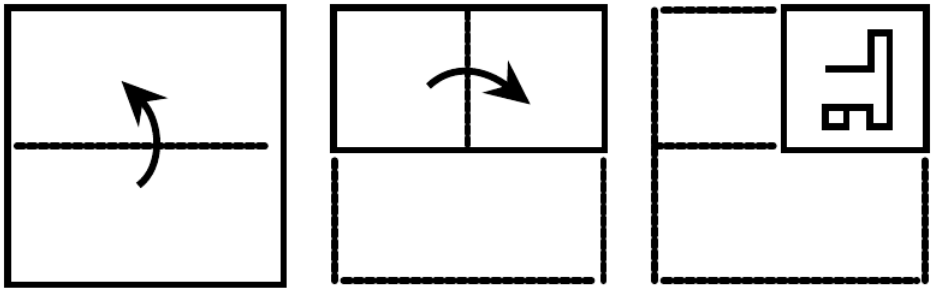
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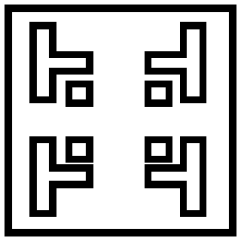
(d)



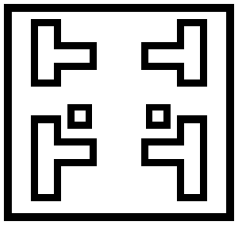
Q33. A piece of paper is folded and punched as shown below in the question figures. From the given option figures, indicate how it will appear when opened.



(a)

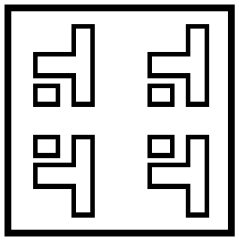


(b)

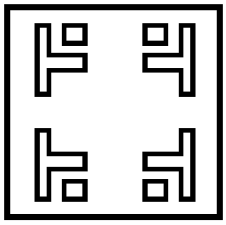


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(c)



(d)



Q34. Find the next number.

5, 12, 21, 32, 45, ?

(a) 60
(b) 61
(c) 62
(d) 63

Q35. In the following question, select the number which can be placed at the sign of question mark (?) from the given alternatives.

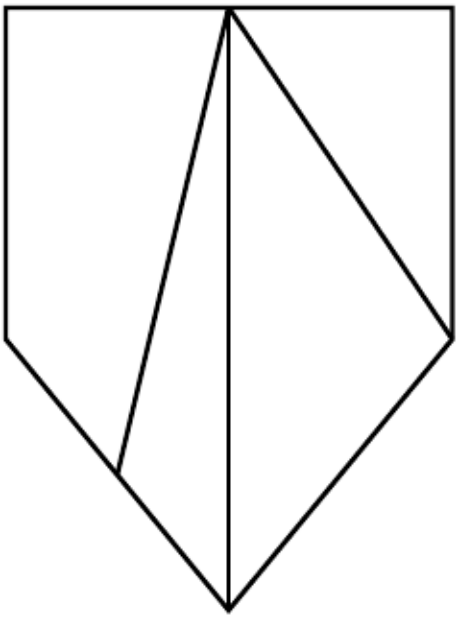
4	5
2	14

4	6
3	22

4	?
2	12

(a) 1
(b) 2
(c) 4
(d) 8

Q36. How many triangles are there in the given figure?



(a) 2
(b) 3

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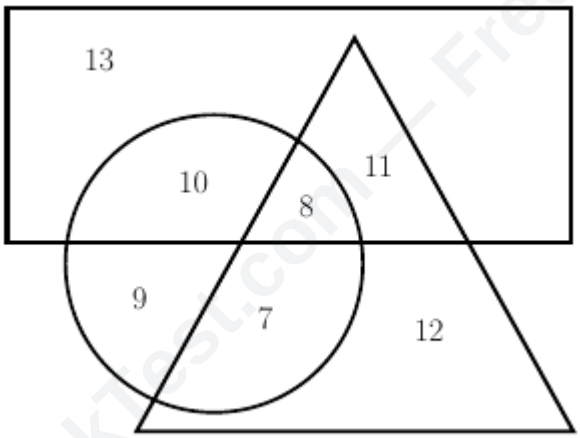
(c) 4
(d) 5

Q37. In the figure given below the triangle represents balls, the circle represents chairs and the rectangle represents wickets. The number in each area represents the number of items in that area.

Which of the following statement is correct?

I. Number of wickets which are only chairs are 10.

II. Total number of balls are 14 less than the total number of wickets.



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

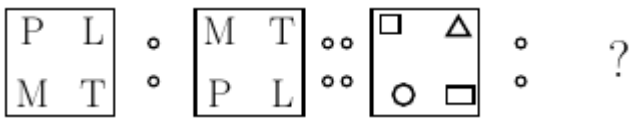
Q38. 5 persons A, B, C, D and E are sitting around a circular table facing towards the centre (not necessarily in the same order). B is sitting second to the right of D. A is sitting second to the right of B. C is not an immediate neighbour of A. Who is third to the right of D?

(a) B
(b) C
(c) E
(d) A

Q39. A certain number of persons are standing in a row facing south (not necessarily in the same order). A is 9th person from left end. Five people stand between A and Z. Z is second person from one of the end. How many persons are standing in the row?

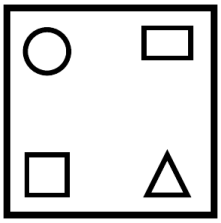
(a) 16
(b) 18
(c) 19
(d) 10

Q40. Two figures given on the left side of (::) are related with some logic/rule/relation. Select the missing figure on the right side of (::) from the given alternatives based on the same logic/rule/relation.

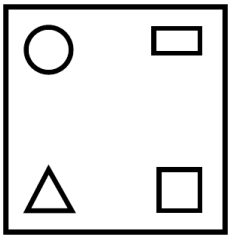


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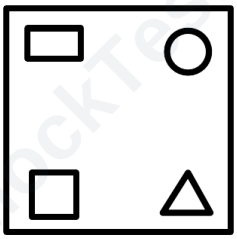
(a)



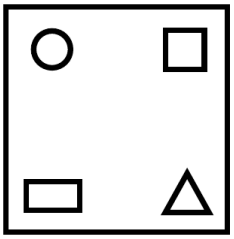
(b)



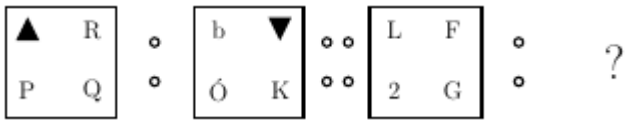
(c)



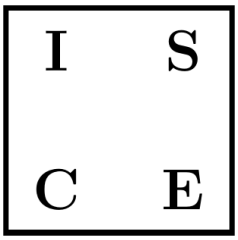
(d)



Q41. Two figures given on the left side of (::) are related with some logic/rule/relation. Select the missing figure on the right side of (::) from the given alternatives based on the same logic/rule/relation.

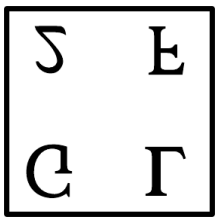


(a)

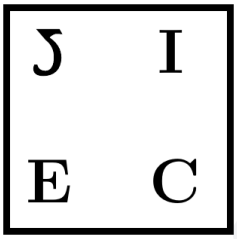


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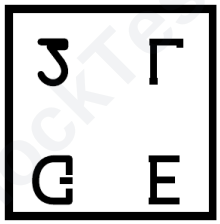
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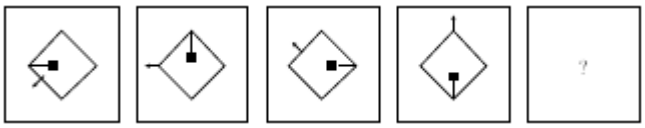
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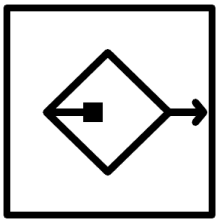
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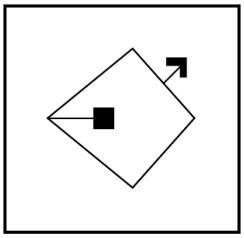
Q42. In the following figure series, select the figure which can be placed at the sign of question mark (?) from the given alternatives



(a)

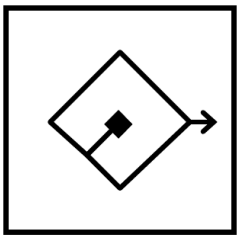


(b)

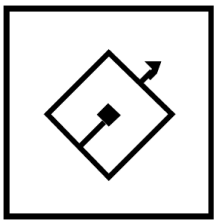


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(c)



(d)



Q43. After interchanging the given two signs, what will be the value of the given equation?

• and +

36 - 31 + 48 ÷ 8 × 10 = ?

(a) 11
(b) 13
(c) 9
(d) 7

Q44. Select the correct combination of mathematical signs to replace (*) signs sequentially and to balance the given equation.

18 * 3 * 20 * 5 * 14 = 44

(a) ×, +, ÷, -
(b) ÷ ,+, -, ×
(c) ×, ÷, -, +
(d) •, ÷, ×, -

Q45. In the following question, four letter-number pairs are given. The letter-number on the left side of (-) is related to the letter-number on the right side of (-) with some Logic/Rule/Relation. Three pairs are similar on the basis of same Logic/Rule/Relation. Select the odd one out from the given alternatives.

(a) SA287 - RY581
(b) PK320 - OI614
(c) GE231 - DZ525
(d) TG410 - SE704

Q46. In the following question, four letter-number pairs are given. The letter-number on the left side of (-) is related to the letter-number on the right side of (-) with some Logic/Rule/Relation. Three pairs are similar on the basis of same Logic/Rule/Relation. Select the odd one out from the given alternatives.

(a) SD206 - PX617
(b) MB194 - JV581
(c) LT187 - IN560
(d) FS313 - CO938

Q47. In the following question, four number pairs are given. In each pair the number on left side of (-) is related to the number of the right side of (-) with some logic/Rule/Relation. Three pairs are similar on the basis of same Logic/Rule/Relation. Select the odd one out from the given alternatives.

(a) 1989 - 663
(b) 1161 - 387
(c) 1752 - 584

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(d) 1496 - 492

Q48. In the following question, in each alternative a group of numbers is given. The numbers of each group are related to the numbers of the same group by some Logic/Rule/Relation. Select that group of numbers in which numbers are not related by that same Logic/Rule/Relation.

(a) [64, 128, 160]
(b) [72, 144, 190]
(c) [84, 168, 210]
(d) [50, 100, 125]

Q49. Select the option that is related to the fifth letter-number cluster in the same way as the second letter-number cluster is related to the first letter-number cluster and fourth letter-number cluster is related to third letter-number cluster.

(NOTE: Operations should be performed on the whole numbers, without breaking down the numbers into its constituent digits. E.g.13 - Operations on 13 such as adding/subtracting/multiplying etc. to 13 can be performed. Breaking down 13 into 1 and 3 and then performing mathematical operations on 1 and 3 is not allowed)

AL112: ZM562 :: BR280: AS730 :: FW96:?

(a) DY538
(b) DX546
(c) EX546
(d) EY538

Q50. Select the option that is related to the fifth letter-number cluster in the same way as the second letter-number cluster is related to the first letter-number cluster and fourth letter-number cluster is related to third letter-number cluster. (NOTE: Operations should be performed on the whole numbers, without breaking down the numbers into its constituent digits).

OP8 : IJ66 :: FN19 : ZH363 :: AW13 : ?

(a) UQ173
(b) UR173
(c) UR171
(d) UQ171

QUANTITATIVE APTITUDE

Q51. If an article is sold for Rs. 96 at a loss of 20%, what was its cost price?

(a) Rs. 110
(b) Rs. 115
(c) Rs. 120
(d) Rs. 125

Q52. A bus travels at 50 km/h, how long to cover 300 km?

(a) 4 hours
(b) 5 hours
(c) 6 hours
(d) 7 hours

Q53. A alone can do a work in 20 days, B alone in 30 days. They work together for 6 days, then A leaves. How many more days will B take to finish the remaining work?

(a) 10 days
(b) 12 days
(c) 15 days
(d) 8 days

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Q54. A classroom wall of size 6 m × 3 m is to be covered using cuboid-shaped foam panels of size 2 m × 1 m × 0.1 m (thickness irrelevant). How many such panels are needed to cover the wall completely?

(a) 6
(b) 8
(c) 9
(d) 12

Q55. A right prism has a trapezoidal base with parallel sides 6 cm and 10 cm, height of trapezoid 4 cm, and prism height 12 cm. Find the volume.

(a) 384 cm^3
(b) 456 cm3
(c) 420 cm^3
(d) 386 cm^3

Q56. Which criteria are sufficient to prove the similarity of two triangles?

(a) AAA
(b) SSS
(c) SAS
(d) All of these

Q57. The outer diameter of a hollow cylindrical iron rod is 8.4 cm. The rod is 28 mm thick and is 30 cm long. If the weight of 1 cm^3 of iron in the rod is 0.5 kg, then find the total weight of the rod.

(a) 815 kg
(b) 712.25 kg
(c) 656 kg
(d) 739.2 kg

Q58. Find the value of:$(\sqrt{5} + 2)^2 - (\sqrt{5} - 2)^2$

(a) $4\sqrt{7}$
(b) $8\sqrt{5}$
(c) $2\sqrt{3}$
(d) $5\sqrt{2}$

Q59. A, B, and C invested Rs. 50,000, Rs. 40,000, and Rs. 30,000, respectively. If the total profit after 1 year is Rs. 90,000, how much will B receive?

(a) Rs. 30,000
(b) Rs. 35,000
(c) Rs. 40,000
(d) Rs. 45,000

Q60. The sum of three numbers is 148. If the ratio of the first to the second is 2:3 and the ratio of the second to the third is 5:4, then the first number is:

(a) 19
(b) 40
(c) 28
(d) 32

Q61. A right circular cylinder's height increases by 96% while its radius decreases by 25%. What is the approximate percentage change in its volume? Select the nearest integer.

(a) 8% decrease
(b) 10% increase
(c) 12% increase
(d) 15% increase

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Q62. A single discount of 25% on the marked price of an item is equivalent to two successive discounts of 20% and x%. Find the value of x.

(a) 5.25%
(b) 6.25%
(c) 7.50%
(d) 8.90%

Q63. A shopkeeper provides a 20% discount on the marked price and still achieves a 25% profit. If the selling price of the article is Rs. 1500, what is the marked price of the article?

(a) Rs. 1625
(b) Rs. 1875
(c) Rs. 1900
(d) Rs. 1800

Q64. A vessel contains 40 liters of milk. From this vessel, 4 liters of milk is taken out and replaced by water. This process is repeated one more time. What is the ratio of milk to water in the final mixture?

(a) 81:19
(b) 100:19
(c) 81:100
(d) 19:81

Q65. A circle has a radius of 17 cm. Two of its chords are parallel and separated by a distance of 23 cm. If the length of one of these chords is 30 cm, find the length of the second chord.

(a) 12 cm
(b) 16 cm
(c) 20 cm
(d) 24 cm

Q66. From a point A outside a circle with centre O, a tangent AB is drawn to the circle. The circle's radius measures 6 cm, and the tangent segment AB has a length of 8 cm. Find the distance between point A and the centre O of the circle.

(a) 10 cm
(b) 12 cm
(c) 15 cm
(d) 16 cm

Q67. A triangular garden has an area of 75 m². A smaller similar garden is built with its sides being one-third the length of the larger garden's sides. What is the area of the smaller garden?

(a) 8.33 m²
(b) 15.28 m²
(c) 15 m²
(d) 25 m²

Q68. If x + y = 11 and x - y = 5, find. x^4 - y^(4 .)

(a) 4015
(b) 5678
(c) 1450
(d) 3450

Q69. $((3.57)^2 + (4.54)^2 + 32.4156)/((4.54)^2 - (3.57)^2) = ?$

(a) 8.36
(b) 8.87
(c) 0.97
(d) 7.90

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Q70. If $x = \sqrt{32} + \sqrt{8}$, then what is the value of x^2?

(a) 72
(b) 64
(c) 74
(d) 69

Q71. Rs. 6000 is invested in a scheme of compound interest (compounding annually) at the annual rate of 20 percent. What will be the difference between compound interest of second year and third year?

(a) Rs. 272
(b) Rs. 288
(c) Rs. 278
(d) Rs. 298

Q72. In how much time will a sum of Rs. 15000 amounts to Rs. 21000 at the rate of 8 percent per annum at simple interest?

(a) 8 years
(b) 5 years
(c) 10 years
(d) 4 years

Q73. The average of 5 consecutive odd natural numbers is 47. Previous 5 consecutive odd natural numbers to these 5 odd natural numbers are also included. What will be the average of newly added numbers?

(a) 33
(b) 39
(c) 37
(d) 35

Q74. There are 14 players in a team. Average age of these 14 players is 'x'. 5 new players joined the team. There is no change in the average age of the team. What is the total age of these 5 players?

(a) 4x
(b) 2x
(c) 3x
(d) 5x

Q75. Pipe A and B together can fill a tank in 12 minutes. Pipe B and C together can fill the same tank in 15 minutes. Pipe C and A together can fill the same tank in 20 minutes. Firstly pipe C is opened. After 'L' minutes, pipes A and B both are also opened. Remaining tank got filled in 5 minutes. What is the value of L?

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

GENERAL AWARENESS

Q76. Who among the following won the award of the best actor at the 71st National Film Awards?

(a) Ranbir Kapoor
(b) Vikrant Massey
(c) Shah Rukh Khan
(d) Ayushmann Khurrana

Q77. In March 2025, who has been appointed as the Chairman of the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage?

(a) Ashok Singh Thakur
(b) Vinit Sunil Dewanji
(c) Manish Tiwary
(d) Aviral Jain

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Q78. Salman Ranjan has been appointed as Secretary-General of the Indian Ocean Rim Association Secretariat in Mauritius on 1st January 2025 for a term of _____.

(a) 2 years
(b) 3 years
(c) 4 years
(d) 5 years

Q79. In May 2025, the Supreme Court set aside which High Court order that had denied maternity leave to a government school teacher for the birth of their third child?

(a) Madras High Court
(b) Delhi High Court
(c) Calcutta High Court
(d) Bombay High Court

Q80. As of December 2024, _____ million women in India were monitoring their credit, signalling growing financial awareness.

(a) 27
(b) 51
(c) 42
(d) 36

Q81. Which scheme of the central government aims to empower artisans with Rs. 500 stipend/day and toolkit vouchers?

(a) PM Vishwakarma Scheme
(b) PM Kisan Samman Nidhi
(c) NPS Vatsalya
(d) PM SVANidhi

Q82. Which Indian state topped the Fiscal Health Index 2025?

(a) Odisha
(b) Haryana
(c) Goa
(d) Uttar Pradesh

Q83. The Hesaraghatta grasslands are in _____.

(a) Bengaluru
(b) Mumbai
(c) Hyderabad
(d) Bhopal

Q84. As per the "EnviStats India 2024: Environment Accounts", the coverage of Mangroves has increased around _____ percent over the years 2013 to 2021.

(a) 2
(b) 8
(c) 40
(d) 65

Q85. Which among the following is a wind instrument?

(a) Dhol
(b) Pava
(c) Manjira
(d) Nagara

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Q86. What was the main function of "Chaityas" in Buddhist architecture?

(a) Living quarters for monks
(b) Storehouses for grains
(c) Decorative gateways to monasteries
(d) Congregational halls for teaching and interaction

Q87. Which Indian state is known for the folk dance "Dekhni"?

(a) Goa
(b) Jharkhand
(c) Haryana
(d) Uttar Pradesh

Q88. On October 4, 2024, the MACE telescope was officially inaugurated. Where did this event take place?

(a) Gangtok
(b) Hanle
(c) Visakhapatnam
(d) Jorhat

Q89. In 2024, which newly discovered "mini-moon" was expected to orbit Earth for about two months?

(a) Aditya
(b) Cassini
(c) 2024 PT5
(d) 2024 Roxana

Q90. In 2002-2003, the Government of India set up a committee to review the fiscal reforms both in respect of Direct and Indirect taxes under the chairmanship of _____.

(a) Vijay Kelkar
(b) Chakravarthi Rangarajan
(c) Abid Hussain
(d) Deepak Parekh

Q91. Which of the following policies were devised by Lord Dalhousie?

(a) Doctrine of Lapse
(b) Policy of Paramountcy
(c) Subsidiary Alliance
(d) Policy of Non-Intervention

Q92. In which year did the National Stock Exchange began its operations?

(a) 1994
(b) 1998
(c) 2002
(d) 1996

Q93. In the context of Mineral distribution of India, which of the following is INCORRECT regarding the "South-Western Plateau region"?

(a) It covers Karnataka, Goa and contiguous Tamil Nadu uplands and Kerala.
(b) This belt is rich in ferrous metals and bauxite
(c) It contains high grade iron ore.
(d) This belt has huge amount of coal reserves.

Q94. This question is in Hindi. Read it online.

Q95. What was the growth target for twelfth five year plan in India?

(a) 2%
(b) 5%
(c) 8%

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(d) 13%

Q96. As per September 2024, according to the Ministry of External Affairs in India, there are _____ million Indians residing abroad who are either NRIs or OCIs.

(a) 32
(b) 44
(c) 52
(d) 61

Q97. Mission Parivar Vikas was initially in the _____ high focus states.

(a) 4
(b) 7
(c) 6
(d) 9

Q98. In which cell is the respiratory pigment haemoglobin found in humans?

(a) Red blood cells
(b) Blood platelets
(c) Monocytes
(d) Nerve cells

Q99. How do plants convey information about a touch from one cell to another?

(a) Through specialized nerve tissue
(b) By producing sound waves
(c) By using electrical-chemical signals
(d) Through changing colour of leaves

Q100. "Taxila", the famous centre of learning, was the capital of which Mahajanapada in ancient India?

(a) Avanti
(b) Gandhara
(c) Kamboja
(d) Kosala

ANSWER KEY

1	d	2	b	3	d	4	c	5	a	6	d	7	a	8	a	9	a	10	d
11	c	12	d	13	a	14	b	15	c	16	c	17	c	18	b	19	c	20	b
21	b	22	c	23	b	24	c	25	a	26	a	27	a	28	a	29	a	30	b
31	d	32	b	33	a	34	a	35	c	36	b	37	a	38	c	39	a	40	a
41	d	42	b	43	d	44	a	45	c	46	d	47	d	48	b	49	c	50	d
51	c	52	c	53	c	54	c	55	a	56	d	57	d	58	b	59	a	60	b
61	b	62	b	63	b	64	a	65	b	66	a	67	a	68	a	69	a	70	a
71	b	72	b	73	c	74	d	75	b	76	c	77	a	78	b	79	a	80	a
81	a	82	a	83	a	84	b	85	b	86	d	87	a	88	b	89	d	90	a
91	a	92	a	93	d	94	c	95	c	96	a	97	b	98	a	99	c	100	b

SOLUTIONS

Q1. Answer: (d) Foeticide

The solution is in Hindi. Read it online.

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Q2. Answer: (b) Analyze the consequences before making a decision

The solution is in Hindi. Read it online.

Q3. Answer: (d) No correction required

The correct answer is Option 4.

Key Points

• The sentence is grammatically correct as written and follows the rules of the Present Perfect Continuous tense.

• The phrase "have been doing" is used correctly to describe an action that started in the past and continues into the present, which is reinforced by the duration "all my working life."

• The relative clause "I enjoy" (modifying "job") is in the simple present tense to indicate a current, ongoing state or preference.

• The adverbial of time "all my working life" is placed at the end of the sentence to modify the main verb phrase, which is a standard and acceptable structure in English.

Therefore, the correct answer is 4.

Correct Sentence: "I'm lucky that I have been doing a job I enjoy all my working life."

Additional Information

• Option 1: "I'm lucky that" – This is a correct introductory phrase. Using "that" to introduce a noun clause is standard.

• Option 2: "I have been doing a job" – This part is grammatically sound. The use of the continuous form emphasizes the ongoing nature of the career.

• Option 3: "I enjoy all my working life." – While "all my working life" appears in this segment, it functions as a modifier for the action of doing the job. There are no spelling or syntax errors here.

• No correction required – Since there are no errors in subject-verb agreement, tense usage, or punctuation, this is the appropriate choice.

Q4. Answer: (c) the room when

The correct answer is Option 3.

Key Points

• The error lies in the use of the conjunction "when" in the third part of the sentence.

• The expression "No sooner" is a correlative conjunction that is always paired with "than," not "when."

• When a sentence begins with "No sooner," it requires inversion, where the auxiliary verb (had) comes before the subject (she). This part is correctly written as "had she left."

• To rectify the error, "when" must be replaced with "than" to complete the structure "No sooner... than."

Therefore, the correct answer is 3.

Correct Sentence: "No sooner had she left the room than the lights went out."

Additional Information

• Option 1: "No sooner" – This is the correct starting phrase for indicating that one event happened immediately after another.

• Option 2: "had she left" – This maintains the necessary inversion (Auxiliary + Subject + Main Verb) for sentences starting with negative adverbs.

• Option 4: "the lights went out" – This is a grammatically correct clause in the simple past tense, describing the second action.

• Confusing Pairs: Remember that "Hardly," "Scarcely," and "Barely" are the words that are paired with "when." (e.g., Hardly had she left the room when the lights went out.)

Q5. Answer: (a) by

The correct answer is 'by'.

Key Points

• The phrase "taken aback by" is a standard expression used to indicate surprise or shock caused by something.

• The preposition "by" is the correct choice here, as it is commonly used with the verb "taken aback" to specify the cause of the surprise.

• Options 2 (at), 3 (for), and 4 (over) are grammatically incorrect in this context.

Therefore, the correct answer is Option 1.

Complete Sentence: "The manager was taken aback by the sudden resignation of three key employees."

Additional Information

• Option 2: "at" is incorrect because "at" does not convey the correct relationship between the manager and the cause of surprise.

• Option 3: "for" is incorrect because it does not fit the standard usage of the phrase "taken aback."

• Option 4: "over" is incorrect because "over" does not work in this construction.

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Q6. Answer: (d) bridge

The correct answer is 'bridge'.

Key Points

• The correct word to complete the sentence is "bridge," which refers to a structure built to span a physical obstacle, such as a river.

• The other options are either misspelled or unrelated to the context of the sentence.

• Option 1: "bred" is incorrect as it refers to breeding animals or plants.

• Option 2: "bread" is incorrect as it refers to food made from flour and water.

• Option 3: "bredge" is incorrect as it is not a valid word.

Therefore, the correct answer is Option 4.

Complete Sentence: "They built a bridge to cross the river."

Additional Information

• Option 1: "bred" is unrelated to the context of building a structure to cross a river.

• Option 2: "bread" is a food item and does not fit the context of the sentence.

• Option 3: "bredge" is not a valid word in English.

Q7. Answer: (a) Sacrilegious

The solution is in Hindi. Read it online.

Q8. Answer: (a) over the city

The correct answer is 'over the city'.

Key Points

• The phrase "over the city" is the correct preposition to describe the plane flying above or across the city, offering a great view.

• The preposition "on" is incorrect in this context as it implies physical contact, which is not suitable for describing a plane in flight.

• Options 2 ("in the city") and 3 ("at the city") are grammatically incorrect or do not fit the context of the sentence.

Therefore, the correct answer is Option 1.

Complete Sentence: "The plane flew over the city, offering a great view."

Additional Information

• Option 2: "in the city" is incorrect because it implies the plane was located inside the city, which is illogical for describing flight.

• Option 3: "at the city" is incorrect because "at" is used for specific points or locations, not for describing aerial movement.

• Option 4: "No substitution" is incorrect because the original sentence uses an inappropriate preposition ("on"), which needs correction.

Q9. Answer: (a) Done away with

The correct answer is 'Option 1'.

Key Points

• The phrasal verb "done away with" is the correct form to indicate the removal or elimination of something.

• In the given sentence, the context refers to eliminating unnecessary paperwork, so "done away with" is the appropriate replacement.

• Options 2 ("done off"), 3 ("done in for"), and 4 ("No substitution") do not fit the context or are grammatically incorrect.

Therefore, the correct answer is Option 1.

Complete Sentence: "The company has done away with unnecessary paperwork by going completely digital."

Additional Information

• Option 2: "done off" is incorrect because "done off" does not exist as a proper phrasal verb.

• Option 3: "done in for" is incorrect because "done in for" is not a valid or meaningful phrase in this context.

• Option 4: "No substitution" is incorrect because the phrase "done away for" in the original sentence is grammatically incorrect.

Q10. Answer: (d) The way of the description by the teacher was being imitated by the students.

The correct answer is Option 4.

Key Points

• Passive voice structure: The object of the active voice sentence becomes the subject of the passive voice sentence.

• In the active voice, the sentence is: "The students were imitating the way of the description by the teacher."

• To convert to passive voice: Place the object "the way of the description by the teacher" at the beginning.

• Change the active verb form "were imitating" to "was being imitated" (past continuous passive voice).

• Ensure the subject "the students" is preceded by the preposition "by" in the passive voice sentence.

Therefore, the correct answer is Option 4.

Correct Sentence: "The way of the description by the teacher was being imitated by the students."

Additional Information

• Option 1: "The way of the description by the teacher was imitated by the students." – Incorrect tense (past simple passive).

• Option 2: "The way of the description by the teacher were being imitated by the students." – Incorrect subject-verb agreement (plural "were" is incorrect for singular "way").

• Option 3: "The way of the description by the teacher had been imitated by the students." – Incorrect tense (past perfect passive).

Q11. Answer: (c) The organizers had made all the arrangements before we arrived.

The correct answer is Option 3.

Key Points

• The given sentence is in passive voice: "All the arrangements had been made by the organizers before we arrived."

• To convert this sentence into active voice, the subject "the organizers" will be placed at the beginning.

• The verb "had been made" in passive voice changes to "had made" in active voice (past perfect tense).

• The object "all the arrangements" remains after the verb.

• The time clause "before we arrived" remains unchanged.

Therefore, the correct answer is Option 3.

Correct Sentence: "The organizers had made all the arrangements before we arrived."

Additional Information

• Option 1: "The organizers made all the arrangements before we arrived." – Incorrect as it uses simple past instead of past perfect tense.

• Option 2: "The organizers will have made all the arrangements before we arrive." – Incorrect as it uses future perfect tense.

• Option 4: "The organizers have made all the arrangements before we arrived." – Incorrect as it uses present perfect tense instead of past perfect.

Q12. Answer: (d) Snigdha exclaimed that that day was a very beautiful day.

The correct answer is Option 4.

Key Points

• Indirect Speech: Snigdha exclaimed that that day was a very beautiful day.

• Key Conversions:

• "What a beautiful day today is!" becomes "that day was a very beautiful day"

• Exclamation is converted to a declarative sentence in indirect speech.

• Pronoun "today" changes to "that day" to reflect the perspective of indirect narration.

• Verb "is" changes to "was" to match the past tense required in reported speech.

• Reporting verb:

• Direct: "said"

• Converted to: "exclaimed" to convey the emotional expression of the original exclamation.

• Punctuation and Format:

• Indirect speech does not use quotation marks.

• The sentence is structured with proper tense and pronoun changes to reflect the indirect narration.

Therefore, the correct answer is Option 4.

Correct Sentence: Snigdha exclaimed that that day was a very beautiful day.

Additional Information

• Option 1: "Snigdha exclaimed that that day has been a very beautiful day."

• Incorrect tense usage. "Has been" is present perfect, which does not match the past tense required in indirect speech.

• Option 2: "Snigdha exclaimed that that day a very beautiful day was."

• Incorrect word order. The sentence structure is awkward and does not follow proper English grammar.

• Option 3: "Snigdha exclaimed that day was a very beautiful day."

• Missing the pronoun "that" before "day," resulting in incomplete conversion.

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Q13. Answer: (a) They asked, "Do you know the way to the museum?"

The correct answer is Option 1.

Key Points

• Indirect Speech: They asked if I knew the way to the museum.

• Key Conversions:

• "They asked if I knew" becomes "Do you know"

• Indirect question "if I knew" is converted to direct question "Do you know."

• Pronoun "I" is changed to "you" to match direct speech.

• Verb "knew" is changed to "know" to match the present tense in direct questions.

• "the way to the museum" remains the same

• The object of the question does not change in direct speech.

• Reporting verb:

• Indirect: "They asked"

• Converted to: "They asked," maintaining the inquiry tone.

• Punctuation and Format:

• Direct speech is enclosed in quotation marks.

• Starts with a capital letter "Do" and ends with a question mark "?".

• Reporting clause follows the quoted speech, starting with a lowercase letter after the comma.

Therefore, the correct answer is Option 1.

Correct Sentence: "They asked, “Do you know the way to the museum?”"

Additional Information

• Option 2: "They asked, ‘Did you know the way to the museum?’"

• Incorrect tense: "Did you know" implies a past inquiry, whereas the original sentence uses "knew" in a general sense.

• Option 3: "They ask, ‘If I know the way to the museum?’"

• Incorrect reporting verb: "They ask" changes the tense and does not match the original sentence.

• Incorrect word order: "If I know" is not proper direct speech format.

• Option 4: "They said, ‘Did you know the way to the museum?’"

• Incorrect reporting verb: "They said" changes the tone from a question to a statement.

• Incorrect tense: "Did you know" implies a past inquiry, altering the meaning.

Q14. Answer: (b) with, through

The correct answer is '2'with, through'.

Key Points

• The sentence describes a relationship between the subject’s fascination and exposure to ancient texts, which makes the prepositions "with" and "through" the most suitable choices.

• The preposition "with" indicates the subject’s fascination is associated with mythology.

• The preposition "through" indicates the means by which the fascination developed, i.e., exposure to ancient texts.

• Options 1, 3, and 4 do not convey the correct meaning in this context.

Therefore, the correct answer is Option 2.

Complete Sentence: "His fascination with mythology grew through exposure to ancient texts."

Additional Information

• Option 1: "of, by" is incorrect as "of" does not correctly describe the subject’s fascination and "by" does not indicate the means of development.

• Option 3: "for, from" is incorrect as "for" implies a different type of relationship and "from" does not express the growth of fascination.

• Option 4: "at, under" is incorrect as these prepositions do not fit the context of the sentence.

Q15. Answer: (c) He said, "By the time she arrived, the guests had already started leaving."

The correct answer is Option 3.

Key Points

• Direct Speech: In direct speech, the exact words of the speaker are enclosed in quotation marks.

• Key Conversions:

• "By the time she arrived, the guests had already started leaving" remains unchanged.

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• The original sentence uses the correct past tense "arrived" and "had already started leaving," which matches the grammatical structure of direct speech.
• Reporting verb:
• Indirect: "He said that..."
• Converted to: "He said," followed by the quoted speech.
• Punctuation and Format:
• Direct speech is enclosed in quotation marks.
• Starts with a capital letter "By" and ends with a period inside the quotation marks.
• The reporting clause precedes the quoted speech, separated by a comma.

Therefore, the correct answer is Option 3.

Correct Sentence: He said, "By the time she arrived, the guests had already started leaving."

Additional Information

• Option 1: "By the time she has arrived, the guests were already leaving."
• Incorrect tense usage: "has arrived" is present perfect, which doesn't match the original sentence.
• "were already leaving" changes the meaning from "started leaving" to ongoing action.
• Option 2: "By the time she had arrived, the guests had already started leaving."
• Tense mismatch: "had arrived" implies an earlier past action than "arrived," which alters the timeline of events.
• Option 4: "By the time she arrived, the guests had already started to leave."
• "Started to leave" is acceptable but less natural than "started leaving" in this context.

Q16. Answer: (c) People widely considered that a previously unknown civilization had constructed the ancient ruins.

The correct answer is Option 3.

Key Points

• To change the sentence from passive to active voice, the subject of the passive sentence must become the object in the active sentence.
• In the given passive sentence, "It was widely considered that the ancient ruins were believed to have been constructed by a previously unknown civilization," the action centers around the belief of construction.
• The active sentence must focus on "People" or "They," who considered or believed the construction of the ancient ruins.
• The correct active voice structure should express the hypothetical situation of belief directly.

Therefore, the correct answer is Option 3.

Correct Sentence: "People widely considered that a previously unknown civilization had constructed the ancient ruins."

Additional Information

• Option 1: "They widely considered that a previously unknown civilization believed to have constructed the ancient ruins." – Incorrect tense usage and unclear grammatical structure.
• Option 2: "People widely considered that a previously unknown civilization was believed to have constructed the ancient ruins." – Still passive in nature and does not fully convert to active voice.
• Option 4: "It was believed that a previously unknown civilization had constructed the ancient ruins, it was widely considered." – Passive voice structure retained and redundant phrasing.

Q17. Answer: (c) Perseverence

The solution is in Hindi. Read it online.

Q18. Answer: (b) The portrait was being drawn by Bob.

The correct answer is Option 2.

Key Points

• Passive voice structure: The object of the active voice sentence becomes the subject of the passive voice sentence.
• In the active voice, the sentence is: "Bob was drawing the portrait."
• To convert to passive voice: Place the object "the portrait" at the beginning.
• Change the active verb form "was drawing" to "was being drawn" (past continuous passive).
• Add the preposition "by" followed by the original subject "Bob."
• Ensure the sentence retains its original meaning and tense.

Therefore, the correct answer is Option 2.

Correct Sentence: "The portrait was being drawn by Bob."

Additional Information

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• Option 1: "The portrait is being drawn by Bob." – Incorrect tense (present continuous passive).
• Option 3: "The portrait has been drawn by Bob." – Incorrect tense (present perfect passive).
• Option 4: "The portrait was drawn by Bob." – Incorrect tense (past simple passive).

Q19. Answer: (c) Noun

The correct answer is 'Option 3 (Noun)'.

Key Points

• Option 1: Verb
• This is incorrect. “Punctuality” does not denote an action; it names a quality.
• Option 2: Adjective
• This is incorrect. The adjective form is “punctual,” not “punctuality.”
• Option 3: Noun
• This is correct. “Punctuality” is a noun that refers to the quality or state of being punctual (on time). In the sentence, it functions as the object of the verb “value.”
• Option 4: Adverb
• This is incorrect. The adverb form would be “punctually,” not “punctuality.”

Therefore, the correct answer is Option 3 (Noun).

Additional Information

• Punctuality is derived from the adjective punctual + suffix -ity, which forms abstract nouns denoting qualities.
• Examples: “responsible → responsibility,” “active → activity.”
• In the passage, “value punctuality” means to appreciate or respect the quality of being on time.

Q20. Answer: (b) Because "system" is a singular subject

The correct answer is 'Option 2 (Because "system" is a singular subject)'.

Key Points

• Option 1: Because "training" is the object
• This is incorrect. The verb form is determined by the subject, not the object. “Training” is the object of the verb “focuses.”
• Option 2: Because "system" is a singular subject
• This is correct. The subject of the sentence is “The Japanese education system,” which is singular. Therefore, the verb must agree in the singular form: “focuses.”
• Option 3: Because "education" is uncountable
• This is incorrect. While “education” is uncountable, the subject is “system,” not “education.” The verb agreement depends on “system.”
• Option 4: Because the sentence is in passive voice
• This is incorrect. The sentence is in active voice (“system focuses”), not passive. Passive would be “is focused on.”

Therefore, the correct answer is Option 2: Because "system" is a singular subject.

Additional Information

• Subject-verb agreement rule: A singular subject takes a singular verb form (with -s or -es in present tense).
• Example: “The committee decides the rules.” / “The system works efficiently.”
• If the subject were plural (“systems”), the verb would be “focus.”

Q21. Answer: (b) Effectiveness

The solution is in Hindi. Read it online.

Q22. Answer: (c) Special importance or attention

The solution is in Hindi. Read it online.

Q23. Answer: (b) Discipline is deeply rooted in Japanese culture and benefits society

The correct answer is 'Option 2'.

Key Points

• Option 1: Japanese people dislike rules
• This is incorrect. The passage emphasizes that Japanese people respect rules and discipline, not dislike them.
• Option 2: Discipline is deeply rooted in Japanese culture and benefits society
• This is correct. The passage highlights how discipline is taught from childhood, reflected in everyday life, and evident during crises. It shows that discipline strengthens society and enhances Japan’s global reputation.

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• Option 3: Japan struggles to maintain cleanliness
• This is incorrect. The passage states the opposite—streets remain clean despite few dustbins, showing discipline, not struggle.
• Option 4: Japan does not value teamwork
• This is incorrect. The passage explicitly mentions teamwork as a focus of the Japanese education system.
Therefore, the correct answer is Option 2: Discipline is deeply rooted in Japanese culture and benefits society.
Additional Information
• The passage illustrates discipline in everyday life (queues, cleanliness, respect for public spaces).
• It emphasizes education's role in teaching teamwork, responsibility, and moral values.
• During crises, discipline ensures calmness and cooperation, strengthening recovery efforts.
• Overall, discipline is portrayed as a cultural cornerstone that benefits both Japanese society and its global image.

Q24. Answer: (c) Overt

The solution is in Hindi. Read it online.

Q25. Answer: (a) Fragrant

The solution is in Hindi. Read it online.

Q26. Answer: (a) 686

Given: 6, 23, 74, 227, ?
The logic followed here is:
6
6 × 3 + 5 = 18 + 5 = 23
23 × 3 + 5 = 69 + 5 = 74
74 × 3 + 5 = 222 + 5 = 227
227 × 3 + 5 = 681 + 5 = 686
Thus, 686 is the next element.
Hence, the correct answer is "Option 1".

Q27. Answer: (a) 33

Given: In a queue, John is 13th from the front and Mary is 15th from the back. If there are 5 people between them, and John is ahead of Mary.
John is 13th from the front
Mary is 15th from the back
So, Mary's position from front = N - 14
There are 5 people between them and John is ahead of Mary:
=> (N - 14) - 13 - 1 = 5
=> (N - 14) - 14 = 5
=> N - 14 - 14 = 5
=> N - 28 = 5
=> N = 5 + 28
=> N = 33
Hence, the correct answer is "Option 1".

Q28. Answer: (a) 24

Given: In a row, Ram is 12th from the front and Shyam is 18th from the back. If there are 4 persons between them, and Shyam is ahead of Ram.
Let total number of persons = N
Ram is 12th from the front
Shyam is 18th from the back → from front = N − 17
Shyam is ahead of Ram and there are 4 persons between them:
=> 12 − (N − 17) − 1 = 4
=> 12 − N + 17 − 1 = 4
=> 28 − N = 4
=> N = 28 − 4

=> N = 24

Thus, total number of persons in the row is 24.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 1".

Q29. Answer: (a) 34

The logic followed here is:

Logic: a * b = c → (a - b) ÷ 3 = c

Given:

117 * 78 = 13 → (117 - 78) ÷ 3 = 39 ÷ 3 = 13

192 * 9 = 61 → (192 - 9) ÷ 3 = 183 ÷ 3 = 61

Similarly,

114 * 12 ? → (114 - 12) ÷ 3 = 102 ÷ 3 = 34

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 1".

Q30. Answer: (b) 11172

The logic followed here is:

Logic: a | b = c → a × 6 × b = c

3 ? 50 = 900 → 3 × 6 × 50 = 900

19 ? 27 = 3078 → 19 × 6 × 27 = 3078

Similarly,

38 ? 49 ? → 38 × 6 × 49 = 228 × 49 = 11172

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 2".

Q31. Answer: (d) 2734

Given: 990, 1321, 1718, 2187, ?

The logic followed here is:

Thus, '2734' is the next element that replaces the ?.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 4".

Q32. Answer: (b) [figure]

The paper after unfolded will be:

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 2".

Q33. Answer: (a) [figure]

The paper after unfolded will be:

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 1".

Q34. Answer: (a) 60

Given: 5, 12, 21, 32, 45, ?

The logic followed here is:

Thus, 60 is the next number.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 1".

Q35. Answer: (c) 4

The logic followed here is:

1st box: 4 + (5 × 2) = 4 + 10 = 14

2nd box: 4 + (6 × 3) = 4 + 18 = 22

Similarly,

3rd box: 4 + (? × 2) = 12

=> (? × 2) = 12 - 4

=> (? × 2) = 8

=> ? = 8 ÷ 2

=> ? = 4

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 3".

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Q36. Answer: (b) 3

Number of triangles in the given figure is shown below:

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 2".

Q37. Answer: (a) Only I

Given:

I. Number of wickets which are only chairs are 10. - True

II. Total number of balls are 14 less than the total number of wickets. - False

Number of balls are 12 and number of wickets are 13.

So, number of balls are 1 less than the total number of wickets.

Thus, only I is true.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 1".

Q38. Answer: (c) E

Given: 5 persons A, B, C, D and E are sitting around a circular table facing towards the centre (not necessarily in the same order).

1. B is sitting second to the right of D.

D ? ? B ?

2. A is sitting second to the right of B.

D A ? B ?

3. C is not an immediate neighbour of A.

D A ? B C

4. The remaining person E must occupy the last remaining position.

D A E B C

So, E sits third to the right of D.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 3".

Q39. Answer: (a) 16

Given: A certain number of persons are standing in a row facing south (not necessarily in the same order). A is 9th person from left end. Five people stand between A and Z. Z is second person from one of the end.

A is 9th from the left. There are 5 people between A and Z, so the position difference between A and Z is 6.

So, Z can be at position 9 + 6 = 15 or 9 - 6 = 3.

Z is second from one of the ends, so its position must be either 2 (from left) or N - 1 (from right).

Position 3 is not possible.

So Z is at position 15.

If Z is second from the right, then

=> N - 1 = 15

=> N = 15 + 1

=> N = 16

Thus, 16 persons are standing in the row.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 1".

Q40. Answer: (a) [figure]

The logic followed here is:

Similarly,

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 1".

Q41. Answer: (d) [figure]

The logic followed here is:

• The figure is rotated by 180°.

• Positions of all elements change accordingly.

• Triangle gets inverted.

• Letters are replaced with corresponding transformed letters (case change + substitution pattern).

Similarly,

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 4".

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Q42. Answer: (b) [figure]

The figure which can be placed at the sign of question mark (?) from the given alternatives is:

Line with square inside the quadrilateral and arrow attached to the quadrilateral pointing outwards - shifting it's position in clockwise direction.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 2".

Q43. Answer: (d) 7

BODMAS Rule:

Given equation: 36 - 31 + 48 ÷ 8 × 10 = ?

After interchanging the given two signs of the given equation - and +, we get:

=> 36 + 31 − 48 ÷ 8 × 10 = ?

=> 36 + 31 − 6 × 10 = ?

=> 36 + 31 − 60 = ?

=> 67 − 60 = ?

=> 7 = ?

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 4".

Q44. Answer: (a) ×, +, ÷, -

BODMAS Rule:

Given equation: 18 * 3 * 20 * 5 * 14 = 44

Let's check each option one by one.

1. ×, +, ÷, −

Given equation: 18 * 3 * 20 * 5 * 14 = 44

After replacing the signs we get;

=> 18 × 3 + 20 ÷ 5 − 14 = 44

=> 18 × 3 + 4 − 14 = 44

=> 54 + 4 − 14 = 44

=> 58 − 14 = 44

=> 44 = 44

=> LHS = RHS

2. ÷, +, −, ×

Given equation: 18 * 3 * 20 * 5 * 14 = 44

After replacing the signs we get;

=> 18 ÷ 3 + 20 − 5 × 14 = 44

=> 6 + 20 − 5 × 14 = 44

=> 6 + 20 − 70 = 44

=> 26 − 70 = 44

=> −44 ≠ 44

=> LHS ≠ RHS

3. ×, ÷, −, +

Given equation: 18 * 3 * 20 * 5 * 14 = 44

After replacing the signs we get;

=> 18 × 3 ÷ 20 − 5 + 14 = 44

=> 18 × 0.15 − 5 + 14 = 44

=> 2.7 + 14 − 5 = 44

=> 16.7 − 5 = 44

=> 11.7 ≠ 44

=> LHS ≠ RHS

4. +, ÷, ×, −

Given equation: 18 * 3 * 20 * 5 * 14 = 44

After replacing the signs we get;

=> 18 + 3 ÷ 20 × 5 − 14 = 44

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=> 18 + 0.15 × 5 − 14 = 44

=> 18 + 0.75 − 14 = 44

=> 18.75 − 14 = 44

=> 4.75 ≠ 44

=> LHS ≠ RHS

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 1".

Q45. Answer: (c) GE231 - DZ525

The position and positional values or English Alphabets are:

Given:

The pattern followed here is:

Each letter-number cluster pair follows the pattern -1, -2, +294.

1. SA287 - RY581

This letter-number cluster pair follows the pattern -1, -2, +294.

2. PK320 - OI614

This letter-number cluster pair follows the pattern -1, -2, +294.

3. GE231 - DZ525

This letter-number cluster pair does not follow the pattern -1, -2, +294.

4. TG410 - SE704

This letter-number cluster pair follows the pattern -1, -2, +294.

Thus, GE231 - DZ525 is the odd one out.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 3".

Q46. Answer: (d) FS313 - CO938

The logic followed here is:

Letters: Each letter shifts by a fixed position value.

Numbers: Right number = (Left number × 3) − 1

For 'SD206 - PX617':

For 'MB194 - JV581':

For 'LT187 - IN560':

For 'FS313 - CO938':

'FS313 - CO938' is the ODD ONE OUT.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 4".

Q47. Answer: (d) 1496 - 492

The logic followed here is:

Logic: First number ÷ 3 = Second number

1. 1989 ÷ 3 = 663

2. 1161 ÷ 3 = 387

3. 1752 ÷ 3 = 584

4. 1496 ÷ 3 ≠ 492

Thus, '1496 - 492' is the odd one out.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 4".

Q48. Answer: (b) [72, 144, 190]

The logic followed here is:

Logic: First number × 2 = Second number; Second number × 1.25 = Third number

1. [64, 128, 160]

64 × 2 = 128; 128 × 1.25 = 160

2. [72, 144, 190]

72 × 2 = 144; 144 × 1.25 = 180 ≠ 190

3. [84, 168, 210]

84 × 2 = 168; 168 × 1.25 = 210

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4. [50, 100, 125]

50 × 2 = 100; 100 × 1.25 = 125

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 2".

Q49. Answer: (c) EX546

The logic followed here is:

For the Letters: The first letter is the Opposite Letter (or -1 in a circular shift for A→Z), and the second letter is shifted by +1.

For the Numbers: (Number + 450) = Resultant Number (Wait, looking at 112 to 562, the logic is 112 + 450 = 562).

For AL112 to ZM562

A(1)	L(12)	112
↓ Opposite	↓ +1	↓ +450
Z(26)	M(13)	562

For FW96 to ?

F(6)	W(23)	96
↓ Opposite/ -1	↓ +1	↓ +450
U(21) / E(5)	X(24)	546

Applying the consistent letter-shift logic (A-1=Z, B-1=A, so F-1=E) and the number logic from the first cluster ((96 + 450) = 546):

1. First letter: F(6) - 1 = E(5)

2. Second letter: W(23) + 1 = X(24)

3. Number: (96 + 450) = 546

The resulting cluster is EX546.

Hence, the correct answer is "EX546".

Q50. Answer: (d) UQ171

The position and positional values or English Alphabets are:

The pattern followed here is:

Each letter-number luster pair follows the pattern -6, -6 and number follows the pattern - (first number)² + 2 = second number.

1. UQ173

This letter-number cluster pair follows the pattern -6, -6 and number follows the pattern - (first number)2 + 2 = second number.

2. UR173

This letter-number cluster pair follows the pattern -6, -6 and number follows the pattern - (first number)2 + 2 = second number.

3. UR171

This letter-number cluster pair follows the pattern -6, -6 and number follows the pattern - (first number)2 + 2 = second number.

4. UQ171

This letter-number cluster pair does not follows the pattern -6, -6 and number follows the pattern - (first number)2 + 2 = second number.

Hence, the correct answer is "Option 4".

Q51. Answer: (c) Rs. 120

Given:

Selling Price (SP) = Rs. 96

Loss Percentage = 20%

Formula Used:

Loss Percentage = (Loss ÷ Cost Price) × 100

Selling Price = Cost Price − Loss

Calculation:

=> Loss Percentage = (Loss ÷ Cost Price) × 100

=> Loss = (Loss Percentage × Cost Price) ÷ 100

=> Selling Price = Cost Price − Loss

=> SP = CP − (Loss Percentage × CP ÷ 100)

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=> 96 = CP − (20 × CP ÷ 100)
=> 96 = CP − (0.2 × CP)
=> 96 = 0.8 × CP
=> CP = 96 ÷ 0.8
=> CP = 120
Therefore The correct answer is Rs. 120.

Q52. Answer: (c) 6 hours

Given:
Speed = 50 km/h
Distance = 300 km
Formula Used:
Time = Distance ÷ Speed
Calculation:
=> Time = 300 ÷ 50
=> Time = 6 hours
Therefore The correct answer is 6 hours.

Q53. Answer: (c) 15 days

Given:
A time = 20 days
B time = 30 days
Working together = 6 days
Formula Used:
Work rate = 1 ÷ Time
Total work = Sum of individual works
Calculation:
=> LCM of 20 and 30 = 60
=> Rate A = 3 ÷ 60
=> Rate B = 2 ÷ 60
=> Combined rate = (3 + 2) ÷ 60 = 5 ÷ 60
=> Work done in 6 days = 5 ÷ 60 × 6 = 30 ÷ 60
=> Remaining work = 60 ÷ 60 − 30 ÷ 60 = 30 ÷ 60
=> Time taken by B = (30 ÷ 60) ÷ (2 ÷ 60)
=> Time taken by B = 30 ÷ 2
=> Time taken by B = 15 days
Therefore The correct answer is 15 days.

Q54. Answer: (c) 9

Given:
Wall dimensions = 6 m × 3 m
Panel dimensions = 2 m × 1 m
Formula Used:
Area = Length × Breadth
Number of panels = Wall area ÷ Panel area
Calculation:
=> Wall area = 6 × 3 = 18
=> Panel area = 2 × 1 = 2
=> Number of panels = 18 ÷ 2
=> Number of panels = 9
Therefore The correct answer is 9.

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Q55. Answer: (a) 384 cm³

Given:

Parallel sides of trapezoid = 6 cm and 10 cm

Height of trapezoid = 4 cm

Prism height = 12 cm

Formula Used:

Area of trapezoid = (1 ÷ 2) × (sum of parallel sides) × height

Volume of prism = Base area × height

Calculation:

=> Base area = (1 ÷ 2) × (6 + 10) × 4

=> Base area = (1 ÷ 2) × 16 × 4

=> Base area = 32

=> Volume = 32 × 12

=> Volume = 384

Therefore The correct answer is 384 cm³.

Q56. Answer: (d) All of these

Concept Used:

AAA (Angle-Angle-Angle): If the corresponding angles of two triangles are equal, the triangles are similar.

SSS (Side-Side-Side): If the corresponding sides of two triangles are proportional, the triangles are similar.

SAS (Side-Angle-Side): If two sides are proportional and the included angle is equal, the triangles are similar.

Calculation:

=> AAA, SSS, and SAS are all valid criteria for proving triangle similarity.

=> Therefore, all options are sufficient to prove the similarity of two triangles.

Therefore The correct answer is Option 4.

Q57. Answer: (d) 739.2 kg

Shortcut Trick

Outer radius = 4.2 cm, thickness = 2.8 cm => Inner radius = 1.4 cm

Volume = π × 30 × (4.2² − 1.4²)

= 22 ÷ 7 × 30 × (17.64 − 1.96) = 22 ÷ 7 × 30 × 15.68

Volume = 1478.4 cm³

Weight = 1478.4 × 0.5

Therefore Answer = 739.2 kg

Alternate Method

Given:

Outer radius R = 4.2 cm, Inner radius r = 1.4 cm

Length h = 30 cm

Density = 0.5 kg per cm³

Formula used:

Volume = π × h × (R² − r²)

Length = 30 cm R = 4.2 cm r = 1.4 cm

Calculations:

=> R² = 17.64, r² = 1.96

=> Difference = 15.68

=> Volume = 22 ÷ 7 × 30 × 15.68 = 1478.4 cm³

=> Weight = 1478.4 × 0.5 = 739.2 kg

Therefore The correct answer is 739.2 kg.

Q58. Answer: (b) 8√ 5

Given:

√5 + 2

√5 - 2

Formula Used:
$(a + b)^2 - (a - b)^2 = 4ab$
Calculation:
$\Rightarrow (\sqrt{5} + 2)^2 - (\sqrt{5} - 2)^2$
$\Rightarrow 4 \times \sqrt{5} \times 2$
$\Rightarrow 8\sqrt{5}$
Therefore The correct answer is $8\sqrt{5}$.

Q59. Answer: (a) Rs. 30,000

Given:
Investment of A = Rs. 50,000
Investment of B = Rs. 40,000
Investment of C = Rs. 30,000
Total Profit = Rs. 90,000
Formula Used:
Profit Share = (Individual Investment ÷ Total Investment) × Total Profit
Total Investment = Investment of A + Investment of B + Investment of C
Calculation:
=> Total Investment = Rs. 50,000 + Rs. 40,000 + Rs. 30,000
=> Total Investment = Rs. 1,20,000
=> Profit Share of B = (Rs. 40,000 ÷ Rs. 1,20,000) × Rs. 90,000
=> Profit Share of B = (1 ÷ 3) × Rs. 90,000
=> Profit Share of B = Rs. 30,000
Therefore The correct answer is Rs. 30,000.

Q60. Answer: (b) 40

Given:
Total = 148
First : Second = 2 : 3
Second : Third = 5 : 4
Formula Used:
Convert ratios to a common ratio
Calculation:
=> First : Second = 2 : 3 = 10 : 15
=> Second : Third = 5 : 4 = 15 : 12
=> First : Second : Third = 10 : 15 : 12
=> Sum of ratio = 10 + 15 + 12 = 37
=> First number = (10 ÷ 37) × 148
=> = 1480 ÷ 37
=> = 40
Therefore The correct answer is 40.

Q61. Answer: (b) 10% increase

Given:
Height increase = 96%
Radius decrease = 25%
Formula Used:
Volume of cylinder = $\pi \times r^2 \times h$
Calculation:
=> New height = 1.96h
=> New radius = 0.75r
=> New volume = $\pi \times (0.75r)^2 \times 1.96h$
=> = $\pi \times 0.5625r^2 \times 1.96h$

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=> = π × r² × h × (0.5625 × 1.96)
=> = Original volume × 1.1025
=> Percentage change = (1.1025 − 1) × 100
=> = 0.1025 × 100 = 10.25%
=> ≈ 10%
Therefore The correct answer is 10% increase.

Q62. Answer: (b) 6.25%

Given:
Single discount = 25%
Successive discounts = 20% and x%
Formula Used:
Equivalent discount = a + b − (a × b) ÷ 100
Calculation:
=> 25 = 20 + x − (20 × x) ÷ 100
=> 25 = 20 + x − 0.2x
=> 25 = 20 + 0.8x
=> 5 = 0.8x
=> x = 5 ÷ 0.8
=> x = 6.25%
Therefore The correct answer is 6.25%.

Q63. Answer: (b) Rs. 1875

Given:
Discount = 20%
Selling price = 1500
Formula Used:
Selling price = Marked price × (1 − Discount)
Calculation:
=> 1500 = Marked price × (1 − 20 ÷ 100)
=> 1500 = Marked price × 0.8
=> Marked price = 1500 ÷ 0.8
=> Marked price = 1875
Therefore The correct answer is 1875.

Q64. Answer: (a) 81:19

Given:
Total volume = 40
Milk removed each time = 4
Number of operations = 2
Formula Used:
Remaining milk = Initial × (1 − removed ÷ total)^n
Calculation:
=> Remaining milk = 40 × (1 − 4 ÷ 40)²
=> = 40 × (36 ÷ 40)²
=> = 40 × (9 ÷ 10)²
=> = 40 × 81 ÷ 100
=> = 32.4
=> Water = 40 − 32.4 = 7.6
=> Ratio = 32.4 : 7.6
=> = 324 : 76
=> = 81 : 19
Therefore The correct answer is 81 : 19.

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Q65. Answer: (b) 16 cm

Given:

Radius = 17 cm

Distance between chords = 23 cm

Length of first chord = 30 cm

Formula Used:

Chord length = $2 \times \sqrt{(r^2 - d^2)}$

Calculation:

=> $30 = 2 \times \sqrt{(17^2 - d1^2)}$

=> $15 = \sqrt{(289 - d1^2)}$

=> $225 = 289 - d1^2$

=> $d1^2 = 64$

=> $d1 = 8$

=> $d2 = 23 - 8 = 15$

=> Length of second chord = $2 \times \sqrt{(17^2 - 15^2)}$

=> $= 2 \times \sqrt{(289 - 225)}$

=> $= 2 \times \sqrt{64}$

=> $= 2 \times 8 = 16$ cm

Therefore The correct answer is 16 cm.

Q66. Answer: (a) 10 cm

Given:

Radius = 6 cm

Tangent length = 8 cm

Formula Used:

$OA^2 = AB^2 + OB^2$

Calculation:

=> $OA^2 = 8^2 + 6^2$

=> $OA^2 = 64 + 36 = 100$

=> OA = 10 cm

Therefore The correct answer is 10 cm.

Q67. Answer: (a) 8.33 m²

Given:

Area of larger garden = 75 m²

Side ratio = 1 ÷ 3

Formula Used:

Area ratio = $(\text{Side ratio})^2$

Calculation:

=> Area ratio = $(1 \div 3)^2 = 1 \div 9$

=> Area of smaller garden = $75 \times (1 \div 9)$

=> $= 75 \div 9$

=> $= 25 \div 3$ m² = 8.33

Therefore The correct answer is 8.33 m².

Q68. Answer: (a) 4015

Given:

$x + y = 11$

$x - y = 5$

Formula Used:

$x^2 - y^2 = (x + y)(x - y)$

$x^2 + y^2 = ((x + y)^2 + (x - y)^2) \div 2$

$x^4 - y^4 = (x^2 - y^2)(x^2 + y^2)$

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Calculation:

=> $x^2 - y^2 = 11 \times 5 = 55$

=> $(x + y)^2 = 11^2 = 121$

=> $(x - y)^2 = 5^2 = 25$

=> $x^2 + y^2 = (121 + 25) \div 2 = 146 \div 2 = 73$

=> x^4 − y^4 = 55 × 73 = 4015

Therefore The correct answer is 4015.

Q69. Answer: (a) 8.36

Given:

Expression = $((3.57)^2 + (4.54)^2 + 32.4156)/((4.54)^2 - (3.57)^2) = ?$

Formula used:

$a^2 + b^2 + 2ab = (a + b)^2$

$b^2 - a^2 = (b - a)(b + a)$

3.57 4.54 Sum & Difference concept

Calculations:

=> Let a = 3.57, b = 4.54

=> Numerator = $a^2 + b^2 + 2ab = (a + b)^2$

=> Denominator = $(b - a)(b + a)$

=> Expression = $(a + b)^2 \div [(b - a)(b + a)]$

=> $= (a + b) \div (b - a)$

=> $= (3.57 + 4.54) \div (4.54 - 3.57)$

=> $= 8.11 \div 0.97 \approx 8.36$

Therefore The correct answer is 8.36.

Q70. Answer: (a) 72

Given:

$x = \sqrt{32} + \sqrt{8}$

Formula Used:

$(a + b)^2 = a^2 + b^2 + 2ab$

Calculation:

=> $x^2 = (\sqrt{32} + \sqrt{8})^2$

=> $x^2 = 32 + 8 + 2 \times \sqrt{32} \times \sqrt{8}$

=> $x^2 = 40 + 2 \times \sqrt{(32 \times 8)}$

=> $x^2 = 40 + 2 \times \sqrt{256}$

=> $x^2 = 40 + 2 \times 16$

=> $x^2 = 40 + 32$

=> $x^2 = 72$

Therefore The correct answer is 72.

Q71. Answer: (b) Rs. 288

Given:

P = 6000

R = 20%

Formula Used:

Amount = $P \times (1 + R \div 100)^n$

CI of a year = Amount of that year − Amount of previous year

Calculation:

=> A1 = 6000 × 1.2 = 7200

=> A2 = $6000 \times (1.2)^2 = 6000 \times 1.44 = 8640$

=> A3 = $6000 \times (1.2)^3 = 6000 \times 1.728 = 10368$

=> CI in 2nd year = 8640 − 7200 = 1440

=> CI in 3rd year = 10368 − 8640 = 1728

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=> Difference = 1728 − 1440 = 288

Therefore The correct answer is 288.

Q72. Answer: (b) 5 years

Given:

P = 15000

A = 21000

R = 8%

Formula Used:

Simple Interest = (P × R × t) ÷ 100

A = P + Simple Interest

Calculation:

=> Simple Interest = 21000 − 15000 = 6000

=> 6000 = (15000 × 8 × t) ÷ 100

=> 6000 = 1200t

=> t = 6000 ÷ 1200 = 5 years

Therefore The correct answer is 5 years.

Q73. Answer: (c) 37

Given:

Average of 5 consecutive odd numbers = 47

Formula Used:

For consecutive odd numbers, average = middle term

Calculation:

=> Middle number = 47

=> 5 numbers = 43, 45, 47, 49, 51

=> Previous 5 numbers = 33, 35, 37, 39, 41

=> Average = (33 + 35 + 37 + 39 + 41) ÷ 5

=> = 185 ÷ 5 = 37

Therefore The correct answer is 37.

Q74. Answer: (d) 5x

Given:

Initial number of players = 14

Average age = x

New total players = 19

Average remains = x

Formula Used:

Total age = Average × Number of players

Calculation:

=> Initial total age = 14 × x = 14x

=> New total age = 19 × x = 19x

=> Total age of 5 players = 19x − 14x

=> = 5x

Therefore The correct answer is 5x.

Q75. Answer: (b) 30

Given:

A + B = 1 ÷ 12

B + C = 1 ÷ 15

C + A = 1 ÷ 20

Time after A and B opened = 5

Formula Used:

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Work rate = 1 ÷ Time

Calculation:

=> LCM of 12, 15, 20 = 60

=> (A + B) work = 60 ÷ 12 = 5

=> (B + C) work = 60 ÷ 15 = 4

=> (C + A) work = 60 ÷ 20 = 3

=> A = (5 + 3 − 4) ÷ 2 = 2

=> B = (5 + 4 − 3) ÷ 2 = 3

=> C = (4 + 3 − 5) ÷ 2 = 1

=> Total work = 60 units

=> Work done in last 5 min by A + B + C = (2 + 3 + 1) × 5 = 6 × 5 = 30

=> Remaining work before last 5 min = 60 − 30 = 30

=> Work by C alone per min = 1

=> L = 30 ÷ 1 = 30 minutes

Therefore The correct answer is 30 minutes.

Q76. Answer: (c) Shah Rukh Khan

The correct answer is Shah Rukh Khan.

Key Points

• Shah Rukh Khan was awarded the Best Actor at the 71st National Film Awards for his remarkable performance in his latest film.

• The National Film Awards are among the most prestigious awards in India, recognizing excellence in the Indian film industry across various categories.

• The 71st National Film Awards ceremony celebrated films released in the year 2023, with winners chosen by a distinguished jury comprising experts from the film industry.

• Shah Rukh Khan's performance was acknowledged for its depth, emotional range, and the ability to connect with audiences on a profound level.

• The award highlights Shah Rukh Khan as one of the most versatile actors in the Indian film industry, having consistently delivered stellar performances across different genres.

Additional Information

• National Film Awards:

• The National Film Awards were established in 1954 and are administered by the Directorate of Film Festivals, under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India.

• These awards aim to promote good cinema and recognize outstanding contributions to the Indian film industry.

• Categories include awards for acting, directing, cinematography, music, screenplay, and more.

• Shah Rukh Khan:

• Often referred to as the "King of Bollywood," Shah Rukh Khan is one of the most prominent and influential actors in the Indian film industry.

• He has appeared in over 80 films and has received numerous accolades, including 14 Filmfare Awards.

• Shah Rukh Khan is also known for his contributions to the global promotion of Indian cinema.

• Other Nominees:

• Ranbir Kapoor: Known for his versatile performances, Ranbir Kapoor has won critical acclaim and several awards for his work in films such as Barfi! and Sanju.

• Vikrant Massey: An emerging actor in Indian cinema, Vikrant Massey is known for his impactful performances in films and web series.

• Ayushmann Khurrana: A critically acclaimed actor and singer, Ayushmann Khurrana is known for choosing socially relevant and unconventional scripts.

• Significance of the Award:

• The National Film Awards are considered the highest honor in Indian cinema and hold immense prestige in the industry.

• Winning this award solidifies an actor's reputation and acknowledges their contribution to Indian cinema.

Q77. Answer: (a) Ashok Singh Thakur

The correct answer is Ashok Singh Thakur.

Key Points

• Ashok Singh Thakur was appointed as the Chairman of the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) in

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March 2025.

• INTACH is a prominent non-governmental organization in India founded in 1984 with a mission to conserve and protect India's vast heritage.

• As Chairman, Ashok Singh Thakur is responsible for overseeing INTACH's efforts in heritage conservation and promoting awareness about India's cultural legacy.

• INTACH focuses on various heritage-related activities such as the preservation of monuments, natural heritage, material heritage, and intangible heritage.

• This appointment reflects the organization's commitment to involving experienced professionals to lead its initiatives in cultural preservation.

Additional Information

• Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH):

• Founded in 1984, INTACH is one of the largest heritage organizations in India, with over 200 chapters across the country.

• Its primary focus is on conserving and restoring India's cultural and natural heritage, including monuments, historical sites, arts, crafts, and traditions.

• INTACH also undertakes educational initiatives to promote heritage awareness among students and the general public.

• The organization collaborates with both government and private entities to execute heritage conservation projects.

• Role of the Chairman:

• The Chairman of INTACH leads the organization's efforts in advocating for heritage conservation policies and initiatives.

• They oversee projects, guide research, and ensure the organization remains aligned with its mission to preserve India's cultural heritage.

• The position requires a deep understanding of heritage conservation and strong leadership skills to mobilize resources and manage operations.

• Importance of Heritage Conservation:

• Heritage conservation is crucial for preserving historical, cultural, and architectural landmarks for future generations.

• It helps maintain the identity and legacy of a nation, showcasing its rich traditions and history.

• Conservation efforts contribute to tourism, local economies, and community development.

Important Points

• INTACH's Conservation Initiatives:

• INTACH runs various programs including Heritage Walks, School Outreach Programs, and Heritage Documentation Projects.

• It has been instrumental in restoring iconic heritage sites such as Humayun's Tomb in Delhi and Mehrangarh Fort in Rajasthan.

• Global Recognition:

• INTACH has received accolades for its work in heritage conservation and is recognized internationally for its expertise.

• It collaborates with organizations like UNESCO and World Monuments Fund on heritage preservation projects.

Q78. Answer: (b) 3 years

The correct answer is 3 years.

Key Points

• Salman Ranjan has been appointed as the Secretary-General of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Secretariat in Mauritius starting from 1st January 2025.

• The appointment is valid for a term of 3 years, as per the regulations governing the tenure of the Secretary-General within the IORA framework.

• The Indian Ocean Rim Association is an intergovernmental organization aimed at fostering regional cooperation and sustainable development within the Indian Ocean region.

• The Secretariat, located in Mauritius, serves as the operational hub for coordinating activities and implementing policies decided by member states.

• The 3-year term ensures stability and continuity in leadership, allowing the Secretary-General to implement long-term strategies effectively.

Additional Information

• Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA):

• IORA is a regional organization established in 1997 to promote economic cooperation, maritime safety, and sustainable development among countries bordering the Indian Ocean.

• The association has 23 member states, including India, Australia, South Africa, Indonesia, and Mauritius, and 10 dialogue partners, such as the USA, UK, and China.

• Key focus areas include maritime security, trade facilitation, disaster risk management, and fisheries development.

• Role of the Secretary-General:

• The Secretary-General is responsible for overseeing the operations of the IORA Secretariat and ensuring effective coordination among member states.

• The position is crucial for implementing strategic initiatives and fostering collaboration in areas like economic growth and environmental sustainability.

• Location of Secretariat:

• The IORA Secretariat is headquartered in Mauritius, symbolizing the strategic importance of the Indian Ocean region.

• It serves as the administrative and logistical center for facilitating communication and managing projects under the IORA framework.

• Key Achievements of IORA:

• IORA has played a vital role in enhancing regional trade and investment opportunities, with initiatives like the Blue Economy and Sustainable Development programs.

• The association actively works on improving maritime security through joint exercises and capacity-building workshops.

• IORA also addresses pressing challenges such as climate change and promotes disaster risk reduction in vulnerable coastal areas.

Important Points

• Term Duration: The 3-year term for the Secretary-General is designed to ensure continuity in leadership while allowing sufficient time for implementing strategic initiatives.

• Leadership Rotation: The position often rotates among member states, reflecting the collaborative nature of IORA and ensuring equal representation.

• IORA's Strategic Priorities: The association focuses on areas like security, economic development, and environmental sustainability, which are vital for the growth of the Indian Ocean region.

• International Collaboration: Dialogue partners play a significant role in supporting IORA's goals, providing expertise, funding, and technical assistance.

Q79. Answer: (a) Madras High Court

The correct answer is Madras High Court.

Key Points

• In May 2025, the Supreme Court of India set aside an order passed by the Madras High Court that had denied maternity leave to a government school teacher for the birth of her third child.

• The teacher had previously been denied maternity leave citing the two-child policy, which is a guideline followed in some government sectors to limit benefits to employees with only two children.

• The Supreme Court ruled in favor of the teacher, emphasizing the importance of maternity rights and the welfare of children irrespective of birth order.

• The judgment reaffirmed the principles of gender equality and women's rights guaranteed under the Indian Constitution, including Article 42, which directs the state to make provisions for securing just and humane conditions of work and maternity relief.

• This decision has significant implications for maternity leave policies and reinforces the need to balance population control policies with the fundamental rights of individuals.

Additional Information

• Madras High Court:

• The Madras High Court is one of the oldest High Courts in India, established in 1862, and it has jurisdiction over the state of Tamil Nadu and the Union Territory of Puducherry.

• It has been involved in several landmark cases, shaping the interpretation of laws and constitutional provisions in India.

• Maternity Benefits in India:

• The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961, as amended in 2017, provides women with 26 weeks of paid maternity leave for the first two children and 12 weeks for subsequent children.

• It applies to all establishments employing 10 or more workers, aiming to ensure the health and well-being of both the mother and child.

• Supreme Court's Role in Protecting Women's Rights:

• The Supreme Court of India has consistently upheld women's rights, including maternity leave, as part of the fundamental rights under Articles 14, 15, and 21 of the Constitution.

• In past rulings, the Court has highlighted the need for a supportive work environment for women to balance their professional and personal responsibilities.

• Two-Child Policy:

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• Some government policies in India, particularly in the past, have implemented a two-child norm to control population growth.

• This norm has been criticized for being discriminatory and violating fundamental rights, especially when linked to eligibility for government benefits or employment.

Important Points

• Significance of Maternity Leave:

• Maternity leave is essential to ensure the health and well-being of the mother and child during and after pregnancy.

• It also promotes gender equality in the workplace and encourages women's participation in the workforce.

• Role of Judiciary:

• The judiciary plays a crucial role in interpreting and enforcing laws to protect women's rights, including maternity benefits.

• Judgments such as this one set precedents that influence policies and promote social justice.

Q80. Answer: (a) 27

The correct answer is Option 1: 27.

Key Points

• As of December 2024, approximately 27 million women in India were actively monitoring their credit. This indicates a significant rise in financial literacy and awareness among women in the country.

• This data reflects the growing participation of women in managing personal finances, which marks a transformative shift in financial inclusion and empowerment.

• Credit monitoring is crucial for individuals to understand their financial health and maintain a good credit score, which directly impacts loan approvals and interest rates.

• The number 27 million signifies an increasing trend among women to take control of their financial decisions, enabled by initiatives promoting financial literacy.

• This growth can be attributed to various governmental and non-governmental programs encouraging women to adopt financial tools like credit monitoring and budgeting.

Additional Information

• Importance of Credit Monitoring:

• Credit monitoring allows individuals to track their credit history and credit score, which are critical for securing loans, credit cards, and mortgages.

• It helps detect fraudulent activities or errors in the credit report, ensuring financial security.

• Regular credit monitoring can improve financial planning by providing insights into spending patterns and debt management.

• Financial Inclusion in India:

• Financial inclusion refers to providing affordable financial services to underprivileged and low-income groups, including women.

• Government schemes like Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) have played a significant role in increasing access to financial products and services.

• Role of Technology:

• The rise in credit monitoring among women is facilitated by the availability of digital platforms and mobile apps.

• Technological advancements have made financial tools more accessible and user-friendly for individuals, contributing to increased participation.

• Government and NGO Initiatives:

• Programs like Financial Literacy Camps conducted by banks and NGOs aim to educate women about financial management and credit awareness.

• Collaborations between private organizations and the government have further enhanced financial education efforts.

Important Points

• Gender Gap in Financial Literacy:

• Historically, there has been a significant gender gap in financial literacy, with women being less likely than men to access financial services or monitor their credit.

• Efforts to close this gap are crucial for achieving gender equality in financial empowerment.

• Credit Score and Its Implications:

• A credit score is a numerical representation of an individual's creditworthiness, ranging from 300 to 900.

• Higher scores indicate better financial health and improve the chances of securing loans with favorable terms.

• Global Comparisons:

• India's progress in financial inclusion among women is notable, but there is still room for improvement compared to developed countries where financial literacy rates are higher.

• Global initiatives like the World Bank's Financial Inclusion Support Framework are instrumental in driving such progress

worldwide.

Q81. Answer: (a) PM Vishwakarma Scheme

The correct answer is PM Vishwakarma Scheme.

Key Points

• The PM Vishwakarma Scheme is a central government initiative launched to empower artisans and preserve traditional crafts.

• The scheme provides a Rs. 500 daily stipend to artisans as financial support during skill training and development programs.

• It also includes toolkit vouchers, enabling artisans to procure essential tools and equipment required for their trade.

• The scheme primarily targets individuals involved in traditional crafts such as carpentry, blacksmithing, pottery, weaving, and other similar trades.

• It aims to enhance livelihoods by boosting the productivity and income levels of artisans, ensuring the sustainability of their crafts.

Additional Information

• PM Vishwakarma Scheme Features:

• The scheme emphasizes the revival of traditional skills and crafts that form an integral part of India's cultural heritage.

• It promotes the use of modern technology alongside traditional techniques to improve efficiency and quality.

• The initiative provides access to credit facilities, enabling artisans to expand their businesses.

• It includes provisions for market linkages to help artisans sell their products in both domestic and international markets.

• Other Relevant Government Schemes:

• PM Kisan Samman Nidhi: A scheme providing income support of Rs. 6,000 annually to farmers in three equal installments.

• PM SVANidhi: A micro-credit scheme aimed at supporting street vendors by providing loans of up to Rs. 10,000 for business continuity.

• NPS Vatsalya: A pension scheme focusing on financial security for senior citizens under the National Pension System.

• Artisan Empowerment in India:

• Artisans form the backbone of India's cultural economy, with over 7 million artisans contributing significantly to the handicrafts sector.

• The government has introduced schemes like Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana and Handicrafts Mega Clusters to support artisans.

• These initiatives focus on skill development, financial aid, and market accessibility for artisans.

Important Points

• The scheme aligns with the Make in India initiative by promoting indigenous crafts and skills.

• It ensures social security for artisans by integrating them into the formal economy.

• The scheme includes workshops and training programs to enhance the entrepreneurial capabilities of artisans.

• The focus on traditional crafts ensures the preservation of India’s cultural heritage while creating sustainable livelihoods.

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Q82. Answer: (a) Odisha

The correct answer is Odisha.

Key Points

• Odisha topped the Fiscal Health Index 2025, reflecting its strong financial management and sustainable economic practices.

• The index evaluates the fiscal performance of Indian states based on parameters like revenue generation, expenditure management, and fiscal deficit.

• Odisha's achievement is attributed to its robust implementation of fiscal responsibility and budget management (FRBM) policies.

• It has successfully maintained a low fiscal deficit while focusing on key developmental activities and infrastructure projects.

• The state's proactive measures to enhance revenue through mining royalties and its emphasis on industrial growth have significantly contributed to its fiscal health.

• Odisha's financial planning has ensured better allocation of resources to sectors such as healthcare, education, and rural development, aligning with sustainable growth objectives.

Additional Information

• Fiscal Health Index:

• Developed to measure the financial health of Indian states based on their fiscal performance and sustainability.

• It considers parameters such as fiscal deficit, debt-to-GDP ratio, revenue mobilization, and expenditure efficiency.

• The index helps policymakers and administrators identify areas of improvement in fiscal management.

• Odisha’s Fiscal Performance:

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• The state has demonstrated prudent financial management by adhering to fiscal discipline and minimizing wasteful expenditure.
• Significant revenue is generated from mining activities, especially from iron ore and other minerals.
• Odisha has also attracted investment in sectors like steel, aluminum, and renewable energy, contributing to its economic growth.
• Comparison with Other States:
• Haryana: While Haryana has a strong industrial base, its fiscal deficit and debt levels have limited its ranking.
• Goa: Goa's economy relies heavily on tourism, but its revenue base is relatively smaller compared to larger states.
• Uttar Pradesh: Despite being one of the largest states, UP faces challenges in fiscal management due to high population and expenditure pressures.
• Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act:
• The FRBM Act was enacted in 2003 to ensure fiscal discipline and promote long-term economic stability in India.
• It mandates that states maintain a fiscal deficit within 3% of their GDP and work towards reducing their debt-to-GDP ratio.
• Odisha’s adherence to FRBM norms has been a key factor in its strong fiscal performance.

Important Points

• Revenue Generation: Odisha's strategy to enhance revenue through mining royalties and taxes has been a critical factor in its fiscal success.
• Expenditure Focus: The state has prioritized sectors like healthcare, education, infrastructure, and rural development, ensuring inclusive growth.
• Debt Management: Odisha has maintained a low debt-to-GDP ratio, showcasing responsible borrowing and repayment practices.
• Policy Initiatives: Proactive policies and reforms, such as industrial promotion and ease of doing business, have strengthened Odisha's economic base.
• Recognition: Topping the Fiscal Health Index 2025 is a testament to Odisha’s commitment to sustainable financial management and development.

Q83. Answer: (a) Bengaluru

The correct answer is Bengaluru.

Key Points

• Hesaraghatta Grasslands are located near Bengaluru, the capital city of Karnataka, India.
• These grasslands are an ecologically sensitive area and serve as an essential habitat for various species of flora and fauna.
• The region is known for its open grassland ecosystem, which is rare in the area and is crucial for biodiversity conservation.
• Hesaraghatta is also home to the Hesaraghatta Lake, a man-made reservoir built in 1894 to supply water to Bengaluru.
• It is a popular destination for bird watchers, as the grasslands attract numerous species of migratory and resident birds.
• Threats such as urbanization and encroachment have raised concerns about the protection of the grasslands and its biodiversity.

Additional Information

• Location and Geography:
• Hesaraghatta Grasslands are situated approximately 30 km northwest of Bengaluru city, Karnataka.
• The area covers hundreds of acres and includes both grasslands and a freshwater lake.
• The grasslands are part of the semi-arid ecosystem typical of the Deccan Plateau region.
• Biodiversity:
• The grasslands support a variety of species, including mammals, birds, insects, and reptiles.
• It is especially famous for attracting bird species like Black Drongo, Indian Roller, and Brahminy Kite.
• The area also has a significant population of grassland-dependent insects, which contribute to the ecosystem's health.
• Hesaraghatta Lake:
• The lake was built in 1894 under the supervision of Sir M. Visvesvaraya, a renowned engineer.
• It was designed to supply drinking water to Bengaluru and is fed by the Arkavathy River.
• Over the years, the lake has dried up due to declining water levels and silt deposition.
• Conservation Concerns:
• Rapid urbanization and illegal encroachments pose significant threats to the grasslands.
• Environmental activists have called for the protection and restoration of the area to prevent biodiversity loss.
• The Karnataka government has proposed ecotourism initiatives, but these have been met with concerns about potential ecological damage.
• Importance of Grasslands:
• Grasslands play a crucial role in carbon sequestration, helping to combat climate change.

• They are vital for sustaining livestock grazing and supporting rural livelihoods.
• Grasslands act as a natural water recharge zone, contributing to groundwater replenishment.

Important Points

• Hesaraghatta Grasslands:
• The grasslands have been a focal point of conservation debates in Karnataka due to their ecological significance.
• Efforts are being made to prevent the conversion of grasslands into urban or industrial areas.
• Local communities often depend on the grasslands for agriculture and livestock grazing.
• Biodiversity Significance:
• Grasslands like Hesaraghatta are crucial for migratory bird species and act as stopovers during seasonal movements.
• They provide habitat for endemic species that are not found in other ecosystems.
• Conservation Efforts:
• NGOs and environmental activists are advocating for legal protection under wildlife conservation laws.
• Public awareness campaigns highlight the importance of preserving such ecosystems to avoid irreversible damage.

Q84. Answer: (b) 8

The correct answer is 8 percent.

Key Points

• According to the report "EnviStats India 2024: Environment Accounts", the coverage of mangroves in India has seen an increase of approximately 8 percent over the period 2013 to 2021.
• Mangroves are coastal ecosystems found in tropical and subtropical regions, and they play a critical role in protecting shorelines, supporting biodiversity, and acting as carbon sinks.
• The increase in mangrove coverage can be attributed to conservation programs, afforestation efforts, and the implementation of various environmental policies by the government and NGOs.
• India's mangrove forests cover an area of approximately 4,992 square kilometers, as per the latest data, with states such as West Bengal, Gujarat, and Andhra Pradesh contributing significantly to this ecosystem.
• These ecosystems are protected under various initiatives such as the National Mangrove Conservation Program and are also highlighted in international agreements like the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.

Additional Information

• Mangroves in India:
• India accounts for around 3% of the world's mangrove forests, making them essential for the country's coastal ecology.
• The Sundarbans in West Bengal is the largest mangrove forest in India and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
• Other significant mangrove regions include the Gujarat coastline and Andhra Pradesh, among others.
• Importance of Mangroves:
• Mangroves act as natural barriers against coastal erosion, storms, and tsunamis.
• They serve as a vital habitat for a wide range of species, including fish, amphibians, and birds.
• They are highly efficient in carbon sequestration, making them critical in mitigating climate change.
• The roots of mangroves help in filtering pollutants and maintaining water quality.
• Threats to Mangroves:
• Human activities such as urbanization, industrialization, and aquaculture have led to significant loss of mangroves globally.
• Rising sea levels due to climate change pose a major threat to these ecosystems.
• Unregulated tourism and the illegal cutting of mangroves for firewood and construction are other key challenges.
• Conservation Measures:
• The National Mangrove Conservation Program in India focuses on the conservation and sustainable management of mangroves.
• Several mangrove regions in India are designated as Protected Areas under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
• Community-driven initiatives and afforestation efforts have significantly contributed to the restoration of degraded mangrove ecosystems.
• India is a signatory to international frameworks such as the Ramsar Convention and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, which emphasize mangrove conservation.

Important Points

• The global loss of mangroves is estimated to be around 1-2% annually, making their conservation a priority for countries with significant coastlines.
• West Bengal accounts for the largest share of mangrove forests in India, with 42.45% of the total area.
• Increased awareness and education among coastal communities are essential for sustainable mangrove management.

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• Technological tools like GIS mapping and satellite imagery are being increasingly used to monitor mangrove cover and health.

Q85. Answer: (b) Pava

The correct answer is Pava.

Key Points

• Pava is a traditional wind instrument that belongs to the family of musical instruments that produce sound by the vibration of air, typically using a player's breath.

• It is commonly used in various folk and classical performances and is known for its melodious and soothing sound.

• Unlike percussion instruments like Dhol or Nagara, which rely on striking a surface, wind instruments like the Pava generate sound through the manipulation of air.

• Wind instruments have a long history and are deeply embedded in cultural and musical traditions across the world. The Pava specifically is a part of traditional and cultural Indian music.

• Other examples of wind instruments include the flute, clarinet, and shehnai. These instruments often require a great deal of skill and breath control.

Additional Information

• Dhol:

• Dhol is a percussion instrument and not a wind instrument. It is widely used in folk music and celebrations, especially in North India, Punjab, and Pakistan.

• It consists of a cylindrical wooden shell covered with animal skin or synthetic material and is played using sticks.

• It is integral to Bhangra and other traditional dance forms.

• Manjira:

• Manjira is a traditional Indian percussion instrument made of a pair of small metallic cymbals.

• It is used to provide rhythmic accompaniment in devotional and folk music.

• Manjira is not a wind instrument as it produces sound through the striking of metal surfaces.

• Nagara:

• Nagara is a large drum that is also categorized as a percussion instrument.

• It is commonly used in religious ceremonies, folk performances, and traditional Indian music.

• Sound is generated by striking the drumhead with sticks, which makes it distinct from wind instruments.

• Wind Instruments:

• Characteristics: Wind instruments produce sound by the vibration of air inside a tube or body of the instrument.

• Examples: Flute, clarinet, saxophone, shehnai, and Pava.

• Function: The player blows air into or across an opening, and different notes are produced by changing the length of the air column inside the instrument.

• Applications: These instruments are widely used in classical, folk, and modern music across various cultures globally.

Important Points

• Historical Significance: Wind instruments have been used for centuries in rituals, religious ceremonies, and entertainment, showcasing their cultural importance.

• Scientific Basis: The sound in wind instruments is produced by the vibration of air columns, which is manipulated by changing the length of the column using finger holes or valves.

• Global Examples: Instruments like the flute (India), bagpipes (Scotland), and pan pipes (South America) highlight the diversity of wind instruments worldwide.

Q86. Answer: (d) Congregational halls for teaching and interaction

The correct answer is Congregational halls for teaching and interaction.

Key Points

• Chaityas were an essential part of Buddhist architecture, primarily serving as congregational halls where monks and followers gathered for teaching, interaction, and prayers.

• The term "Chaitya" is derived from the Sanskrit word meaning a sacred space or shrine. It was a place where devotees worshipped stupas or relics of the Buddha.

• These halls were characterized by their apsidal (semi-circular) design and often featured a stupa at the center, which served as the focal point of worship and meditation.

• Unlike viharas (which were primarily living quarters for monks), chaityas were designed for communal activities, including religious discourse and rituals.

• The most famous example of a chaitya hall is the Great Chaitya at Karle in Maharashtra, India, which is renowned for its intricate carvings and grand architectural style.

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Additional Information

• Chaityas vs. Viharas:

• Chaityas: Used as prayer halls for congregational purposes. They contained stupas and were places for worship and teaching.

• Viharas: Primarily used as monastic living quarters for Buddhist monks, with small cells arranged around a central courtyard.

• Architectural Features of Chaityas:

• Typically built in rock-cut caves, especially in Western India.

• Included a vaulted roof with wooden ribs and a large open space for gatherings.

• Featured a stupa at one end, which served as the central object of worship.

• Often decorated with intricate carvings, sculptures of Buddha, and motifs depicting Buddhist teachings.

• Examples of Famous Chaityas:

• The Ajanta Caves (Maharashtra): A UNESCO World Heritage Site with beautifully painted chaityas.

• The Karle Chaitya (Maharashtra): One of the largest and most well-preserved rock-cut chaityas in India.

• The Bhaja Caves (Maharashtra): Among the earliest rock-cut Buddhist chaityas in India.

• Significance of Chaityas in Buddhism:

• They served as spiritual centers where monks and followers could gather for teachings and rituals.

• Helped in spreading Buddhist philosophy and teachings to the masses.

• Provided spaces for meditation, discussions, and congregation during festivals and ceremonies.

Important Points

• Option 1 (Living quarters for monks): Incorrect, as this refers to viharas, not chaityas. Viharas were used for residential purposes by monks.

• Option 2 (Storehouses for grains): Incorrect, as Buddhist architecture does not associate chaityas with grain storage.

• Option 3 (Decorative gateways to monasteries): Incorrect, as decorative gateways are referred to as toranas in Buddhist architecture.

• Option 4 (Congregational halls for teaching and interaction): Correct, as chaityas primarily served this function, providing a sacred space for collective worship and teachings.

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Q87. Answer: (a) Goa

The correct answer is Goa.

Key Points

• Dekhni is a traditional folk dance form originating from Goa, India.

• This dance form is known for its unique blend of Western and Indian cultural elements, reflecting Goa's historical Portuguese influence.

• Dekhni is primarily performed by women and is often accompanied by folk songs sung in the Konkani language.

• The themes of Dekhni songs and performances typically revolve around mythological stories, local traditions, and socio-cultural life in Goa.

• The dance is characterized by its graceful movements, vibrant costumes, and rhythmic music, which make it an essential part of Goan festivities and celebrations.

Additional Information

• Goa's Cultural Heritage:

• Goa is renowned for its rich cultural heritage, which includes various dance forms, folk music, and art.

• Other popular folk dances from Goa include Fugdi, Dhalo, and Corridinho.

• The influence of Portuguese colonization has led to a unique blend of European and Indian traditions in Goan culture.

• Konkani Language:

• The Konkani language is widely spoken in Goa and plays a central role in its cultural expressions, including folk songs and dances like Dekhni.

• Konkani is recognized as one of the 22 scheduled languages under the Indian Constitution.

• It is also the official language of Goa, as per the Goa, Daman, and Diu Official Language Act, 1987.

• Historical Influence:

• Goa was a Portuguese colony for over 450 years, from 1510 to 1961.

• This long period of colonization introduced European art, architecture, and cultural practices, which are evident in Goan dance forms like Dekhni.

• Festivals and Celebrations:

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• Dekhni is often performed during festivals, religious ceremonies, and cultural events in Goa, such as the Shigmo Festival.
• The dance is a vibrant representation of Goa's joyous and celebratory spirit.

Important Points

• Regional Dance Variations:
• Each Indian state has its unique folk dance traditions that reflect its local history, culture, and lifestyle.
• For example, Jharkhand is known for dances like Paika, Chhau, and Jhumar.
• Haryana features folk dances such as Ghoomar, Phag, and Jhumar.
• Uttar Pradesh showcases dance forms like Raslila, Kajri, and Nautanki.
• These dances are integral to each state's identity and highlight India's diverse cultural richness.
• Preservation of Folk Traditions:
• Efforts are being made by various organizations and the government to preserve and promote traditional dance forms like Dekhni.
• Goa's Department of Art and Culture regularly organizes events to showcase folk dances and ensure their continuity.

Q88. Answer: (b) Hanle

The correct answer is Hanle.

Key Points

• The MACE (Major Atmospheric Cherenkov Experiment) telescope was officially inaugurated on October 4, 2024.
• The inauguration took place at the Hanle village in the Union Territory of Ladakh, India.
• Hanle is already known for hosting the Indian Astronomical Observatory, making it an ideal site for advanced telescopic instruments due to its high altitude and clear skies.
• The MACE telescope is the second-largest gamma-ray telescope in the world and the largest of its kind in the Northern Hemisphere.
• The telescope is operated by the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) in collaboration with the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), Government of India.

Additional Information

• Hanle:
• Hanle is located in the Changthang region of Ladakh, at an altitude of approximately 4,500 meters (14,764 feet) above sea level.
• It is one of the world's highest and most remote astronomical observatory sites, known for its dry atmosphere and minimal light pollution.
• The Indian Astronomical Observatory, managed by the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), is situated in Hanle.
• MACE Telescope Features:
• The MACE telescope is a 21-meter diameter gamma-ray telescope designed to study celestial gamma rays.
• It uses the Cherenkov radiation technique to detect gamma rays, which helps in observing high-energy cosmic phenomena such as supernovae, black holes, and pulsars.
• The telescope is a significant step in India's advancements in astrophysics and gamma-ray astronomy.
• Other Astronomical Facilities in India:
• The Vainu Bappu Observatory in Tamil Nadu, known for its optical telescopes.
• The Giant Metrewave Radio Telescope (GMRT) in Maharashtra, used for radio astronomy.
• The Udaipur Solar Observatory in Rajasthan, specializing in solar observations.
• Gamma-ray Astronomy:
• Gamma-ray astronomy focuses on the detection of high-energy electromagnetic radiation emitted by cosmic sources.
• It helps in studying extreme physical phenomena, such as black holes, neutron stars, and supernova explosions.
• Gamma-ray telescopes like MACE are critical for understanding the universe's energetic processes.

Important Points

• Significance of Hanle for Astronomy:
• Hanle's high altitude and clear skies make it a preferred location for advanced astronomical research.
• Its remote location ensures minimal atmospheric and light interference, enhancing the precision of observations.
• India's Contribution to Astronomy:
• India has been actively contributing to global astronomy through projects like the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) and ASTROSAT.
• The establishment of the MACE telescope further strengthens India's position in gamma-ray astronomy research.

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Q89. Answer: (d) 2024 Roxana

The correct answer is 2024 Roxana.

Key Points

• 2024 Roxana is a newly discovered "mini-moon" expected to orbit Earth for about two months in 2024.

• Mini-moons are temporary satellites of Earth, typically small celestial objects that are captured by Earth's gravitational field.

• 2024 Roxana's discovery highlights the ongoing advancements in astronomical observation and tracking technologies.

• Such mini-moons are scientifically significant as they provide insights into Earth's gravitational interactions with space objects and offer opportunities for further space exploration.

• The name "Roxana" was selected following international naming conventions for celestial bodies and reflects the growing catalog of space objects tracked by astronomers.

Additional Information

• Mini-Moons:

• Mini-moons are small asteroids or space rocks temporarily captured by Earth's gravitational pull.

• They usually orbit Earth for a short duration, ranging from weeks to a few months, before escaping Earth's gravity.

• Their study helps scientists understand gravitational dynamics and interactions between Earth and nearby celestial objects.

• Detection of Mini-Moons:

• Modern telescopes and tracking systems, such as Pan-STARRS and ATLAS, play a crucial role in identifying these objects.

• Mini-moons are usually detected when their orbits bring them close to Earth, making them visible through advanced imaging technology.

• Scientific Importance:

• Mini-moons serve as potential targets for future space missions, including asteroid mining and exploration.

• Studying their composition can provide insights into the early solar system and the formation of planets.

• Notable Mini-Moons:

• Previous mini-moons include 2006 RH120, a space rock that orbited Earth briefly in 2006.

• Another example is 2020 CD3, which orbited Earth for several months before leaving in 2020.

Important Points

• Gravitational Interaction: Mini-moons are captured by Earth's gravity when their trajectories align with Earth's orbit. These interactions provide valuable data for understanding orbital mechanics.

• Exploration Opportunities: Mini-moons present unique opportunities for close-range exploration, potentially serving as stepping stones for deep-space missions.

• Global Collaboration: Discovering and tracking mini-moons often involves international cooperation among observatories and space agencies.

Q90. Answer: (a) Vijay Kelkar

The correct answer is Vijay Kelkar.

Key Points

• In 2002-2003, the Government of India established a committee to review fiscal reforms in both Direct and Indirect taxes.

• The committee was chaired by Vijay Kelkar, a renowned economist and policy advisor.

• The primary objective of this committee was to provide recommendations for tax simplification, improving tax compliance, and enhancing economic growth through efficient fiscal policy.

• The committee submitted its report, known as the Kelkar Committee Report, which highlighted several reforms to improve the tax structure in India.

• It emphasized the need for a more transparent and effective tax system to promote economic development and reduce administrative burdens.

• The Kelkar Committee played a pivotal role in shaping India's fiscal policies and provided a roadmap for future reforms in taxation.

Additional Information

• Vijay Kelkar:

• Vijay Kelkar is an Indian economist who has held various key positions in the government, including Finance Secretary, and is known for his contributions to economic reforms.

• He was awarded the prestigious Padma Vibhushan in 2011 for his contributions to public affairs.

• His work primarily focuses on tax reforms, economic growth, and fiscal policies for India.

• Kelkar has also served as the Chairman of the Petroleum Pricing Committee, which aimed to rationalize fuel pricing in India.

• Kelkar Committee Report (2002):

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• The committee provided recommendations to reform both Direct Taxes (Income Tax, Corporate Tax) and Indirect Taxes (Customs, Excise, and Service Tax).

• It recommended the introduction of a Goods and Services Tax (GST) to streamline indirect taxation and reduce inefficiencies.

• Suggested lowering corporate tax rates to attract foreign investments and promote business growth.

• Proposed measures to reduce tax evasion and improve compliance through technology-driven reforms and simplification of tax laws.

• Fiscal Reforms in India:

• Fiscal reforms aim to enhance government revenues, improve fiscal discipline, and promote economic stability.

• Key reforms include the introduction of the GST in 2017, which unified indirect taxes across the nation.

• Implementation of Direct Tax Code (DTC) was proposed to simplify direct taxes and ensure equity.

• Adoption of fiscal responsibility laws, such as the FRBM Act (2003), to ensure fiscal discipline and reduce deficits.

• Other Committee Chairs (Incorrect Options):

• Chakravarthi Rangarajan: He chaired committees on monetary policy and was the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India. He worked on economic and banking reforms but was not directly involved in fiscal tax reforms during 2002-2003.

• Abid Hussain: Known for his contributions to commerce and industry, he served as India's ambassador to the USA but did not chair fiscal reforms committees.

• Deepak Parekh: A financial expert and Chairman of HDFC, he has contributed to infrastructure financing but was not associated with taxation reforms in 2002-2003.

Important Points

• Goods and Services Tax (GST):

• GST was introduced in 2017, implementing one of the key recommendations of the Kelkar Committee.

• It replaced multiple indirect taxes such as VAT, Service Tax, and Excise Duty with a unified tax structure.

• Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act, 2003:

• Aimed at ensuring fiscal discipline and reducing deficits, the FRBM Act was part of broader fiscal reforms.

• It laid down targets for reducing fiscal deficit and revenue deficit over time.

• Tax Simplification:

• The Kelkar Committee emphasized simplifying tax laws to make compliance easier for taxpayers and reduce administrative burdens.

• Recommended leveraging technology to improve transparency and track tax evasion.

• Impact of Fiscal Reforms:

• Improved tax compliance and increased government revenues.

• Enhanced ease of doing business and attracted foreign investments.

• Promoted economic growth through efficient fiscal policies.

Q91. Answer: (a) Doctrine of Lapse

The correct answer is Doctrine of Lapse.

Key Points

• Doctrine of Lapse: This policy was devised and implemented by Lord Dalhousie during his tenure as the Governor-General of India (1848-1856). It allowed the British East India Company to annex Indian princely states if the ruler died without a legitimate male heir. Hence, this statement is correct.

• Policy of Paramountcy: Although the concept of paramountcy (British supremacy over Indian states) was strengthened during Lord Dalhousie's tenure, it was initiated earlier by other British officials. Dalhousie expanded its scope but did not devise the policy. Hence, this statement is incorrect.

• Subsidiary Alliance: This policy was introduced by Lord Wellesley (1798-1805), not Lord Dalhousie. It required Indian rulers to accept British forces in their territories and pay for their maintenance, effectively reducing their sovereignty. Hence, this statement is incorrect.

• Policy of Non-Intervention: This policy was followed during the early British rule in India, particularly under Warren Hastings, but was abandoned by later Governor-Generals, including Lord Dalhousie. Dalhousie was known for his interventionist policies. Hence, this statement is incorrect.

• Therefore, the correct answer is Doctrine of Lapse.

Additional Information

• Doctrine of Lapse:

• Introduced by Lord Dalhousie as a means to expand British control in India.

• If a ruler died without a legitimate male heir, the state was annexed by the British East India Company.

• This policy led to the annexation of several states such as Satara (1848), Jhansi (1853), Nagpur (1854), and Awadh (1856).
• The doctrine was highly controversial and led to widespread resentment among Indian rulers, contributing to the 1857 Revolt.
• Policy of Paramountcy:
• Established British supremacy over Indian princely states.
• Provided the British with the authority to intervene in the internal affairs of Indian states.
• Expanded during Dalhousie's tenure but was not originally devised by him.
• Subsidiary Alliance:
• Introduced by Lord Wellesley in the early 19th century.
• Required Indian rulers to accept British forces and pay for their maintenance.
• Reduced the sovereignty of Indian states and brought them under British control.
• Policy of Non-Intervention:
• Followed by early British administrators like Warren Hastings.
• Aimed at minimizing interference in Indian states' internal affairs.
• Later abandoned in favor of more interventionist policies.

Important Points

• Impact of the Doctrine of Lapse:
• Created distrust and resentment among Indian rulers.
• Contributed to the growing dissatisfaction that led to the 1857 Revolt.
• Highlighted the exploitative nature of British policies in India.
• Lord Dalhousie’s Reforms:
• Introduced modern infrastructure, including railways, telegraphs, and postal systems.
• Focused on administrative efficiency and centralization.
• Implemented the Wood's Dispatch (1854) for education reform.

Q92. Answer: (a) 1994

The correct answer is 1994.

Key Points

• The National Stock Exchange (NSE) of India began its operations in the year 1994. It was established to bring transparency and efficiency to the Indian capital markets.
• NSE was incorporated in 1992 as a tax-paying company and received recognition as a stock exchange under the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956, in April 1993.
• The NSE commenced trading in the wholesale debt market segment in June 1994, followed by equity trading in November 1994.
• It was India's first exchange to offer a fully automated, screen-based electronic trading system, which provided easy accessibility and an efficient trading platform to investors.
• NSE has played a critical role in transforming India’s capital markets, enhancing market integrity, and promoting investor confidence.

Additional Information

• National Stock Exchange (NSE):
• The NSE is headquartered in Mumbai, Maharashtra, and is one of the largest and most advanced stock exchanges in India.
• The exchange's flagship index, the NIFTY 50, is used by investors in India and globally as a barometer of the Indian capital market.
• The NSE is regulated by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
• Key Features of NSE:
• It introduced the concept of a demutualized exchange in India, separating ownership and management from the trading rights.
• NSE was the first exchange in India to offer a derivatives trading platform, beginning with the launch of index futures in 2000.
• The exchange provides trading in various financial instruments, including equities, debt, derivatives, and currency derivatives.
• Other Stock Exchanges in India:
• The Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) is the oldest stock exchange in Asia, established in 1875.
• While BSE has historical significance, NSE has outpaced it in terms of trading volume and technological advancements.
• Importance of NSE:
• NSE has enhanced transparency by introducing electronic trading, reducing fraud and malpractices.
• It has made capital markets more accessible to retail investors, providing fair pricing mechanisms.
• The exchange is instrumental in mobilizing savings for economic development by providing a platform for investment in

securities.

Important Points

• SEBI and Market Regulation:

• The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) was established in 1988 and given statutory powers in 1992 to regulate the securities market in India.

• SEBI plays a key role in protecting the interests of investors and ensuring a fair and transparent trading environment.

• Technological Advancements:

• NSE's trading platform is based on a state-of-the-art electronic trading system, capable of handling a large number of orders per second.

• The exchange provides real-time price dissemination to ensure informed decision-making by investors.

• Global Recognition:

• NSE is ranked among the largest exchanges globally in terms of trading volume.

• It has received multiple awards for its role in modernizing India's capital markets and promoting financial inclusion.

Q93. Answer: (d) This belt has huge amount of coal reserves.

The correct answer is This belt has huge amount of coal reserves.

Key Points

• The South-Western Plateau region covers parts of Karnataka, Goa, Tamil Nadu uplands, and Kerala. These areas are known for their mineral wealth. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

• This region is particularly rich in ferrous metals, such as iron ore, and bauxite, which is used for aluminum production. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

• The region is a significant source of high-grade iron ore, which is exported to various countries for steel production. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

• The statement that this region has a "huge amount of coal reserves" is incorrect. The South-Western Plateau region is not known for coal reserves, as coal is predominantly found in the Damodar Valley regions (Jharkhand, West Bengal) and parts of Chhattisgarh and Odisha. Hence, statement 4 is incorrect.

Additional Information

• Mineral Distribution in India:

• India is richly endowed with various mineral resources, including metallic and non-metallic minerals.

• The Chhota Nagpur Plateau and Orissa Plateau are the most significant regions for mineral resources like coal, iron ore, and bauxite.

• South-Western Plateau Region:

• This region includes Karnataka, Goa, Tamil Nadu uplands, and Kerala. It is primarily known for iron ore, manganese, and bauxite reserves.

• It is a hub for iron and steel industries due to the availability of high-grade iron ore.

• Coal Distribution in India:

• India's largest coal reserves are found in the Damodar Valley, which includes Jharkhand, West Bengal, and parts of Chhattisgarh and Odisha.

• Major coalfields include Jharia, Raniganj, Bokaro, and Korba.

• Ferrous Metals:

• Iron ore is one of the most important ferrous metals, and India is among the world's largest producers.

• The South-Western Plateau region contributes significantly to India's iron ore exports, particularly from Karnataka and Goa.

Important Points

• Iron Ore Reserves in India:

• India is the fourth-largest producer of iron ore in the world.

• Major iron ore reserves are found in Odisha, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Goa, and Jharkhand.

• Iron ore is used extensively in the steel industry, which forms the backbone of industrial development.

• Coal Reserves:

• India holds the fifth-largest coal reserves globally.

• Coal is primarily used for thermal power generation and in industries like iron and steel.

• The Gondwana coalfields are the most prominent, accounting for nearly 98% of the total coal reserves.

• Bauxite Reserves:

• India has significant bauxite reserves, with Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, and Gujarat being the top producers.

• Bauxite is the chief ore for aluminum production, widely used in industries like transportation and construction.

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Q94. Answer: (c)

The correct answer is Both I and II.

Key Points

• Indo-Pakistan Conflict: The Third Five-Year Plan (1961-1966) aimed to achieve self-sufficiency in food production and industrial growth. However, the outbreak of the Indo-Pakistan War in 1965 significantly disrupted the implementation of the plan. Defense expenditure increased drastically, diverting resources from development projects. Hence, statement I is correct.

• Drought: The Third Five-Year Plan also faced a severe setback due to two consecutive years of drought (1965 and 1966). Agricultural production fell drastically, causing food shortages and inflation. This led to a major shift in focus from planned development to crisis management. Hence, statement II is correct.

• The combination of war and drought led to the failure of the plan's objectives, marking a period of economic instability and reduced growth.

• During this period, the government had to implement short-term measures like food imports and emergency programs to address immediate needs instead of pursuing long-term developmental goals.

• The disruptions caused by these events laid the foundation for the Fourth Five-Year Plan to focus more on stability rather than ambitious growth targets.

Additional Information

• Five-Year Plans in India:

• India's Five-Year Plans were initiated in 1951 based on the model of the Soviet Union. These plans aimed to achieve rapid economic development through centralized planning.

• The Third Five-Year Plan (1961-1966) focused on long-term goals, including agriculture, industry, and infrastructure development.

• The major objective of the plan was to establish economic self-reliance and reduce dependence on foreign aid.

• Indo-Pakistan War (1965):

• The war arose due to disputes over Kashmir. It significantly increased defense spending, straining the nation's economic resources.

• As a result, funds allocated for development under the Five-Year Plan were diverted to meet military expenses.

• Drought and Agricultural Crisis:

• The droughts of 1965 and 1966 caused widespread crop failures, leading to food shortages and a dependency on food imports from countries like the United States under the PL-480 program.

• The agricultural crisis highlighted the need for stronger policies in food security, eventually leading to the Green Revolution in the Fourth Plan.

• Impact of the Plan's Disruption:

• The failure of the Third Five-Year Plan led to the adoption of annual plans or "plan holidays" from 1966 to 1969 to address immediate challenges.

• These interim plans focused on stabilizing the economy rather than pursuing ambitious development goals.

Important Points

• Green Revolution: The agricultural setbacks during the Third Five-Year Plan prompted the government to focus on modernizing agriculture in the Fourth Plan, leading to the Green Revolution.

• Food Imports: India relied heavily on food imports under the PL-480 program, which emphasized the country's vulnerability to external factors during crises.

• Economic Priorities: The disruptions highlighted the need for balancing defense spending and developmental goals, influencing subsequent plans.

• Lessons Learned: The failure of the Third Plan underscored the importance of flexibility in planning to accommodate unexpected challenges like war and natural calamities.

Q95. Answer: (c) 8%

The correct answer is Option 3.

Key Points

• The Twelfth Five-Year Plan in India covered the period from 2012 to 2017.

• The growth target for the Twelfth Five-Year Plan was set at 8% annual average growth in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

• It aimed to achieve sustainable and inclusive growth, with a focus on reducing poverty and regional inequalities.

• The plan emphasized investments in health, education, infrastructure, and agriculture to enhance overall development.

• The target was considered ambitious, given the challenges such as a slowing global economy and domestic constraints like inflation and fiscal deficits.

Additional Information

• Five-Year Plans in India:

• The concept of Five-Year Plans was introduced by Jawaharlal Nehru in 1951, inspired by the Soviet model of planned economic development.

• The Planning Commission was responsible for formulating and monitoring these plans until its replacement by the NITI Aayog in 2015.

• The primary objective of Five-Year Plans was to promote economic growth, self-reliance, and social equity.

• Key Features of the Twelfth Five-Year Plan:

• It focused on achieving inclusive growth by ensuring benefits reach marginalized sections of society.

• Emphasis was placed on improving infrastructure, including roads, railways, power, and irrigation.

• It aimed to reduce the poverty rate by creating employment opportunities and enhancing social welfare schemes.

• Environmental sustainability was highlighted, with policies to address climate change and resource management.

• Challenges Faced During the Twelfth Plan Period:

• Global economic slowdown affected export growth and investment inflows.

• High levels of inflation and fiscal deficits posed macroeconomic challenges.

• Structural bottlenecks in sectors like agriculture and manufacturing hindered progress.

• Implementation issues with various programs affected the achievement of targets.

• Achievements of the Twelfth Five-Year Plan:

• Progress was made in poverty reduction, with millions lifted above the poverty line.

• Significant improvements in healthcare and education indicators were achieved.

• Infrastructure development witnessed growth, especially in renewable energy and transportation.

Important Points

• Planning Commission vs. NITI Aayog:

• The Planning Commission was established in 1950 to formulate Five-Year Plans.

• In 2015, it was replaced by the NITI Aayog, which serves as a policy think tank focusing on cooperative federalism.

• NITI Aayog emphasizes bottom-up planning, involving states in decision-making processes.

• Growth Targets in India:

• Growth targets are set to achieve desired levels of economic development and social equity.

• These targets are influenced by factors like resource availability, population growth, and global economic conditions.

Q96. Answer: (a) 32

The correct answer is 32 million.

Key Points

• As per the data released by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), India, in September 2024, the estimated number of Indians residing abroad, including Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) and Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs), is approximately 32 million.

• This includes Indians living in countries across continents such as the United States, the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, and other nations.

• The figure represents a mix of Indians who have either migrated for work, education, or permanent settlement and those who maintain Indian citizenship but reside abroad temporarily.

• The MEA consistently updates this figure through consultations with embassies, consulates, and official surveys conducted worldwide.

• These individuals contribute significantly to India's economy through remittances, which stood at a record high of $111 billion in 2023, making India the world's largest recipient of remittances.

Additional Information

• Non-Resident Indians (NRIs):

• An NRI is an Indian citizen who resides outside India for employment, education, or other purposes for an indefinite period.

• NRIs retain their Indian citizenship but are typically subject to specific tax regulations under the Income Tax Act, 1961.

• They contribute significantly to the Indian economy through foreign direct investments (FDIs) and remittances.

• Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs):

• OCIs are individuals of Indian origin who hold citizenship in another country but are granted certain privileges in India, such as visa-free travel and the ability to own property.

• The OCI card was introduced under the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2005, to strengthen ties between India and its diaspora.

• OCIs are not allowed to vote or hold constitutional office in India.

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• Indian Diaspora:
• The Indian diaspora is the largest in the world, with members spread across more than 200 countries.
• Key regions of settlement include the Middle East (especially GCC countries), North America, Europe, and Southeast Asia.
• They are known for their contributions to local economies and their role in enhancing India's soft power globally.
• Remittances to India:
• India received a record $111 billion in remittances in 2023, accounting for approximately 3% of its GDP.
• The major sources of remittances include the United States, UAE, Saudi Arabia, and the UK.
• This financial inflow helps India maintain a stable current account balance and supports rural households significantly.
• MEA Initiatives for Indians Abroad:
• The Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, celebrated annually, recognizes the contributions of the Indian diaspora to India's development.
• The e-Migrate system ensures the safety and welfare of Indian workers migrating to other countries for employment.
• The Vande Bharat Mission was launched to repatriate Indians stranded abroad during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Q97. Answer: (b) 7

The correct answer is 7 high focus states.

Key Points

• Mission Parivar Vikas was launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in 2016 to address the high fertility rate in certain regions of India.
• The initiative was initially focused on 7 high focus states, namely Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, and Assam.
• These states were identified due to their high Total Fertility Rate (TFR), which was significantly above the national average.
• The program aimed to accelerate access to family planning services and reduce the TFR to the replacement level of 2.1.
• Key strategies included improving contraceptive distribution, increasing awareness, and enhancing healthcare infrastructure in these high-focus states.

Additional Information

• Total Fertility Rate (TFR):
• TFR refers to the average number of children a woman is expected to have during her reproductive years (15-49 years).
• The national goal is to achieve a TFR of 2.1, which is the replacement level fertility ensuring population stabilization.
• High Focus States:
• The 7 high focus states account for nearly 50% of India's population and contribute significantly to maternal and child health challenges.
• These states face challenges like low contraceptive prevalence, high unmet need for family planning, and socio-cultural barriers.
• Interventions under Mission Parivar Vikas:
• Rollout of new contraceptives like Antara (injectable) and Chhaya (pills).
• Strengthening family planning counseling and services through Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) and Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs).
• Improving access to sterilization services by organizing camps and ensuring adequate facilities.
• Outcome Goals:
• Reduction in maternal mortality ratio (MMR) and infant mortality rate (IMR).
• Improvement in awareness and adoption of family planning methods among eligible couples.

Important Points

• Contraceptive Methods:
• New contraceptive choices like injectable contraceptive Antara and Chhaya pills were introduced under Mission Parivar Vikas.
• Emphasis was laid on postpartum intrauterine contraceptive devices (PPIUCD) and sterilization services.
• Innovative Approaches:
• Special family planning campaigns were conducted to generate demand and awareness.
• High focus districts were provided with dedicated family planning logistics and improved healthcare infrastructure.
• Achievements:
• Significant improvement in contraceptive use and reduction in TFR in targeted districts.
• Enhanced access to quality healthcare services in rural and underserved areas.
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Q98. Answer: (a) Red blood cells

The correct answer is Red blood cells.

Key Points

• Haemoglobin is a respiratory pigment found exclusively in red blood cells (RBCs) in humans. It is responsible for transporting oxygen from the lungs to tissues and carrying carbon dioxide from tissues to the lungs.

• Red blood cells are specialized cells that lack a nucleus in their mature form, allowing more space for haemoglobin molecules.

• Haemoglobin is a protein containing iron that binds to oxygen, forming oxyhaemoglobin, which is transported to various parts of the body.

• RBCs are produced in the bone marrow and have a lifespan of approximately 120 days before being broken down in the liver and spleen.

• The presence of haemoglobin gives RBCs their distinctive red color and plays a vital role in maintaining the body's oxygen supply.

Additional Information

• Blood Platelets:

• Platelets, also known as thrombocytes, are small cell fragments involved in blood clotting.

• They do not contain haemoglobin and their primary function is to prevent excessive bleeding by forming clots at injury sites.

• Platelets are produced in the bone marrow and have a lifespan of 7-10 days.

• They play a critical role in wound healing and maintaining vascular integrity.

• Monocytes:

• Monocytes are a type of white blood cell (WBC) involved in immune responses.

• They do not contain haemoglobin but are responsible for phagocytosis, where they engulf and destroy pathogens and cellular debris.

• Monocytes differentiate into macrophages and dendritic cells once they migrate to tissues.

• They are key players in both innate and adaptive immunity.

• Nerve Cells:

• Nerve cells, or neurons, are specialized cells responsible for transmitting electrical signals throughout the body.

• Unlike RBCs, they do not contain haemoglobin and are not involved in oxygen transport.

• Neurons consist of three main parts: the cell body, axon, and dendrites.

• They play a vital role in coordinating bodily functions and processing sensory information.

• Important Points:

• Haemoglobin is composed of four protein chains and iron molecules, essential for binding oxygen.

• It facilitates the transport of oxygen and carbon dioxide, ensuring proper cellular respiration and energy production.

• A deficiency of haemoglobin leads to anemia, characterized by fatigue, weakness, and shortness of breath.

• RBC production is regulated by the hormone erythropoietin, secreted by the kidneys in response to low oxygen levels.

Q99. Answer: (c) By using electrical-chemical signals

The correct answer is By using electrical-chemical signals.

Key Points

• Plants do not have specialized nerve tissues like animals. Instead, they rely on electrical-chemical signals to convey information between cells.

• When a plant experiences touch, such as from an insect landing or wind blowing, it generates electrical signals, also called action potentials, that travel between the cells.

• The movement of ions such as calcium (Ca^(2+)) and other secondary messengers plays a key role in transmitting these signals.

• These signals can trigger changes in cellular activities, such as the closing of stomata, the release of defensive chemicals, or the rapid movement of plant parts (e.g., the folding of leaves in the sensitive plant Mimosa pudica).

• This process does not involve sound waves, color changes, or nerve tissues, which are mechanisms associated with animals or other systems. Hence, the correct option is "By using electrical-chemical signals."

Additional Information

• Electrical Signaling in Plants:

• Plants use electrical signals, such as action potentials and variation potentials, to communicate within and between cells.

• These signals are typically triggered by external stimuli like touch, wounding, or changes in light and temperature.

• For example, the Venus flytrap uses electrical signals to snap shut its leaves when prey touches its sensory hairs.

• Role of Calcium Ions (Ca^(2+)):

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• Calcium ions act as secondary messengers in plant cells, helping to relay signals from the site of touch or damage to other parts of the plant.

• Changes in calcium concentration within cells help activate specific genes or pathways for defense or adaptation.

• Plant Movement Responses:

• Touch-sensitive plants like Mimosa pudica exhibit rapid leaf movements in response to touch, a phenomenon known as thigmonasty.

• Other movements, like phototropism (growth towards light) or gravitropism (growth in response to gravity), are slower but also involve chemical and electrical signaling.

• Misconceptions About Plant Communication:

• Plants do not have nerve tissues or produce sound waves for communication, unlike animals.

• Color changes in plants, such as leaves turning yellow or red, are usually due to environmental factors or physiological changes, not a means of communication.

Important Points

• Thigmomorphogenesis:

• This is a long-term response in plants to mechanical stimulation, such as repeated touch or wind.

• Plants that experience frequent mechanical stimuli often grow shorter and sturdier to withstand such forces.

• Defensive Responses:

• Plants can release volatile organic compounds (VOCs) as a chemical signal to warn neighboring plants of herbivorous attacks.

• Touch can also stimulate the production of defensive chemicals, such as toxins or enzymes that deter herbivores.

Q100. Answer: (b) Gandhara

The correct answer is Gandhara.

Key Points

• Taxila, an important center of learning in ancient India, was the capital of the Mahajanapada called Gandhara.

• The Gandhara Mahajanapada was located in the northwestern region of the Indian subcontinent, covering parts of modern-day Pakistan and Afghanistan.

• Taxila was renowned for its world-class educational institutions, attracting scholars and students from across the world, including notable figures like Chanakya, Panini, and Jivaka.

• The city's strategic location on ancient trade routes, such as the Uttarapatha, made it a cultural and commercial hub.

• Taxila flourished particularly during the 6th century BCE to the 5th century CE, under the influence of various dynasties, including the Achaemenids, Mauryas, Indo-Greeks, and Kushans.

Additional Information

• Gandhara Civilization:

• The Gandhara region was an important cultural and political hub in ancient India, known for its Gandhara art, which combined Indian and Greek artistic influences.

• The Gandhara School of Art is best known for its depictions of Buddha in human form, influenced by Hellenistic styles.

• It was also a center for the spread of Buddhism, with numerous monasteries and stupas built during the reign of the Mauryan emperor Ashoka.

• Taxila University:

• Taxila housed one of the earliest known universities in the world, offering education in a wide range of subjects, including medicine, law, politics, warfare, mathematics, and philosophy.

• It was unique in that it did not have a formal admission system; students came to study under specific teachers based on their expertise.

• Other Mahajanapadas:

• Avanti: Located in modern-day Madhya Pradesh, its capital was Ujjayini (modern Ujjain).

• Kamboja: Situated in present-day regions of northern Afghanistan and parts of Central Asia, Kamboja was known for its warrior class.

• Kosala: Located in modern-day Uttar Pradesh, its capital was Ayodhya, and it played a significant role in the early history of Buddhism and Jainism.

• Taxila’s Decline:

• Taxila's prominence declined after the invasions of the Huns in the 5th century CE, which led to the destruction of the city and its institutions.

• The region subsequently lost its significance as a center of learning and cultural exchange.

Important Points

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• Panini: The ancient grammarian who authored Ashtadhyayi, the foundational text of Sanskrit grammar, was associated with Taxila.

• Chanakya: Also known as Kautilya or Vishnugupta, the advisor to Chandragupta Maurya and author of the Arthashastra, is believed to have studied and taught in Taxila.

• Jivaka: A renowned physician during Buddha's time, who studied at Taxila, is considered one of the earliest surgeons in history.

• UNESCO World Heritage Site: The ruins of Taxila were declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1980, recognizing its historical and cultural significance.

• Archaeological Discoveries: Excavations in Taxila have unearthed numerous artifacts, including stupas, coins, and sculptures, shedding light on its rich cultural heritage.

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