

1. Why do exotic species pose a threat to an indigenous ecosystem such as in a Lake or an isolated island in the Andamans?
  1. Such species may cause diseases in native species.
  2. They may be predators of local species.
  3. Such species compete with the local or native species for food.

Select the correct answer code:

- a. 1, 2
  - b. 1, 3
  - c. 2, 3
  - d. 1, 2, 3**
2. Within biological communities, some species are important in determining the ability of a large number of other species to persist in the community. Such species are called
    - a) Sympatric species
    - b) Keystone species**
    - c) Allopatric species
    - d) Threatened species
  3. Consider the following statements.
    1. An ecological niche is the unique functional role or place of a species in an ecosystem.
    2. The knowledge about the niche requirements of the species is important if we have to conserve species in its native habitat.
    3. No two species have exact identical niches.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
  - b) 1, 3
  - c) 2, 3
  - d) 1, 2, 3**
4. Consider the following statements regarding Megadiverse countries.
    1. The term megadiverse countries refers to a group of nations that harbour the majority of Earth's species and high numbers of endemic species.
    2. To qualify as a Megadiverse Country, a country must have marine ecosystems within its borders.
    3. India, Brazil, Russia and South Africa are some of the identified Megadiverse countries.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
  - b) 1, 2**
  - c) 1, 3
  - d) 2, 3
5. Consider the following statements regarding Biodiversity Hotspots.
    1. Norman Myers introduced the concept of Biodiversity hotspots.
    2. One of the criteria to qualify as Biodiversity Hotspots is, it must contain at least 15,000 species of endemic vascular plants.
    3. Western Himalayas falls under a biological hotspot.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) **1 only**
  - b) 1, 2
  - c) 1, 3
  - d) 2, 3
6. Which of the following species is/are endemic to India?
    1. Lion tailed macaque
    2. Sangai Deer
    3. Asiatic Lion
    4. Nilgiri tahr

Select the correct answer code:

- a) 1, 2, 4
- b) 1, 2, 3
- c) 2, 3, 4
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4**

7. Consider the following statements regarding sarus crane.

- 1. Sarus Crane is the world 's shortest flying bird.
- 2. It is India's only resident breeding crane.
- 3. Uttar Pradesh has declared the sarus crane as its official state bird.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3**
- d) 1, 2, 3

8. Consider the following statements regarding Environmental Impact Assessment.

- 1. In India, it is governed under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act on 1986.
- 2. The Espoo Convention sets out the obligations of Parties to assess the environmental impact of certain activities at an early stage of planning.
- 3. India is a signatory to the Espoo Convention.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2**
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

9. Consider the following statements regarding the Commercial Paper (CP):

- 1. It is an unsecured money market instrument issued in the form of a promissory note,
- 2. Primary dealers (PDs) and the All-India Financial Institutions (FIs) are ineligible to issue CP.
- 3. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) can invest in the Commercial Paper (CP).

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

10. Which one of the following terms denotes the inputs in terms of tools, machines, buildings, raw materials and money in hand required at any stage of production?

- a) Working Capital
- b) Physical Capital
- c) Labour Capital
- d) Fixed Capital**

11. Consider the following statements regarding Tax Information Exchange Agreement (TIEA)

- 1. It was developed by the OECD Global Forum Working Group on Effective Exchange of Information.
- 2. The Agreement provides for representatives of one country to undertake tax examinations in the other country and will help curb tax evasion and tax avoidance.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

12. Consider the following statements.

- 1) The domestic company isn't required to pay dividend distribution tax on any amount declared, distributed or paid by such company by way of dividend.

- 2) Dividend received from domestic company is taxable in hands of shareholders.
- 3) Dividend income is considered as income from other sources and investors will have to pay tax on it as per their individual tax slabs.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

13. Consider the following statements regarding External Debt.

1. India's external debt to GDP ratio is more than 40 percent.
2. Commercial borrowings constitute the largest component of India's external debt.
3. US dollar denominated debt constitute the largest component of India's external debt, followed by debt denominated in the Indian rupee.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

14. Aggregate demand in the economy can be increased by

1. Increasing the public investment
2. Increasing tax rate on personal income
3. Lowering interest rates on consumer loans

Select the correct answer code:

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

15. Consider the following statements regarding GDP deflator.

1. GDP deflator is a measure of the level of prices of all new, domestically produced, final goods and services in an economy in a year.
2. Unlike the CPI, the GDP deflator is based on a fixed basket of goods and services.
3. When GDP deflator is negative, it necessarily means that there is inflation in the economy.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

16. With reference to the government expenditure in India, which of the following constitutes Transfer Payments?

1. The payments which are made as financial aid in a social welfare programme.
2. The Interest payments made to foreign countries on loans taken.
3. The payments which are made by the government to its employees.

Select the correct answer code:

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

17. Consider the following statements regarding Special Economic Zones (SEZs).

1. Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are geographically delineated 'enclaves' in which regulations and practices related to business and trade differ from the rest of the country.
2. The SEZ Act 2005 envisages key role for the State Governments in Export Promotion and creation of related infrastructure.

3. Prior to their introduction, India relied on export processing zones (EPZs) which failed to make an impact on foreign investors.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 2, 3
- c) 1, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3**

18. Reciprocal trade agreements (RTAs) include:

- 1. Free trade agreements
- 2. Preferential arrangements
- 3. Common markets
- 4. Customs unions

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2, 3
- b) 1, 2, 4
- c) 2, 3, 4
- d) 1, 2, 3, 4**

19. Consider the following statements regarding Open market operations.

- 1. Open market operations are conducted by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) with an objective to adjust the rupee liquidity conditions in the market.
- 2. Day to day operations that are conducted by RBI to balance inflation while helping banks continue to lend, are not part of Open market operations.
- 3. RBI carries out the Open market operations through commercial banks and does not directly deal with the public.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 2, 3
- c) 1, 3**
- d) 1, 2, 3

20. Consider the following statements regarding "crowding out" effect.

- 1. Crowding out effect refers to how increased government spending, for which it must borrow more money, tends to reduce private spending.
- 2. This also impacts interest rates in the economy.
- 3. A high magnitude of the crowding out effect may even lead to lesser income in the economy.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 2, 3
- c) 1, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3**

21. Consider the following statements regarding Corporate bonds.

- 1. Corporate bonds are debt securities issued only by private corporations.
- 2. Corporate bond does not have an ownership interest in the issuing company, unlike when one purchases the company's equity stock.
- 3. In India, financing of infrastructure projects such as roads, ports, and airports is higher through corporate bond market compared to bank loans and Government finance.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

22. Consider the following statements regarding India Innovation Index, 2022.

1. India Innovation Index was released by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI).
2. It determines innovation capacities at the sub-national level.
3. At present India is among the top 25 nations in the Global Innovation Index.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

23. Consider the following statements regarding International Criminal Court.

1. The International Criminal Court (ICC) investigates and tries individuals charged with the gravest crimes of concern to the international community like genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity.
2. It is governed by Vienna convention.
3. India is a state party to ICC.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

24. Consider the following statements regarding Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in India.

1. FDI is regulated through Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA).
2. For an investment into a listed company, to be qualified as FDI, it should be 10% or more of the post issue paid-up equity capital.
3. In India, FDI is not allowed into unlisted companies.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

25. Consider the following statements regarding T.S.R Subramanian committee.

1. T.S.R Subramanian committee was set up to review India's green laws and the procedures followed by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).
2. It recommended for the creation of Indian Environmental Service (IES).

Which of the above statements is/are incorrect?

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