

1. 'Gadgil Committee Report' and 'Kasturirangan Committee Report', sometimes seen in the news, are related to
  - a) constitutional reforms
  - b) Ganga Action Plan
  - c) linking of rivers
  - d) protection of Western Ghats**
2. With reference to 'Agenda 21', sometimes seen in the news, consider the following statements:
  1. It is a global action plan for sustainable development.
  2. It originated in the World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg in 2002.Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
  - a) 1 only**
  - b) 2 only
  - c) Both 1 and 2
  - d) Neither 1 nor 2
3. What is 'Greenhouse Gas Protocol'?
  - a) It is an international accounting tool for government and business leaders to understand, quantify and manage greenhouse gas emissions.**
  - b) It is an initiative of the United Nations to offer financial incentives to developing countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to adopt ecofriendly technologies
  - c) It is an intergovernmental agreement ratified by all the member countries of the United Nations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to specified levels by the year 2022
  - d) It is one of the multilateral REDD+ initiatives hosted by the World Bank
4. With reference to 'Red Sanders', sometimes seen in the news, consider the following statements:
  1. It is a tree species found in a part of South India.
  2. It is one of the most important trees in the tropical rain forest areas of South India.Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
  - a) 1 only**
  - b) 2 only
  - c) Both 1 and 2
  - d) Neither 1 nor 2
5. Recently, our scientists have discovered a new and distinct species of banana plant which attains a height of about 11 metres and has orange-coloured fruit pulp. In which part of India has it been discovered?
  - a) Andaman Islands**
  - b) Anaimalai Forests
  - c) Maikala Hills
  - d) Tropical rain forests of northeast
6. Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) is a standard criterion for (2017)
  - a) Measuring oxygen levels in blood
  - b) Computing oxygen levels in forest ecosystems
  - c) Pollution assay in aquatic ecosystems**
  - d) Assessing oxygen levels in high altitude regions
7. If you want to see gharials in their natural habitat, which one of the following is the best place to visit? (2017)
  - a) Bhitarkanika Mangroves
  - b) Chambal River**
  - c) Pulicat Lake
  - d) Deepor Beel
8. Which of the following statements can help in water conservation in agriculture? (2017)
  1. Reduced or zero tillage of the land
  2. Applying gypsum before irrigating the field
  3. Allowing crop residue to remain in the fieldSelect the correct answer using the code given below:
  - a) 1 and 2 only
  - b) 3 only
  - c) 1 and 3 only
  - d) 1, 2 and 3**

9. What is the application of Somatic Cell Nuclear Transfer Technology? (2017)
- Production of biolarvicides
  - Manufacture of biodegradable plastics
  - Reproductive cloning of animals**
  - Production of organisms free of diseases
10. The term 'M-STrIPES' is sometimes seen in the news in the context of (2017)
- Captive breeding of Wild Fauna
  - Maintenance of Tiger Reserves**
  - Indigenous Satellite Navigation System
  - Security of National Highways
11. Which of the following statements are correct regarding the general difference between plant and animal cells?
- Plant cells have cellulose cell walls whilst animal cells do not.
  - Plant cells do not have plasma membrane unlike animal cells which do.
  - Mature plant cell has one large vacuole whilst animal cell has many small vacuoles.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- 1 and 2 only
  - 2 and 3 only
  - 1 and 3 only**
  - 1, 2 and 3
12. In the context of recent advances in human reproductive technology, 'Pronuclear Transfer' is used for
- Fertilization of egg in vitro by the donor sperm
  - Genetic modification of sperm producing cells
  - Development of stem cells into functional embryos
  - Prevention of mitochondrial diseases in offspring**
13. Consider the following activities:
- Spraying pesticides on a crop field
  - Inspecting the craters of active volcanoes
  - Collecting breath samples from spouting whales for DNA analysis
- At the present level of technology, which of the above activities can be successfully carried out by using drones?
- 1 and 2 only
  - 2 and 3 only
  - 1 and 3 only
  - 1, 2 and 3**
14. The experiment will employ a trio of spacecraft flying in formation in the shape of an equilateral triangle that has sides one million kilometres long, with lasers shining between the craft." The experiment in question refers to
- Voyager-2
  - New Horizons
  - LISA Pathfinder
  - Evolved LISA**
15. Consider the following statements:
- Genetic changes can be introduced in the cells that produce eggs or sperms of a prospective parent.
  - A person's genome can be edited before birth at the early embryonic stage.
  - Human induced pluripotent stem cells can be injected into the embryo of a pig.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 only
  - 2 and 3 only
  - 2 only
  - 1, 2 and 3**
16. What is the importance of using Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccines in India?
- These vaccines are effective against pneumonia as well as meningitis and sepsis.
  - Dependence on antibiotics that are not effective against drug-resistant bacteria can be reduced.
  - These vaccines have no side effects and cause no allergic reactions.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- a) 1 only  
b) **1 and 2 only**  
c) 3 only  
d) 1, 2 and 3
17. In India, the term “Public Key Infrastructure” is used in the context of  
a) **Digital security infrastructure**  
b) Food security infrastructure  
c) Health care and education infrastructure  
d) Telecommunication and transportation infrastructure
18. Which of the following are the reasons/factors for exposure to benzene pollution?  
1. Automobile exhaust  
2. Tobacco smoke  
3. Wood burning  
4. Using varnished wooden furniture  
5. Using products made of polyurethane  
Select the correct answer using the code given below:  
a) 1, 2 and 3 only  
b) 2 and 4 only 1, 3 and 4 only 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5  
c) 1, 3 and 4 only  
d) **1, 2, 3, 4 and 5**
19. With reference to “Blockchain Technology” consider the following statements:  
1. It is a public ledger that everyone can inspect, but which no single user controls.  
2. The structure and design of blockchain is such that all the data in it are about cryptocurrency only.  
3. Applications that depend on basic features of blockchain can be developed without anybody’s permission.  
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?  
a) 1 only  
b) 1 and 2 only  
c) 2 only  
d) **1 and 3 only**
20. Consider the following statements:  
1. Aadhaar metadata cannot be stored for more than three months.  
2. State cannot enter into any contract with private corporations for sharing of Aadhar data  
3. Aadhaar is mandatory for obtaining insurance products.  
4. Aadhaar is mandatory for getting benefits funded out of the Consolidated fund of India.  
Which of the statements give above is/are correct?  
a) 1 and 4 only  
b) **2 and 4 only**  
c) 3 only  
d) 1,2 and 3 only
21. The 'Navegaon-Nagzira Tiger Reserve' is located in which of the following states?  
a) **Maharashtra**  
b) Chhattisgarh  
c) Madhya Pradesh  
d) Jharkhand
22. With reference to the Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT), consider the following statements:  
1. The MAT was introduced due to an increase in the number of zero tax paying companies.  
2. Only domestic companies in India are covered under the provision of MAT.  
Which of the statements given above is/are correct?  
a) **1 only**  
b) 2 only  
c) Both 1 and 2  
d) Neither 1 nor 2
23. Consider the following statements regarding Marine Products Exports Development Authority (MPEDA):  
1. It is a statutory body.  
2. It functions under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

3. It is headquartered in Kerala.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

24. Consider the following statements:

- 1. Despite the growing ties, there is a trend of decline in India's bilateral trade with the Netherlands since 2017.
- 2. The Netherlands is home to the largest Indian community on the European mainland.

Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?

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

25. Consider the following statements about Jyotirao Phule:

- 1. His ideologies were based upon Libertarianism and Egalitarianism.
- 2. He was the founder of Satyashodhak Samaj.
- 3. He was bestowed with the title of Mahatma.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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



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