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TEST BOOKLET
GENERAL STUDIES
PAPER - II

Test Time Allowed : (02:00PM to 04:00PM) 2 Hours

Maximum Marks : 200

INSTRUCTIONS

1. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE EXAMINATION, YOU SHOULD CHECK THAT THIS TEST BOOKLET DOES NOT HAVE ANY UNPRINTED OR TORN OR MISSING PAGES OR ITEMS, ETC. IF SO, GET IT REPLACED. BY A COMPLETE TEST BOOKLET.
2. Please note that it is the candidate's responsibility to encode and fill in the Roll Number and Test Booklet Series A, B, C or D carefully and without any omission or discrepancy at the appropriate places in the OMR Answer Sheet. Any omission/ discrepancy will render the Answer Sheet liable for rejection.
3. You have to enter your Roll Number on the Test Booklet in the Box provided alongside. DO NOT write anything else on the Test Booklet. 
4. This Test Booklet contains **80 items** (questions). Each item is printed in **English**. Each item comprises four responses (answers). You will select the response which you want to mark on the Answer Sheet. In case you feel that there is more than one correct response, mark the response which you consider the best. In any case, choose **ONLY ONE** response for each item.
5. You have to mark 'all your responses **ONLY** on the separate Answer Sheet provided. See directions in the Answer Sheet.
6. **All** items carry equal marks.
7. Before you proceed to mark in the Answer Sheet the response to various items in the Test Booklet, you have to fill in some particulars in the Answer Sheet as per instructions sent to you with your Admission Certificate.
8. After you have completed filling in all your responses on the Answer Sheet and the examination has concluded, you should hand over to the Invigilator only the Answer Sheet. You are permitted to take this Test Booklet with you.
9. Sheets for rough work are appended in the Test Booklet at the end.
10. **Penalty for wrong answers :**
THERE WILL BE PENALTY FOR WRONG ANSWERS MARKED BY A CANDIDATE IN ALL THE QUESTIONS.
 - (i) There are four alternatives for the answer to every question. For each question for which a wrong answer is given by the candidate, one-third of the marks assigned to that question will be deducted as penalty.
 - (ii) If a candidate gives more than one answer, it will be treated as a wrong answer even if one of the given answers happens to be correct and there will be same penalty as above to that question.
 - (iii) If a question is left blank, i.e., no answer is given by the candidate, there will be no penalty for that question.

UPSC - CSAT - QUESTION PAPER

Read the following passages and answer the items that follow the passages. Your answers to these items should be based on the passages only

Passage:1

Climate literature elucidates the multifaceted interplay between anthropogenic activities and the Earth's climatic systems. Scholarly texts dissect the causative linkages of global warming, attributing the exacerbation of greenhouse gas concentrations to industrial emissions and deforestation. Prognostic models within these works forecast dire environmental repercussions should current trends persist, advocating for immediate policy interventions and sustainable practices. The lexicon of climate literature is replete with technical jargon, reflecting the complexity of climatological studies and the urgency of addressing the Anthropocene's impact on global meteorological patterns.

1. Which one of the following statements best reflects what is implied by the passage?

- (a) Anthropogenic activities have a minimal impact on Earth's climatic systems.
- (b) Scholarly texts emphasize the positive effects of global warming on the environment.
- (c) Climate literature suggests that industrial emissions and deforestation are major contributors to global warming.
- (d) Prognostic models in climate literature forecast minimal environmental repercussions from current trends.

Passage:2

Archaeology, the meticulous study of ancient civilizations, plays a pivotal role in unearthing the enigmatic chronicles of human history. Delving into the abyss of time, it deciphers the vestiges of bygone eras, offering profound insights into the cultural and societal constructs that shaped our ancestors' lives. This scholarly pursuit not only enriches our understanding of historical human behaviour and evolution but also fosters an appreciation for the diversity and complexity of past human experiences. Through the rigorous analysis of artifacts, archaeologists unravel the intricate tapestry of humanity's odyssey, preserving it for future generations. Hence, archaeology is indispensable in constructing a comprehensive narrative of mankind's heritage and ensuring its perpetuity.

2. Which one of the following statements best reflects the most logical and rational message conveyed by the author of the passage?

- (a) Archaeology is a futile endeavour that contribute to our understanding of ancient civilizations.
- (b) The study of ancient civilizations through archaeology offers superficial insights into human history and societal constructs.
- (c) Archaeology is indispensable in unravelling the enigmatic chronicles of human history and providing profound insights into cultural and societal constructs.
- (d) The analysis of artifacts by archaeologists is trivial and contribute significantly to constructing a comprehensive narrative of mankind's history.

Passage:3

In India, the burgeoning exigency for sustainable and renewable energy sources is palpably evident. Solar energy, with its inexhaustible supply and minimal environmental impact, stands at the forefront of this green revolution. Harnessing the sun's prodigious power offers a panacea to the nation's escalating energy demands while simultaneously mitigating the deleterious effects of fossil fuel dependency. The proliferation of photovoltaic installations across India's vast topography exemplifies solar energy's pivotal role in propelling the country towards a more resilient and ecologically harmonious future.

3. Which one of the following statements best reflects the crucial message conveyed by the author of the passage?
- (a) Solar energy's potential in India's energy landscape is limited and cannot adequately address the nation's growing energy demands.
 - (b) Fossil fuel dependency is unavoidable, and renewable energy sources like solar energy offer minimal benefits to India's energy needs.
 - (c) Solar energy plays a pivotal role in meeting India's energy demands while simultaneously mitigating the negative effects of fossil fuel dependency.
 - (d) The increase in photovoltaic installations across India's topography is insignificant in the context of transitioning towards renewable energy sources.

Passage:4

Uranus, the seventh planet from our Sun, holds profound significance within our solar system's celestial hierarchy. Its unique axial tilt engenders extreme seasonal variations, contributing to the diversity of planetary climates observed by astronomers. Moreover, Uranus's atmosphere, rich in hydrogen, helium, and methane, presents a tapestry of dynamic weather patterns that challenge our understanding of atmospheric physics. This gas giant's composition and the presence of icy rings and moons offer invaluable insights into planetary formation and evolution theories. The study of Uranus potentially unravels mysteries about exoplanets in distant galaxies, making it an indispensable subject in the quest to comprehend our universe's vast complexities.

4. Which one of the following statements best implies the most rational assumption that can be made from the passage?
- (a) Uranus's axial tilt and atmospheric composition contribute to its significance in planetary science and the study of satellites.
 - (b) Uranus's unique axial tilt and atmospheric composition significantly contribute to advancing our understanding of planetary science and exoplanet exploration.
 - (c) Uranus's axial tilt and atmospheric composition are relevant factors in studying planetary formation theories and exploring distant galaxies.
 - (d) The study of Uranus's unique features provides valuable insights into the complexities of planetary formation theories and the study of cosmology.

Passage:5

Festivals in India serve as an emblematic tapestry of the nation's rich cultural mosaic, fostering communal harmony and spiritual upliftment. These vibrant celebrations are a testament to the country's historical legacies and religious pluralism, offering a platform for social cohesion and jubilant reprieve from the quotidian. They invigorate local economies through tourism and craft industries, while also acting as custodians of age-old traditions and folkloric heritage. In essence, Indian festivals are a confluence of ritualistic fervour and collective joy, epitomizing the ethos of unity in diversity.

5. Which one of the following statements best reflects the crux of the passage?
- (a) Indian festivals are primarily cultural events that promote economic growth and communal harmony.
 - (b) Indian festivals symbolize the country's diverse cultural heritage and are vital for fostering unity among communities.
 - (c) The main purpose of Indian festivals is to provide a platform for social and economic activities, with emphasis on history.
 - (d) Indian festivals are historical celebrations that have relevance in modern society.

Passage:6

In India, where water scarcity looms large, rainwater harvesting emerges as a pivotal ecological strategy. This ancient practice, revitalized with modern techniques, serves as a sustainable reservoir, mitigating the impact of droughts and bolstering groundwater levels. It epitomizes prudent resource management, ensuring that every droplet is conserved and utilized judiciously. Moreover, it alleviates the burden on municipal supplies, engendering self-sufficiency in water-stressed regions. By capturing precipitation at its source, communities can circumvent the pitfalls of waterborne diseases, fostering public health. Thus, rainwater harvesting is not merely an option but an imperative for India's environmental stability and societal well-being.

6. Which of the following logically follows from the passage regarding rainwater harvesting in India?
- (a) Rainwater harvesting has no tangible impact on mitigating the effects of droughts.
 - (b) The use of modern techniques in rainwater harvesting has resulted in overconsumption of water resources.
 - (c) Rainwater harvesting is an important method that does not align with contemporary environmental concerns.
 - (d) The adoption of rainwater harvesting is crucial for ensuring ecological resilience and reducing dependence on municipal water supplies in water-stressed regions.

Passage:7

The prominence of women in Indian sports is a testament to their indefatigable spirit and tenacity. Their participation has not only shattered long-standing gender stereotypes but also catalysed social transformation. Women athletes have become paragons of empowerment, inspiring legions with their prowess and resilience. Their achievements have galvanized a nation, fostering a culture that venerates inclusivity and equality in sports. The impact of their contributions transcends the confines of the field, engendering a legacy that will embolden future generations of Indian women to pursue their athletic ambitions unapologetically.

7. What inference can be most logically and rationally drawn from the passage regarding the prominence of women in Indian sports?
- (a) Women athletes face fewer challenges and obstacles compared to their male counterparts in achieving success.
 - (b) The societal perception of women's roles in sports has evolved positively, leading to increased opportunities and recognition.
 - (c) Women's participation in sports has had a negligible impact on societal norms and gender stereotypes.
 - (d) The achievements of women athletes in Indian sports have sparked a nationwide movement towards gender equality and inclusivity.

Passage:8

Indian cinema, with its rich tapestry of stories drawn from a plethora of cultural nuances, serves as an eminent envoy of India's vibrant heritage globally. The eclectic array of films, ranging from the colourful musicals of Bollywood to the poignant narratives of regional cinema, encapsulates the ethos of the nation. They not only entertain but also educate international audiences about the multifaceted Indian society. Through the lens of Indian movies, viewers are invited to explore the intricate dance of tradition and modernity that characterizes contemporary India. Thus, these cinematic creations play a pivotal role in bridging cultural chasms and fostering global camaraderie.

8. Based on the above passage, the following assumptions have been made:

- 1. Indian cinema primarily focuses on entertaining audiences rather than educating them about Indian society.
- 2. The diverse range of Indian films represents the complexity and diversity of Indian culture.

Which of the assumptions given above is/are correct?

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

9. Which one of the following statements best reflects the crux of the passage?
- (a) Indian cinema is solely focused on Bollywood musicals and ignores regional cinema.
 - (b) Indian cinema plays a crucial role in representing India's cultural richness and educating global audiences.
 - (c) Indian cinema struggles to bridge cultural gaps and lacks global appeal.
 - (d) Indian cinema prioritizes entertainment over cultural representation and global camaraderie.

Passage:9

Libraries in India serve as pivotal educational institutions, fostering a culture of learning and intellectual growth. They are repositories of vast knowledge, offering access to a plethora of books, journals, and digital resources. In a nation where education is seen as a ladder to social mobility, libraries provide an egalitarian platform for self-improvement and research. Moreover, they act as communal hubs, bringing together individuals from diverse backgrounds to engage in the exchange of ideas and cultural enrichment. The significance of libraries in India transcends mere information storage; they are instrumental in shaping informed citizens and thus, play a crucial role in the nation's development.

10. Based on the above passage, the following assumptions have been made:

- 1. Libraries in India are primarily focused on digital resources.
- 2. Libraries in India contribute significantly to social mobility.

Which of the assumptions given above is/are correct?

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

11. Which one of the following statements best reflects the crux of the passage?

- (a) Libraries in India are essential for storing vast amounts of knowledge.
- (b) Libraries in India play a minor role in cultural enrichment.
- (c) Libraries in India are pivotal institutions for education, social mobility, and cultural exchange.
- (d) Libraries in India are obsolete and no longer relevant in the digital age.

Passage:10

The arts and humanities, encompassing a myriad of disciplines including literature, history, and visual arts, are quintessential to the enrichment of the human experience. They serve as a conduit for expressing the multifaceted nature of human emotion, encapsulating the profundity of our existence. Through these mediums, individuals can explore the vast landscapes of human culture and intellectual heritage. They foster critical thinking, empathy, and an appreciation for diversity and complexity in thought and form. In essence, the arts and humanities are not mere luxuries but are fundamental to our cognitive and social development, nurturing the soul and invigorating the mind.

12. Based on the above passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. The arts and humanities foster critical thinking and empathy.
2. The arts and humanities are fundamental to cognitive and social development.
3. The arts and humanities contribute to the enrichment of the human intelligence.
4. The arts and humanities are primarily focused on technical skills and emotional intelligence

Which of the above assumptions are valid?

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

13. Which of the following statements best summarizes the essence of the passage?

- (a) The arts and humanities are relevant only in ancient society.
- (b) The arts and humanities play a vital role in enriching human experience, fostering critical thinking, empathy, and cultural appreciation.
- (c) The arts and humanities are focused solely on technical skills and lack emotional depth.
- (d) The arts and humanities are only appreciated by scholars.

14. Two cars started a race together. A car travels at 180 kmph and the other one at 40 m/s. What will be the time difference in which the cars finished the race of 90 kms?

- (a) 360 seconds
- (b) 450 seconds
- (c) 540 seconds
- (d) 750 seconds

15. A train travelling from Mumbai to Goa covered the first 420 km at a speed of 60 km/h and then covered the remaining 195 km at a speed of 65 km/h. Find its average speed in km/h.

- (a) 63.5
- (b) 61.5
- (c) 62
- (d) 62.3

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16. A bus is moving 30km/h ahead of a car moving at 50 km/h. How many km apart are they if it takes 15 min for the car to catch the bus?
- (a) 5 km
(b) 7.5 km
(c) 12.5 km
(d) 45 km
17. A car travels from a place X to place Y at an average speed of V km/hr, from Y to X at an average speed of $2v$ km/hr, again from X to Y at an average speed of $3v$ km/hr and again from Y to X at an average speed of $4v$ km/hr. Then the average speed of the car for the entire journey
- (a) Is less than v km/hr
(b) Lies between v and $2v$ km/hr
(c) Lies between $2v$ and $3v$ km/hr
(d) Lies between $3v$ and $4v$ km/hr
18. X and Y run a 3 km race along a circular course of length 300 m. Their speeds are in the ratio 3:2. If they start together in the same direction, how many times would the first one pass the other (the start-off is not counted as passing)?
- (a) 2
(b) 3
(c) 4
(d) 5
19. Walking at $\frac{3}{4}$ of his usual speed, a man is 16 minutes late for his office. The usual time taken by him to cover that distance is
- (a) 48 minutes
(b) 60 minutes
(c) 42 minutes
(d) 62 minutes
20. The ratio between the speeds of two trains is 7 : 8. If the second train runs 400 km in 4 hours, then the speed of the first train is:
- (a) 70 km/hr
(b) 75 km/hr
(c) 84 km/hr
(d) 87.5 km/hr
21. A man takes half time in moving a certain distance downstream than upstream. What is the ratio between rate in still water and rate of current?
- (a) 1:2
(b) 2:1
(c) 1:3
(d) 3:1
22. X, Y and Z are three contestants in a race of 1000 m. Assume that all run with different uniform speeds. X gives Y a start of 40 m and X gives Z a start of 64 m. If Y and Z were to compete in a race of 1000 m, how many metres start will Y give to Z?
- (a) 20
(b) 25
(c) 30
(d) 35
23. A freight train left Delhi for Mumbai at an average speed of 40 km/hr. Two hours later an express train left Delhi for Mumbai following the freight train on a parallel track at an average speed of 60 km/hr. How far from Delhi would the express train meet the freight train?
- (a) 480 km
(b) 260 km
(c) 240 km
(d) 120 km

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24. 4 years ago, the ratio between the ages of A and B is 11: 8. The age of A after 2 years is 10 years more than the age of B after 4 years. Find the present age of B?
- (a) 45 years
(b) 40 years
(c) 36 years
(d) 38 years
25. Ravi got married 8 years ago. His present age is $\frac{6}{5}$ times his age at the time of his marriage. Ravi's sister was 10 years younger to him at the time of his marriage. The present age of Ravi's sister is:
- (a) 32 Years
(b) 36 years
(c) 38 years
(d) 40 years
26. The age of father to mother is in the ratio 5: 4. And the age of the son is equal to the age of the father after 25 years. Difference between the age of the mother and the son is 19. Find the age of the son after 10 years.
- (a) 24 Years
(b) 22 Years
(c) 15 years
(d) 16 years
27. Consider the Question and two Statements given below:
Question: What is the age of Manisha?
Statement-1: Manisha is 24 years younger than her mother.
Statement-2: 5 years later, the ages of Manisha and her mother will be in the ratio 3 : 5.
Which one of the following is correct in respect of the Question and the Statements?
- (a) Statement-1 alone is sufficient to answer the Question
(b) Statement-2 alone is sufficient to answer the Question
(c) Both Statement-1 and Statement-2 are sufficient to answer the Question
(d) Both Statement-1 and Statement-2 are not sufficient to answer the Question
28. Rahul said to Athira, "At the time of my birth you were thrice as old as my present age." If the present age of Athira is 40 years, then consider the following statements:
- Statement 1: 5 years ago, the age of Athira was seven times that of Rahul
Statement 2: After 5 years, the age of Athira will be three times that of Rahul
Which of the above statements is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

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29. Total ages of Arun, Binoy and Chandra 5 years ago was 60. If the ratio of present ages of Arun, Binoy and Chandra is 7:8:10, then what will be the age of Chandra when Arun was born?
- (a) 6
(b) 9
(c) 11
(d) 13
30. Consider two statements and a Question:
Statement 1: Rahul at present is 25 years younger to his mother
Statement 2: Rahul's brother, who was born in 1964, is 35 years younger to his mother
Question: In which year Rahul was born?
Which of the following is correct with respect to given question and statements?
- (a) Statement 1 alone is sufficient to answer the Question
(b) Statement 2 alone is sufficient to answer the Question
(c) Both statement 1 and Statement 2 together are sufficient to answer the Question
(d) Either statement 1 alone and statement 2 alone is sufficient to answer the Question
31. Arun's present age in years is 40% of Varun's. In another few years, Arun's age will be half of Varun's. By what percentage will Varun's age increase during this period?
- (a) 15
(b) 16
(c) 20
(d) 40
32. Sum of ages of a father, a mother, a son Sonu and daughters Savita and Sonia is 96 years. Sonu is the youngest member of the family. The year Sonu was born, the sum of the ages of all the members in the family was 66 years. If father's age is 6 times that of Sonu's present age then 12 years hence father's age will be
- (a) 44 years
(b) 46 years
(c) 45 years
(d) 48 years
33. 4th April, 1988 was Monday. What day of the week was it, on 6th November 1987?
- (a) Tuesday
(b) Friday
(c) Sunday
(d) Saturday
34. If in the particular year 12th January is a Sunday, then which one of the following is correct?
- (a) 15th July is a Sunday if the year is a leap year.
(b) 15th July is a Sunday if the year is not a leap year.
(c) 12th July is Sunday if the year is a leap year.
(d) 12th July is a not Sunday if the year is a leap year
35. Which date of June 2099 among the following is Sunday?
- (a) 4
(b) 5
(c) 6
(d) 7

36. If second and fourth Saturdays and all Sundays are taken as only holidays for an office, what would be the minimum number of possible working days of any month of any year?
- (a) 23
(b) 22
(c) 21
(d) 20
37. If the 3rd day of a month is Monday, which of the following will be the fifth day from 21st of the month?
- (a) Monday
(b) Tuesday
(c) Wednesday
(d) Thursday
38. Seeta and Geeta go for a swim after a gap of every 2 days and every 3 days respectively. If on 1st January both of them went for a swim together, when will they go together next?
- (a) 7th January
(b) 8th January
(c) 12th January
(d) 13th January
39. In a month of 31 days, the third Thursday falls on the 16th. What will be the last day of the month?
- (a) 5th Friday
(b) 4th Saturday
(c) 5th Wednesday
(d) 5th Thursday
40. Three digits are chosen at random from 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 without repeating any digit. What is the probability that the product is odd?
- (a) $2/3$
(b) $5/42$
(c) $7/48$
(d) $5/108$
41. A bag contains 20 balls. 8 balls are green, 7 are white and 5 are red. What is the minimum number of balls that must be picked up from the bag blindfolded (without replacing any of it) to be assured of picking at least one ball of each colour?
- (a) 17
(b) 16
(c) 13
(d) 11
42. Tickets numbered 1 to 20 are mixed up and then a ticket is drawn at random. What is the probability that the ticket drawn has a number which is a multiple of 3 or 5?
- (a) $1/2$
(b) $2/5$
(c) $8/15$
(d) $9/20$
43. A box contains three coloured marbles, such that the number of blue, yellow and grey marbles is 8, 7 and 5 respectively. Find the probability of picking two marbles, one being blue marble and the other being grey marble.
- (a) $13/19$
(b) $7/19$
(c) $5/12$
(d) $4/19$

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44. What is the missing number 'X' of the series 7, X, 21, 31, 43?
- (a) 11
(b) 12
(c) 13
(d) 14
45. 5, 10, 23, 26, 37, 50 (find the wrong term).
- (a) 23
(b) 5
(c) 37
(d) 50
46. 2, 6, 30, 210, _, 30030
- (a) 2200
(b) 2730
(c) 2310
(d) 2100
47. W-144, ?, S-100, Q-81, O-64
- (a) U-121
(b) U-122
(c) V-122
(d) V-128
48. KMP, IP8, GS11, EV14, ?
- (a) BX17
(b) BY17
(c) CY17
(d) CY18
49. Choose the number, which is different from others in the group.
- (a) 51
(b) 97
(c) 91
(d) 77
50. Four letter clusters have been given, out of which three are alike in some manner, while one is different. Select the odd letter cluster.
- (a) CBE
(b) UTW
(c) TSU
(d) EDG
51. Choose the odd one from the given alternatives.
- (a) EFG
(b) VXW
(c) OQP
(d) BDC
52. Four options have been given out of which three are alike in some manner, while one is different. Choose the odd one.
- (a) 2321
(b) 825
(c) 1521
(d) 968
53. Select the odd word from the given alternatives?
- (a) P4
(b) S2
(c) O5
(d) I11
54. The Approximate value of $\frac{4.669 \times 4.669 - 2.331 \times 2.331}{(4.669)^2 + (2.331)^2 - 4.669 \times 4.662}$ is
- (a) 0.688
(b) 2.99
(c) 0.167
(d) 7.000

55. If $\sqrt{1 + \frac{25}{144}} = 1 + \frac{x}{12}$, then the value of x is:
- (a) 1
 - (b) 13
 - (c) 17
 - (d) 2

56. What is the value of $12\frac{1}{2} + 12\frac{1}{3} + 12\frac{1}{6}$?
- (a) 36
 - (b) 37
 - (c) 38
 - (d) 39

57. If $a - b = 3$ and $a^2 + b^2 = 29$, find the value of ab.
- (a) 10
 - (b) 12
 - (c) 15
 - (d) 18

58. $\frac{(469 + 174)^2 - (469 - 174)^2}{(469 \times 174)} = ?$
- (a) 2
 - (b) 4
 - (c) 469
 - (d) None

59. $\frac{180 \times 15 - 12 \times 20}{140 \times 8 + 2 \times 55} = ?$
- (a) 1/7
 - (b) 2
 - (c) 4
 - (d) 3/7

60. What will come in the place of the question mark '?' in the following question? $(255 - 55) \div 4 \times 15 - 504 \div 3 = ?$
- (a) 82
 - (b) 76
 - (c) 582
 - (d) 85

Read the following passages and answer the items that follow the passages. Your answers to these items should be based on the passages only

Passage: 1

Anthropocentrism, the philosophical viewpoint asserting human beings as the central element of reality, posits that all environmental and ethical considerations are judged through a human-centered framework. This doctrine elevates humanity's interests above all ecological concerns, often leading to a disregard for the intrinsic value of nature. Critics argue that such a perspective engenders an exploitative relationship with the Earth, fostering unsustainable practices that imperil planetary health. Proponents, however, contend that anthropocentrism pragmatically acknowledges human primacy in decision-making processes. Despite its contentious nature, this paradigm compels a profound interrogation of our environmental responsibilities and the potential for a more symbiotic coexistence with nature.

61. Which one of the following statements most likely reflects what the author of the passage intends to say?
- (a) Anthropocentrism is an ethical viewpoint that prioritizes human interests over environmental concerns.
 - (b) Critics of anthropocentrism argue that it promotes a harmonious relationship with nature.
 - (c) Proponents of anthropocentrism believe it leads to exploitative practices and environmental degradation.
 - (d) Anthropocentrism prompts a critical examination of human responsibilities toward the environment and the possibility of a mutually beneficial relationship with nature.

Passage:2

The significance of snakes in the ecosystem cannot be overstated. These reptiles serve as apex predators, exerting control over prey populations and preventing unchecked proliferation. Their dietary preferences for rodents and insects play a critical role in regulating disease vectors and reducing agricultural losses. Furthermore, snakes act as indicators of ecosystem health, thriving in balanced environments with diverse fauna. Their intricate ecological interactions contribute to the intricate web of life, ensuring the resilience and stability of ecosystems. Moreover, the biochemical properties of snake venom have unlocked valuable medical insights, paving the way for groundbreaking pharmaceutical developments. Protecting snakes is not just about species preservation; it's about safeguarding the delicate equilibrium of our planet's natural systems.

62. Which one of the following statements best reflects the most critical inference that can be made from the passage given above?
- (a) Snakes primarily contribute to agricultural work and disease proliferation.
 - (b) The presence of snakes indicates an imbalance in ecosystems.
 - (c) Snakes play a crucial role in ecosystem balance, disease regulation, and pharmaceutical advancements.
 - (d) Protecting snakes is essential solely for species preservation purposes.

Passage:3

Microbiology, the scientific study of microorganisms, serves as a pivotal educational discipline, intricately woven into the fabric of biological sciences. It delves into the intricate architectures and complex life processes of microscopic entities, including bacteria, viruses, fungi, and protozoa. This field equips scholars with the acumen to discern the roles these minute organisms play in environmental ecosystems, human health, and disease pathogenesis. Mastery of microbiology necessitates a profound comprehension of molecular biology, genetics, and biochemistry, thereby fostering an interdisciplinary approach to scientific inquiry. As an academic pursuit, it demands rigorous analytical skills and a robust understanding of experimental methodologies. The discipline's profundity lies in its capacity to continually evolve, integrating advanced technological innovations to unravel microbial mysteries.

63. Which one of the following statements best reflects the most critical inference that can be made from the passage given above?
- (a) Microbiology is a narrow and stagnant field that is about bacteria, viruses, fungi, and protozoa.
 - (b) Mastery of microbiology requires a deep understanding of various scientific disciplines and analytical skills.
 - (c) Microbiology primarily focuses on apparent organisms like plants and animals.
 - (d) Microbiology is disjointed with other branches of biological sciences.

Passage:4

Marine life, the quintessential constituents of aquatic ecosystems, play pivotal roles in maintaining ecological equilibrium. These organisms, ranging from microscopic zooplankton to leviathan whales, are integral in biogeochemical cycles, facilitating nutrient distribution and energy flow. They bolster coastal defenses, mitigate climate change by carbon sequestration, and underpin a substantial segment of global food security. Moreover, marine biodiversity is a cornucopia of pharmaceutical prospects, with myriad species proffering novel compounds for medical innovation. Ergo, the preservation of marine organisms is not merely an environmentalist's crusade but a sine qua non for sustaining human civilization's future.

64. On the basis of the passage given above, the following assumptions have been made:

1. Marine life has no impact on biogeochemical cycles.
2. Marine organisms contribute to coastal defenses.
3. Marine biodiversity offers pharmaceutical prospects.
4. The preservation of marine organisms is essential for sustaining human civilization's future.

Which of the above assumptions is/are valid?

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

Passage:5

The Romantic era, an epoch of profound artistic and intellectual expansion, burgeoned from the late 18th to mid-19th century. It eschewed the rigid confines of preceding neoclassicism, fostering an exaltation of emotion and individualism. Proponents like Wordsworth and Coleridge championed nature's sublimity and the primacy of personal experience. Romanticism's hallmark was its fervent embrace of the ineffable, the mystical, and the transcendental. It extolled the virtues of the pastoral over the urban, and sought solace in the idyllic and bucolic. This period also witnessed a heightened valorization of the heroic individual, often manifested in literature that delved into inner struggles and conflicts.

65. With reference to the above passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. The Romantic era's emphasis on nature's sublimity and personal experience was a reaction against the industrialization and urbanization of the time.
2. Romantic literature's exploration of inner struggles and conflicts reflects a collective societal desire for introspection and self-understanding.

Which of the above assumptions is/are valid?

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

Passage:6

Life insurance emerges as a pivotal financial instrument, offering a bulwark against the unpredictable nature of mortality. It provides beneficiaries with a monetary safeguard during times of profound loss, ensuring fiscal stability amidst emotional upheaval. This indispensable asset serves not only as a testament to one's foresight but also as a beacon of support for loved ones in the aftermath of an untimely demise. Moreover, it stands as a cornerstone in the edifice of a well-structured financial plan, underpinning other investment strategies and securing a legacy for future generations. In essence, life insurance is not merely an option but an essential facet of prudent financial stewardship.

66. In the context of the passage, which of the following statements would be the most accurate corollary?

- (a) Life insurance primarily serves as a financial tool for hedging against market risks and maximizing investment returns, rather than a means of providing emotional and monetary support to beneficiaries.
- (b) Life insurance is a mandatory requirement for individuals with dependents and significant financial responsibilities, as it ensures their fiscal security in the event of an unforeseen demise.
- (c) Life insurance, according to the passage, is an obsolete financial instrument that lacks relevance in contemporary investment strategies, thereby questioning

its role as a cornerstone in a well-structured financial plan.

- (d) Life insurance as an essential component of prudent financial management, emphasizing its dual function of providing financial stability to beneficiaries and securing a legacy for future generations.

Passage:7

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) in India plays a crucial role in the nation's security apparatus, with a mandate to counter terrorism and transnational crimes with precision and efficiency. Endowed with significant autonomy and investigatory prowess, the NIA acts as a bulwark against threats to national cohesion, swiftly addressing intricate challenges that transcend borders. Its comprehensive approach encompasses intelligence gathering, meticulous analysis, and strategic cooperation with domestic and international entities, exemplifying a model of proactive deterrence. By leveraging advanced technologies and forensic methodologies thoughtfully, the NIA stands steadfast as a guardian of justice, safeguarding the nation's interests with unwavering determination.

67. Which one of the following statements best implies the most rational assumptions that can be made from the passage?

- (a) The NIA's significant autonomy and investigatory prowess allow it to single-handedly eradicate terrorism and transnational crimes without the need for collaboration with other law enforcement agencies.
- (b) The NIA's role extends beyond national borders, indicating that it primarily focuses on combating international threats rather than addressing domestic security concerns.
- (c) The passage suggests that the NIA's proactive deterrence model relies heavily on advanced technologies and forensic methodologies, implying a strong emphasis on modern investigative techniques for combating security threats.
- (d) The NIA's comprehensive approach involves close cooperation with both domestic and international entities, indicating that collaborative efforts are essential in effectively countering terrorism and transnational crimes.

Passage:8

Postal ballots represent a pivotal aspect of democratic processes, embodying the essence of inclusivity and accessibility in electoral participation. They serve as a vital mechanism for individuals such as military personnel, expatriates, and those with physical limitations, enabling them to exercise their voting rights irrespective of geographical constraints. The importance of postal ballots lies in their capacity to uphold democratic values by ensuring that every eligible citizen can contribute to the electoral process, thereby fostering a more representative and equitable democracy. This method not only enhances voter turnout but also fosters civic engagement and reinforces the fundamental principles of democracy, making it an indispensable component of modern electoral systems.

68. Which one of the following statements best reflects the most logical and rational inference that can be drawn from the passage?

- (a) Postal ballots are primarily utilized by military personnel and expatriates, neglecting their significance for citizens with physical limitations.
- (b) The passage suggests that postal ballots are essential for maintaining high voter turnout but overlooks their potential drawbacks, such as the risk of fraud or coercion.
- (c) Postal ballots play a crucial role in promoting inclusivity and accessibility in electoral participation, contributing to a more representative and equitable democracy.

(d) The passage implies that traditional voting methods are obsolete and should be replaced entirely by postal ballots to enhance democratic values and civic engagement.

Passage:9

Over 1991–2011, the economy grew at an annual average rate of 6.8 per cent. Though significantly higher than the period before, the aggregate figure hides some important aspects. The GDP grew at a little over 6 per cent in the 1990s, but accelerated to slightly over 7 per cent in the first half of the 2000s and then further to a little over 8 per cent for 2006–12. The post reform churn very quickly corrected itself and the economy appeared to be on a high-growth path by the middle of 1990s, but the acceleration in growth was hit in the second half of the 1990s.

69. Which one of the following statements best reflects the crux of the passage?

- (a) India's economy experienced consistent growth throughout the period from 1991 to 2011, leading to significant advancements in various sectors.
- (b) India's economic growth showed fluctuations over the years from 1991 to 2011, with notable accelerations and slowdowns in different periods.
- (c) The post-reform era in India saw rapid corrections and an acceleration in economic growth, particularly from the mid-1990s to the early 2000s.

(d) Despite facing challenges, India's economic growth remained stable and steady, contributing positively to national development goals.

70. Consider the following assumptions based on the passage:

- 1. India's economic growth from 1991 to 2011 was primarily driven by consistent policy reforms and structural changes.
- 2. The fluctuations in India's economic growth during the period from 1991 to 2011 were mainly due to external factors beyond the government's control.

Which of the assumptions given above is/are correct?

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

Passage:10

Historically, industrialisation strategies depend on factor endowments. A country's direction of trade also signifies its nature of industrialisation. If a country exports labour-intensive goods and imports capital-intensive goods, it follows labour-intensive industrialisation. Over time, as the quality of skill and education improves, the character of exports also improves qualitatively with an improvement in living standards. This is the transition that is targeted by emerging economies with abundant labour endowment. The definition of labour intensive, however, can be relative.

71. What key factors and transitions are targeted by emerging economies with abundant labour endowment, as described in the passage?

1. Exporting labour-intensive goods and importing capital-intensive goods.
2. Improving the quality of skill and education over time.
3. Qualitatively improving the character of exports with an improvement in living standards.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) All of the above

72. Which one of the following statements most likely reflects what the author of the passage intends to say?

- (a) Industrialisation strategies depend solely on a country's factor endowments, without considering the direction of trade.
- (b) The character of exports and imports in a country's trade signifies its nature of industrialisation and factor endowments.
- (c) The quality of skill and education has no impact on the character of exports in a country's industrialisation process.
- (d) The definition of labour-intensive industrialisation is absolute and does not change over time or with improvements in living standards.

73. Select the correct mirror image of the given figure when the mirror is placed at MIN as shown below.



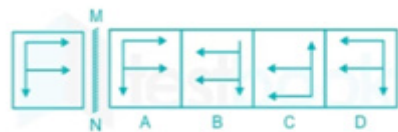
- (a)
- (b)
- (c)
- (d)

74. What is the horizontal mirror image of REST?

REST	T23R	ƆE2L	1S3R
A	B	C	D

- (a) B
- (b) D
- (c) A
- (d) C

75. Select the mirror image of the figure given below:



- (a) C
- (b) B
- (c) A
- (d) D

76. The product of the ages of A and B is 240. If twice the age of B is more than A's age by 4 years, what was B's age 2 years ago?

- (a) 10 years
- (b) 15 years
- (c) 20 years
- (d) 25 years

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77. The present age of a mother is 3 years more than three times the age of her daughter. Three years hence, the mother's age will be 10 years more than twice the age of the daughter. Find the present age of the mother.
- (a) 33 years
(b) 30 years
(c) 27 years
(d) 25 years
78. Two cards are drawn together at random from a deck of 52 playing cards. What is the probability to get one red and one black card?
- (a) $1/2$
(b) $13/15$
(c) $26/51$
(d) 1
79. What is the probability of getting a sum 9 from two throws of a dice?
- (a) $1/6$
(b) $1/9$
(c) $1/8$
(d) 1
80. Three unbiased coins are tossed. What is the probability of getting at most two heads?
- (a) $3/4$
(b) $7/8$
(c) $3/8$
(d) $1/4$

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